



**DANGEROUSLY
MODERN**

**AUSTRALIAN
WOMEN
ARTISTS
IN EUROPE
1890-1940**

**CHILDREN'S
TRAIL**



Hilda Rix Nicholas has painted a portrait of an elderly French woman in her garden surrounded by flowers.

Notice how short brushstrokes of thickly applied paint bring the colourful scene to life.

GARDEN BLOOMS

If you had to draw one of your grandparents, where would you draw them and what would surround them?

Draw them here.

At home, experiment with different thicknesses of paint to create a colourful garden scene.

Cover: Edith Collier *Boy against landscape* 1914–15 (detail), collection of the Edith Collier Trust, in the permanent care of Te Whare o Rehua Sarjeant Gallery © The Edith Collier Trust; this page: Hilda Rix Nicholas *Grand-mère (Grandmother)* c1914, Art Gallery of New South Wales, purchased 1919 © Estate of Hilda Rix Nicholas

Children's trail © Art Gallery of New South Wales 2025

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

SEASIDE SCENE

This lively seaside scene by Ethel Carrick captures a fleeting moment in time when people dressed very differently for a day at the beach.

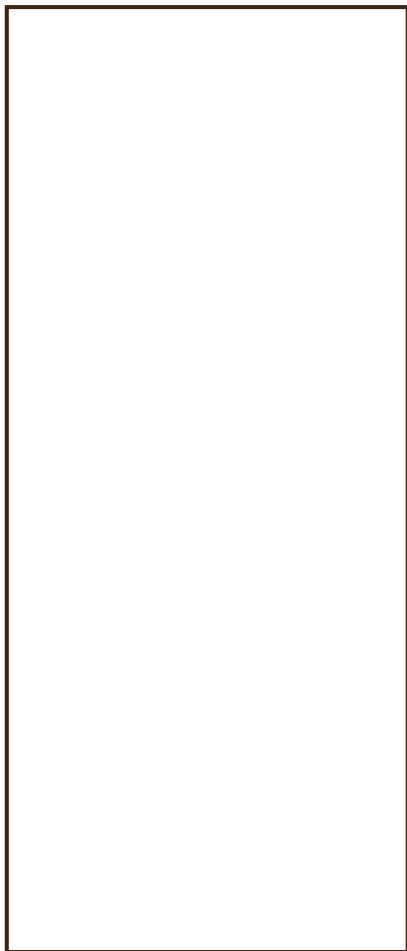
Describe their outfits and see how the colours red, pink and green are dotted through the scene, leading your eyes to all the different seaside activities.



Ethel Carrick *La marée haute à Saint-Malo* (*High tide at Saint-Malo*)
c1911–12, Art Gallery of New South Wales, purchased with funds
provided by the Gleeson O'Keefe Foundation 2009

Design a tourism poster to encourage people to visit this seaside town.

Saint-Malo



At home, find out more about Saint-Malo in France and what it looked like in the 1900s compared to now.



At home, make some drawings outdoors when the sun goes down and experiment with different light sources.

Iso Rae *Night patrol* 1918, Art Gallery of New South Wales, Gil and Shay Docking Drawing Fund 2022

Iso Rae created this drawing at night during the First World War. She volunteered at a British training camp in Étaples, France, and made many drawings of military life.

Find all the sources of light in the drawing. Notice how some of the light beams cut through the darkness, adding to the drama of the scene.

Imagine you are one of the soldiers writing a letter to a loved one. Tell them how you feel being so far from home.

NIGHT LIGHTS

This image shows a blank sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and extend across the width of the page. There are no margins or other markings on the paper.

