Ben Quilty’s Torana series reflects on his days as a young reckless male in Australia. He uses this car as a symbol of what a lot of young males, including Quilty, took part in on their way to adulthood. He saw activities such as reckless driving as a rite of passage into manhood. These issues are confronting and confusing for primary aged students however the symbolism used by Quilty is a great tool for children to use to create a piece that is symbolic of a part of their life using the techniques present in the artwork.

1. Interpreting the artwork (informal):
   a. What is the content of the painting?
      i. How old do you think this car is?
      ii. When do you think it could have been made?
   b. When looking at this painting what do you think about? Why do you have these thoughts?
   c. Why do you think that the artist decided to paint this?
   d. What could the artist be thinking about when he decided to do this artwork?

Provide students with more knowledge gained from the conceptual framework in regards to this painting.

1. What was Quilty’s idea behind this piece

Symbolism

1. What is a symbol?
   a. Quilty has used his Torana as a symbol that is meaningful to him, we have discussed why he has painted this particular picture.

2. Think of symbols that you recognise in your own life.

3. What some others that may be meaningful to you?
   a. E.g every time you look at a bike it reminds you of the times when you were taught by your father to learn to ride in the park.

THE FORM OF THE ARTWORK:

1. When looking at this painting what do we notice about the colours, lines and texture?
   a. Brush strokes
   b. Amount of paint
   c. Detail in the artwork

2. How do you think the artist was able to create this painting?
   a. Using own knowledge from research guide children to how this was created. How could we be able to create a similar piece of work?
ART PRACTICE:

Artwork: Impasto style

Subject: paint something that is symbolic to your life

Focus artist: Ben Quilty

Ben Quilty uses heavy impasto in his art pieces. It is documented that he works quickly on his art pieces using large palette knives as tools as opposed to brushes for most of his paintings. The quantity of paint Quilty puts on his canvas is on a very large scale, creating his images to be full of texture and life. His paintings, like the Elwood Torana no.7, allow the audience to see what the subject matter is however these images are not real life comparisons.

The technique Quilty uses is perfect for children to experiment with as it allows them great freedom to explore colours, texture and imagination.

Materials needed:

1. Pictures of Quiltys artwork as inspiration:
2. Paint
3. Pva glue
4. Large pieces of cardboard paper
5. An assortment of plastic knives, spoons etc

As a class we have explored the meaning behind Quiltys painting of the Elwood Torana. The class has focused on symbolism and have learnt about why this car is symbolic to Bens life. Before beginning the art practice students will reflect on their own lives and choose something that may have significance to them. Depending on the age of the child they can write down this to help them keep track of what they are going to paint. Other impasto pieces can be shown from different artists to provide students with more knowledge about the style of artwork they are to produce.

Before students begin work the teacher should demonstrate the method to how the artwork will be produced.

Using the knowledge they have built from studying Ben Quiltys work, children begin working on their pieces.