



SAMUEL TAYLOR COLERIDGE

1772 - 1834

Kubla Khan

COLERIDGE



- Big reader as a child
- Went to Cambridge
- Poems deal with demonic and supernatural themes
- Influential in shift from classic to Romantic spirit

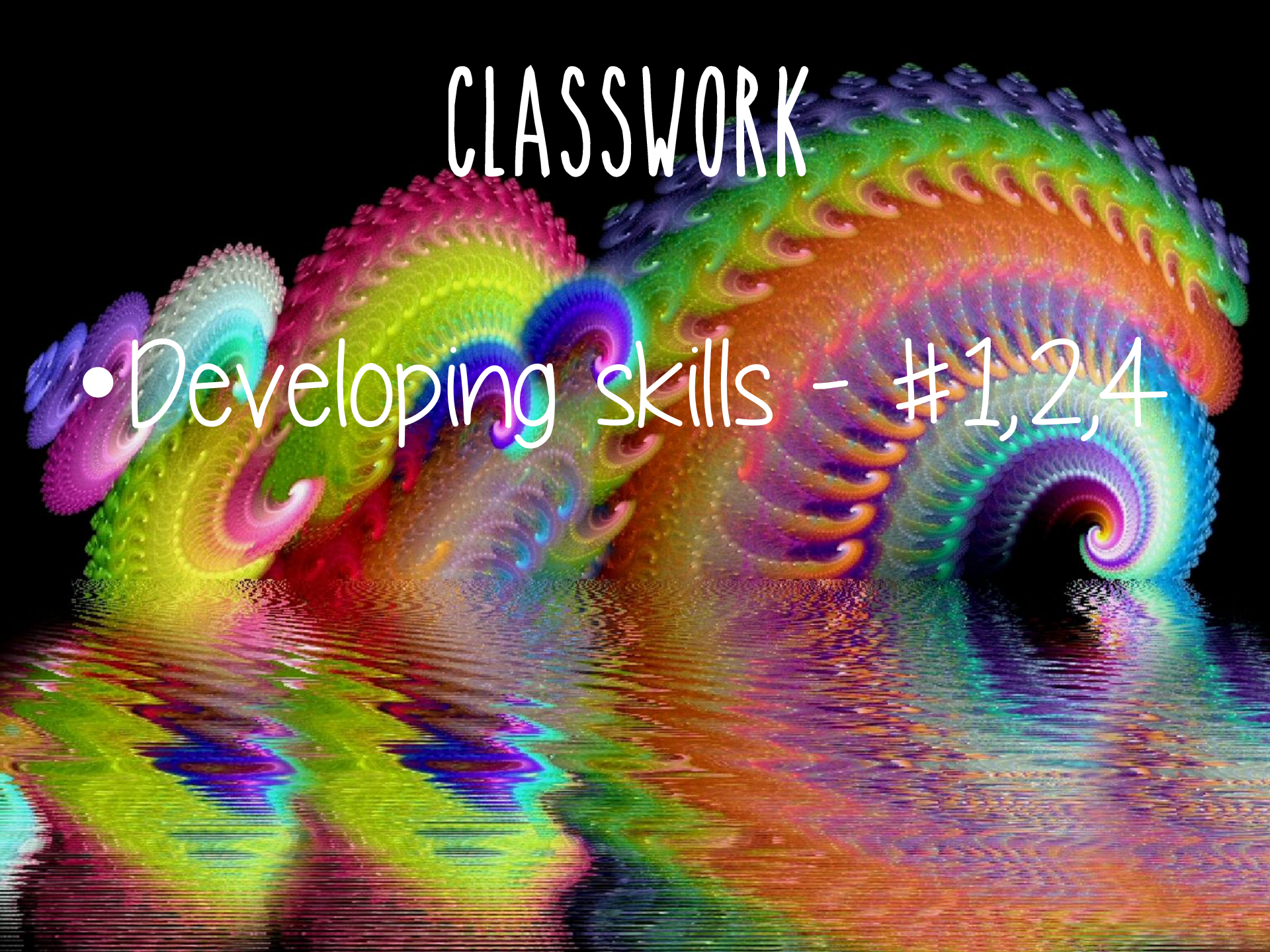
COLERIDGE




- Good friends with William Wordsworth (our last Romantic Poet)
- Frequently in pain, doctors prescribe laudanum — opium dissolved in alcohol
- Composed “Kubla Khan” while under the influence of this drug

CLASSWORK

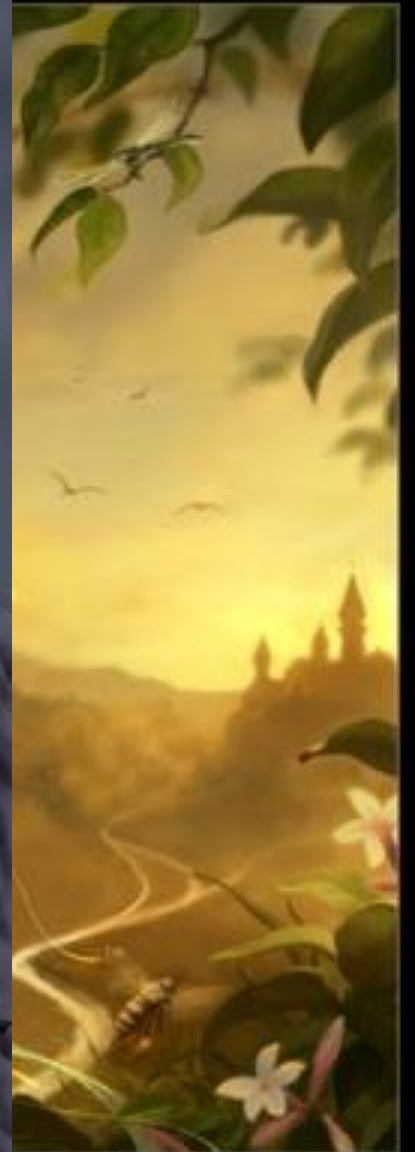
- Developing skills - #1,2,4





That with music loud and long,
I would build that dome in air,
That sunny dome! Those caves of ice!

Caves of Ice



IMAGERY



- Biblical Imagery
- Three Overtones
- Infinity/Mysterious
Supernatural

BIBLICAL REFERENCES

- Lines 1- 11
 - Fertility, gardens, incense
- Lines 12 and 13
 - Beautiful and “holy”
- Lines 14-16
 - Connotations of savage, enchanted, waning, haunted, wailing
 - Sinister
 - Blend of beauty and mystery

THREE ELEMENTS



- Romantic
 - Nature
- Erotic
 - Panting
- Satanic
 - haunting



EARTH IS DESCRIBED AS
PANTING WHILE THE FOUNTAIN
GIVES RISE — BIRTH — TO
SACRED RIVER ALPH

INFINITY MYSTERIOUS SUPERNATURAL

- “caverns measureless to man”
- “Sunless sea”
- “lifeless ocean”

SYMBOL



- River Alph = life
 - The course of each individual's life from birth through the twists and turns of existence to death

A painting of a waterfall in a lush forest. The waterfall flows from the top center, cascading down over rocks and moss. The water is white and frothy. The surrounding forest is dense with green foliage, including ferns and moss. In the bottom right, a white skull is visible in the water. The overall mood is somber and mysterious.

Life

Death

THEME



- Beginnings and Endings (River)
 - Human life/existence
- May also be describing and celebrating artistic creation. If the artist can respond to the inspiration, it is possible to create a fabulous world — taste of the original paradise