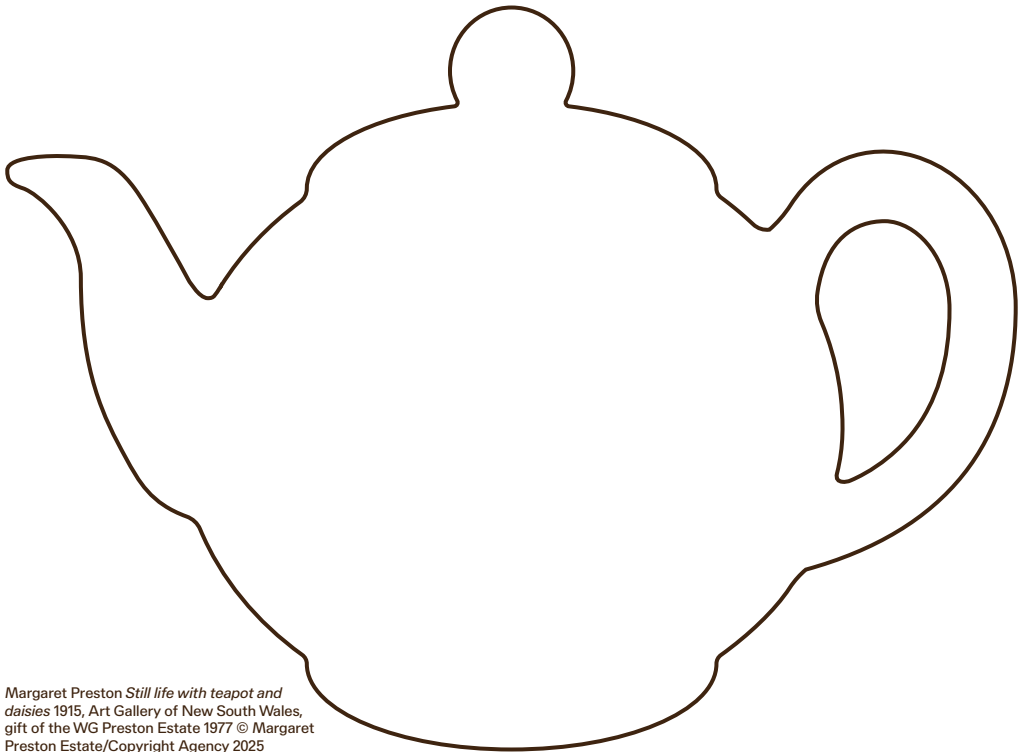
TEA FOR TWO

Margaret Preston loved to paint still lifes. This is a painting of an afternoon tea set up at the beach – can you see the sand and sea?

Notice how the striped tablecloth is reflected in the shiny curves of the teapot. Look even closer at the reflection and find a lady with a parasol. Is she about to sit and have a cup of tea?



Draw yourself reflected in this teapot. Will you be big or small?





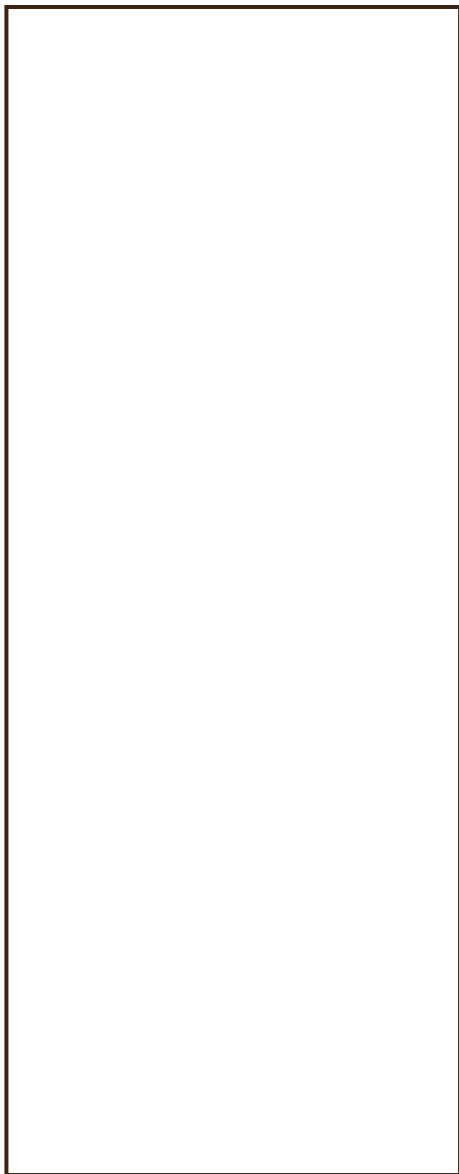
Jean Appleton *Painting IX* 1937, Art Gallery of New South Wales, donated through the Australian Government's Cultural Gifts Program by Dr Candice Bruce in memory of Michael Whitworth 2024 © Estate of Jean Appleton

Jean Appleton has created an abstract artwork using different geometric forms and textures. What shapes do you notice when you look at this painting? Why do they capture your attention?

Describe the angles, lines and colours. Do they remind you of anything? Could this be a futuristic machine?

ABSTRACT FORMS

Use geometric forms and lines to draw your own abstract artwork.



At home, cut out different materials and shapes to make a collaged abstract artwork.

