Make art

with the Art Gallery of New South Wales and John Coburn

Art Gallery NSW

Artists love to create. John Coburn liked to create designs using the simplified shapes of plants, flowers and birds. Some of his designs were turned into tapestries by weavers and Coburn would create a plan with a colour code for the weavers to work from.

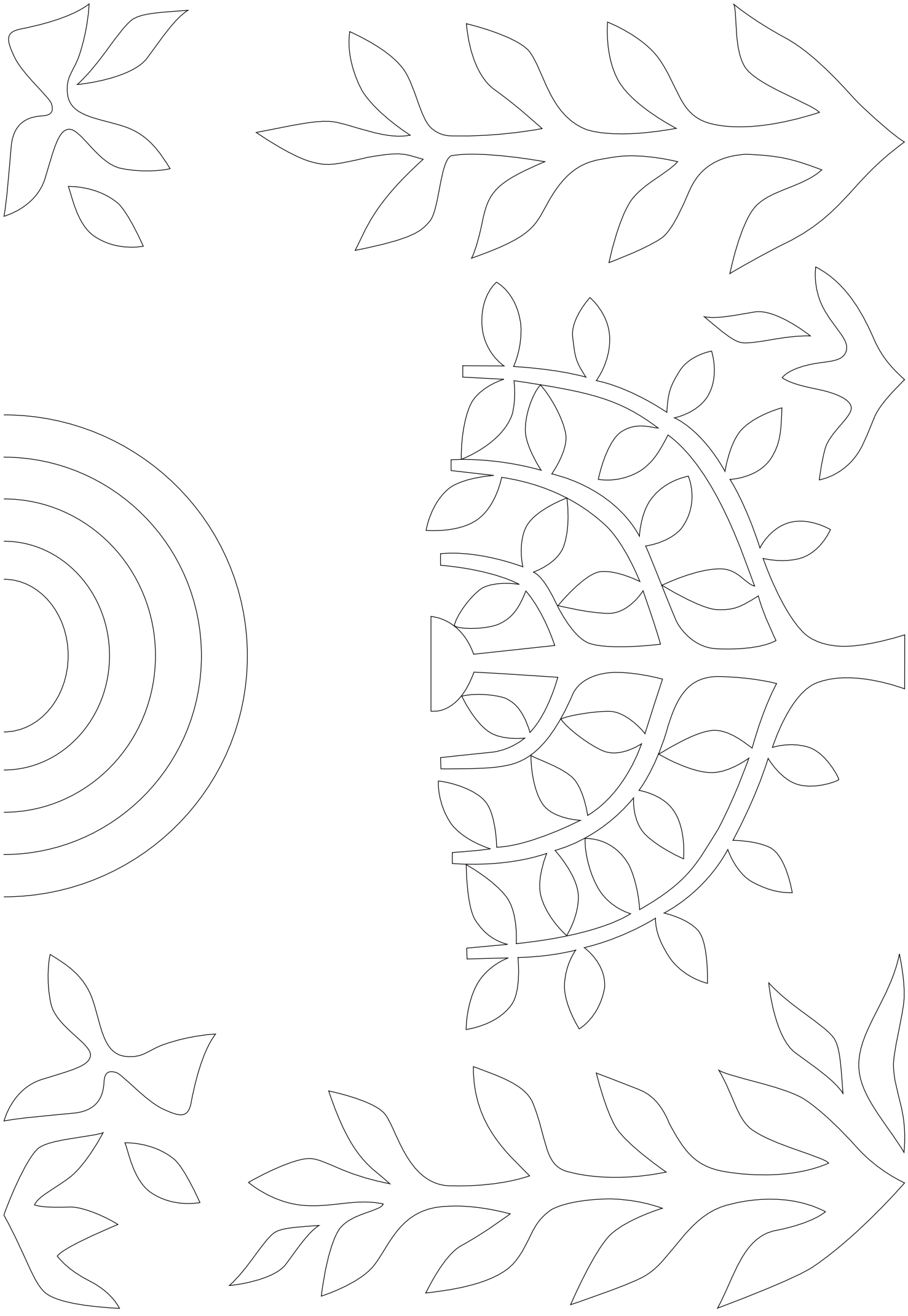
Do you love to draw and paint?

above and cover (detail): John Coburn **Maquette for tapestry 'Autumn'** 1986, synthetic polymer paint, gouache on paper, Art Gallery of New South Wales, gift of the Christensen Fund 1995; left: **Tree of life** 1964–65, oil on hardboard, Art Gallery of New South Wales, purchased 1965; overpage from top: John Coburn **Maquette for tapestry 'Hozanna'** 1986, synthetic polymer paint, gouache on paper, Art Gallery of New South Wales, gift of the Christensen Fund 1995; **Maquette for tapestry 'Death and transfiguration'** 1986, synthetic polymer paint, gouache on paper, Art Gallery of New South Wales, gift of the Christensen Fund 1995. All works © AGNSW. Photos: © AGNSW

We acknowledge the Gadigal of the Eora Nation, the traditional custodians of the Country on which the Art Gallery of New South Wales stands.

Colour code

Add more shapes from nature to the outlines on the next page and invent your own colour code to complete your design.

You will need:
Pencil
Paint, coloured markers or colouring pencils
Your imagination!

Make art activity sheet © Art Gallery of New South Wales