

Enquiry Question: What role did Anna Atkins play in the development of modern photography?

Who is Anna Atkins?

- Anna Atkins was born in 1799 in England.
- She was a scientist who studied plants (a botanist).
- She is famous for being one of the first people to take photographs.
- She used a special method called cyanotype to make pictures.
- She made pictures of seaweed, plants, and flowers.
- Her book Photographs of British Algae was the first book ever illustrated with photographs.
- She helped people learn about nature through her images.

The Cyanotype process

Cyanotype is a way of making pictures using sunlight.

Special chemicals are painted onto paper to make it light-sensitive.

Objects (like leaves or seaweed) are placed on the paper.

The paper is left in the sun for a few minutes.

The sunlight turns the paper blue, but the covered parts stay white.

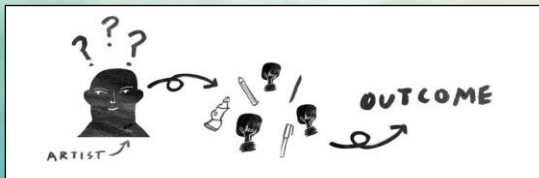
When washed in water, the final picture appears.

The result is a white shape on a bright blue background.



How to create visual notes?

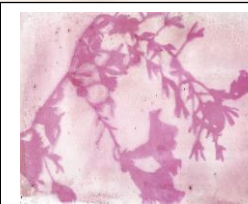
- No rules!
- Use crayons, felts, paints instead of pencil.
- Any order you like
- Any size you like
- Put your thoughts onto paper
- Write down the facts however you feel will be useful to YOU!



Making cyanotypes



Primal painting



Making anotypes



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