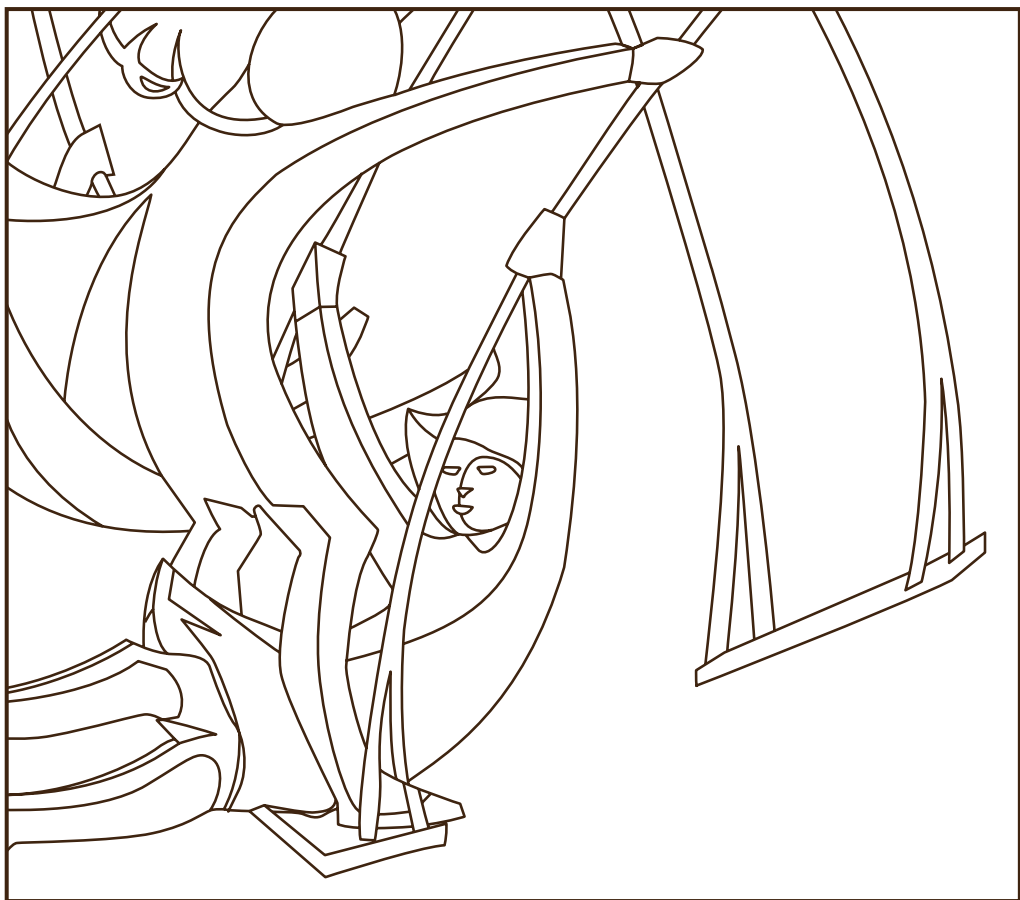
FLYING HIGH

Ethel Spowers has used curved lines and patterns to show the movement and rhythm of children swinging through the air. What sounds do you think they are making?

Notice how the girls' hair and dresses flow behind them, adding to the sense of excitement.

Draw yourself on the empty swing with the wind in your hair.

Drawn detail from Ethel Spowers *Swings* 1932, Art Gallery of New South Wales, purchased 1976





This ceramic beaker made by Gladys Reynell has a design of a cat, a dog and some houses scratched into its surface, using a technique called sgraffito.

Notice how all the design elements appear as silhouettes or simple shapes.

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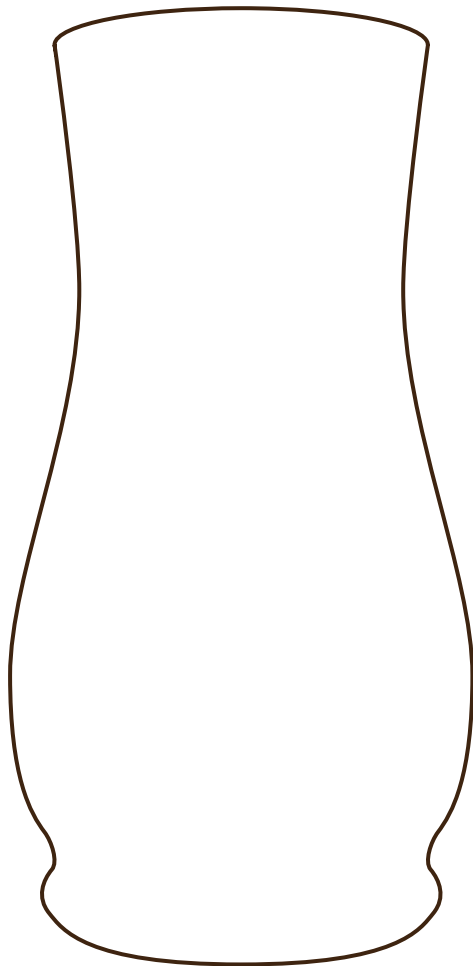
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J.P.Morgan

Gladys Reynell Beaker with repeating design of a row of terraces, a dog and a cat on a wall 1917, Art Gallery of New South Wales, gift of Mr W.G. Preston 1967 © Estate of Gladys Reynell

Design a pattern of your pet or favourite animal for this beaker using simple shapes. What will they be doing?



**ANIMAL
ANTICS**