St John Fisher RC Primary School
Year 4 Knowledge Organiser – Autumn Two – Art and Design

Things I will be taught

I know:

Lesson 1 - How to write a short biography of the artist Henry Rousseau.

Lesson 2 - How to recognise Rousseau's artwork and say what I like and dislike.

Lesson 3 - How to create my own Rousseau style picture in sketch books using collage materials.

Lesson 4 - How to evaluate my own work and the work of others.

Things I will remember

- Henri Rousseau was a French artist known for his imaginative jungle scenes, even though he had never seen a real jungle! He was inspired by visits to botanical gardens, books, and museums.
- Rousseau became famous for his unique style called Naïve Art or Primitivism, which means he painted with simple, bold colours and flat shapes that made his work look dreamlike and magical.
- Rousseau used layering by painting many plants in the foreground, middle ground, and background to create depth. This layering makes his jungle scenes look full and vibrant.
- He also painted with flat, bold colours and clear outlines, without trying to show shadows or realistic details. His work often has a flat and dreamlike quality, almost like a cartoon or storybook.

Key Vocabulary

Naïve Art	A style of art characterized by simplicity, bold colours, and a childlike approach, often lacking realistic detail.
Layering	The technique of placing shapes, colours, or textures on top of one another to create depth in a picture.
Composition	The arrangement of elements like colour, shape, and space within an artwork.
Primitivism	An art style that draws from and simplifies forms in nature, often making scenes feel dreamlike or exotic.

Key Knowledge:

Henri Rousseau was a self-taught French artist best known for his vibrant jungle scenes, despite never visiting a jungle himself. Inspired by books, museum exhibits ad botanical gardens he created dreamlike images filled with lush plants, exotic animals and mysterious landscapes. His style, known as Naïve Art or Primitivism, features bold colours, simple shapes and a unique use of layering to create depth. Rousseau's paintings like 'The Sleeping Gypsy' and 'Tiger in a Tropical Storm' inspire young artists to explore imaginative settings and experiment with composition, colour and texture in their own work.

Henri Rousseau	The Sleeping Gypsy	Tiger in a Tropical Storm	The Equatorial Jungle
			