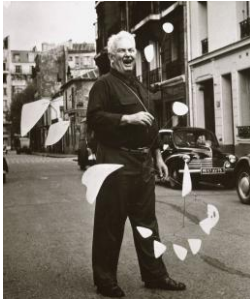


Key Artist:

Alexander Calder – Surrealism



- Alexander Calder was born in Pennsylvania, USA in 1898.
- Alexander Calder is known for inventing wire sculptures and the mobile, a type of kinetic art which relied on careful weighting to achieve balance and suspension in the air.
- In 1926 Calder made a miniature circus out of wire and bits of cork and fabric. He called it Cirque Calder.
- In 1930 Calder visited the artist Piet Mondrian in his studio in Paris where he saw his simple paintings of rectangles and stripes in red, yellow and black. He thought it would be good if the shapes in Mondrian's paintings moved, so he went back to his studio and began to work on a series of sculptures that would do this.
- Calder also loved involving sound in his artwork. In Small Sphere and Heavy Sphere two balls hit bottles, a box, a can and gong.

Key Skills:

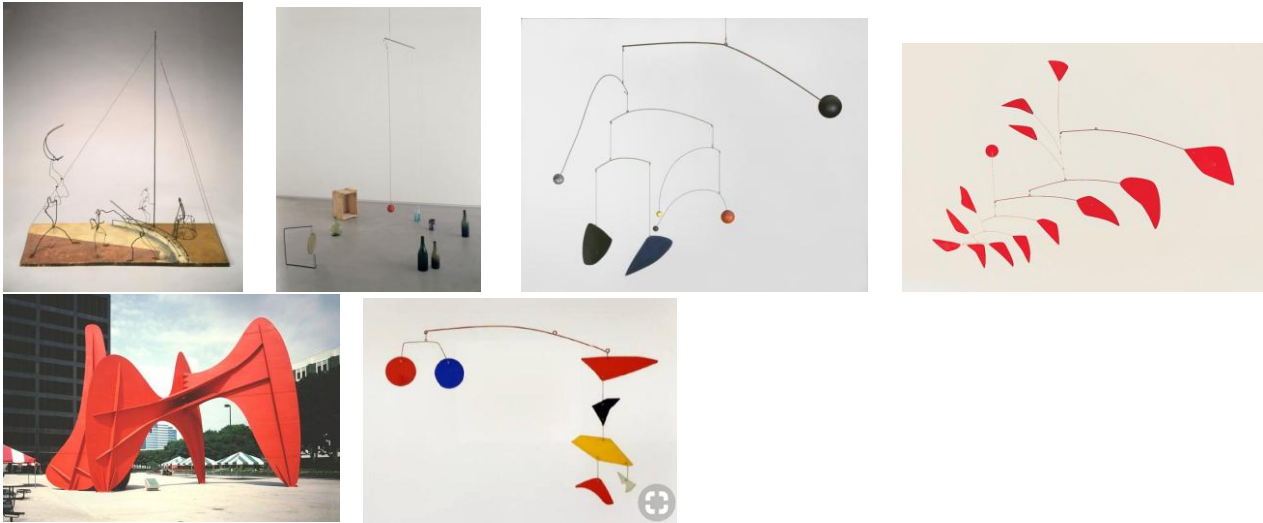
- Learn about a famous artist.
- Children learn how to join clay adequately and work reasonably independently.
- Children learn how to construct a simple clay base for extending and modelling other shapes.
- Children learn how to plan, design and make models.
- Children learn how to use their sketch book to express feelings about a subject and to describe likes and dislikes.
- Children suggest improvements to their work by keeping notes in their sketch book.
- Children learn how to compare the work of different artists.
- Children learn how to identify techniques used by different artists.

Key Vocabulary:

Alexander Calder	Famous artist known for creation of sculptures/mobiles.
Architect	A person who designs building
Artist	A person who creates paintings or drawings.
Brick	Rectangular block typically made from clay used in buildings.
Bronze	Brown metal made of copper and tin.
Carving	Act of cutting or shaping solid materials.
Clay	A natural material that is soft when wet and hard when dry.
Decoration	Something added to an object or place to make it more attractive.
Design	To make or draw plans for something.
Detail	Attention to a particular part of an item.
Edging	Forming an edge or boarder around the outside.
Form	Make object into a specific shape.
Impress	Make a mark or design using a stamp.
Iron	A strong greyish coloured metal.
Metal	A hard material such as iron, steel or gold.
Mobile	Decoration or work of art that has many parts that move freely.
Mould	To make a soft substance have a particular shape.
Natural	Not made or caused by humans.
Peak	A sharp or pointed end.
Plan	Creating an idea of what you are going to do.
Rectangular	Shaped like a rectangle.
Sculpture	Creating objects out of materials normally by carving or shaping.
Sketch book	A book for drawings.
Slate	Dark-grey rock.
Stone	Hard solid material found in the ground.
Surrealism	Type of art linked to dreams and doing things without thinking. Things that you wouldn't normally see together.
Texture	The way something looks or feels when you see or touch it.
Tile	A thin slab or bent piece of clay. Normally used on roofs.
Two-dimensional	Object or figure that is flat rather than solid.
Three-dimensional	Object that is solid with length, width and height.
Viewpoint	A spot or point where an artist is looking. The way you see something.
Wood	A material made from trees.

Key Artwork:

Famous Calder artwork:



Art work linked to the key artist Alexander Calder. Ideas for children:



Other key skills links within Stone Age topic:

- **Drawing - Children learn how to use close observation in drawings.**



- **Drawing - Children learn how to shade to show different tones and texture.**



- **Drawing** - Children learn how to use different grades of pencil and other implements.



- **Painting** - Children learn how to create a background using a wash.
- Children make tints by adding white and tones by adding black with increasing confidence and independence.



- **Printing** - Children learn how to explore patterns and shape, creating designs for printing.



- **Sculpture** - Children learn how to join clay adequately and work reasonably independently.

