A beautiful time. A picture of forever.

BEAUTIFUL IN ITS TIME / ETERNITY IN OUR HEARTS

Ecclesiastes 3:11 / NIV

He has made everything beautiful in its time. He has also set eternity in the human heart; yet no one can fathom what God has done from beginning to end.

Morning and night, flowers and fruit: each has its own beauty. Draw a background for someone or something you treasure. What time is it? What do you hope will last?

01 Give someone you love a special world

Van Gogh imagined painting a friend and showing his love for him in the picture. He wanted a deep blue background, with bright hair shining like a star in the night sky. A background can say, "You are precious to me."

02 Let colours and lines speak

Van Gogh wanted his paintings to comfort people, like music. He wanted glowing colours to express eternity, and stars to express hope. Look at his paintings: circles and little lines can lead your eyes around the picture.

03 A little seed can lead to a very big thought

Van Gogh wrote that a sower and bundles of wheat made him long for the infinite. A field can make us think of seeds growing into plants, which make new seeds. Each stage has its own beauty, and growing can go on.

Your turn: What does the background look like at your chosen time? Let it show what you hope will last.

Turn the pictures face down. Sketch two ideas, then choose your own.

Van Gogh's ideas are retold from his letters. The Bible connection and the seed example are prompts for our lesson, not his own words.

Letters 663 (18 Aug 1888), 673 (3 Sep 1888), 628 (about 19 Jun 1888).