



Yulyurlu Lorna Fencer Napurrurla

Activities

Notes

UPPER PRIMARY / SECONDARY

Pre-visit activities

Pre-visit activities are designed to inform students about *Yulyurlu* and assist them interpret and understand what they will see at the exhibition.

The *Yulyurlu Catalogue* can provide a context for appreciating the exhibition. Additional print and electronic resources (see Research Notes) can be used to research different aspects of the exhibition.

At the Exhibition

- Students should come with a notebook and pen.
- Discuss the activities and exhibition upon arrival at the venue.
- Provide copies of the activity for each student, where applicable.
- Encourage students to talk and share ideas about what they are seeing/hearing/learning and to ask lots of questions.
- Ask the gallery curator if present, to introduce the exhibition and facilitate a discussion at the end of the visit to talk about ideas, reactions and issues.

Make a painting of something moving very fast. Look at work by Italian futurist painter Giacomo Balla (1871-1958). In particular 'Dynamism of a Dog on a Leash', 1912, or other images about speed and motion.



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Web Search

Divide into small groups and explore the following subjects in a computer lab. Use the websites as a starting point for researching the exhibition.

Expand on the information by finding other relevant sites and making notes. Report back to the class with your findings.

The Place

Use a map to locate the Tanami Desert region.

Make a list of some of the well-known plants and animals found in the Tanami Desert.

The Community

Find out about Lajamanu. Where is it? Who lives there? What services are in the town? What is the school like?

The People

Who are the Warpiri people? Where did the Lajamanu Warpiri come from?

What is the Jukurrpa or Dreamings

What does the word Jukurrpa mean?

The Artist

Find out about Yulyurlu Lorna Fencer Napurrurla. List five interesting things you found out about her and her painting.

Aboriginal Art Centres

Find out about Aboriginal Art Centres. What are they? Where are they located?

Look up Mimi Aboriginal Art and Craft and Warnayaka Art Centre. Where are they?

Indigenous Protocols

Find out about Indigenous protocols.

What kind of things should people be aware of when travelling to Indigenous lands and working with Indigenous Australian people?



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At the Exhibition

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Student activity sheet

Exhibition Review

Imagine you are a reporter. You have been asked to write a review about the exhibition for your local newspaper. Look around the exhibition, spend time reading and looking and making notes. Use the following as a guide.

- Where did you see the exhibition? What kind of place is it?
- Look at the paintings and information in the exhibition.
- Who is the artist and where did she come from?

Pick two artworks you like best:

- Describe them in detail.
- Describe the colours and the style.
- Find out what the artworks are about.
- What special skills, knowledge and ability does the artist have?
- Make a drawing of one of the artworks to illustrate your report.

Sit down as a group and discuss your findings.

Ask questions about things you do not understand or would like to know more about.

- Who put the exhibition together and why?

Back in the classroom:

Write about the things you liked most about the exhibition.

Find out more about the place the artist came from and why her artwork is considered important.

Finally:

- Write your report.
- Create a title or headline for your article.
- Include a summary at the end.
- What did you like most about the exhibition?
- Why is this kind of exhibition important for people to see?



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Post-visit Activities

1. Potato Printing

Lorna creates her paintings by daubing paint in layers of bright colour to create patterns and shapes that represent elements of her country and culture.

Many living things grow in such a way as to produce patterns. Examples include the branching of a tree or a root system. This is called an L system or fractal system.

Lorna uses this fractal system to show how the yam grows over and under the ground. Fractal systems are also used in computer programs, medicine, space research and engineering. Use the fractal system to make your own artwork using potato prints. Look at examples from nature to develop ideas and patterns. Add colour and vary the size of the fractals to produce a complex pattern.

What you need

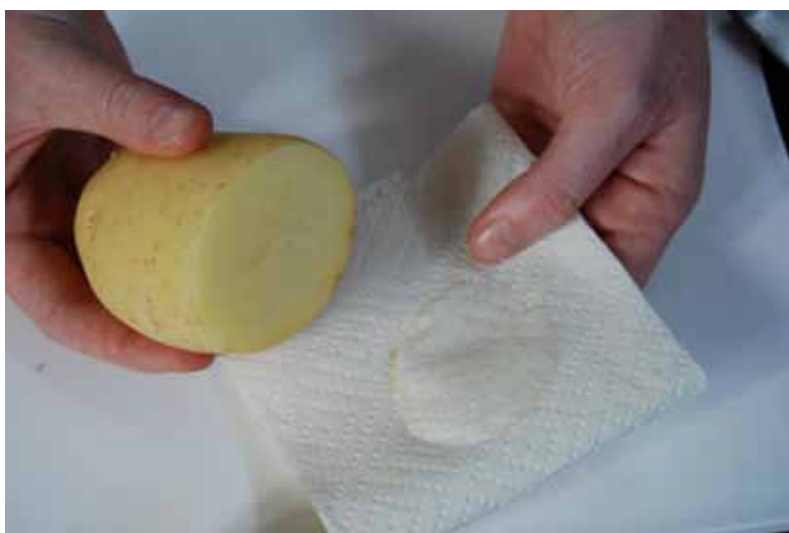
- Potatoes (any variety will do, but large baking potatoes are best)
- Linoleum or wood cutting tools (or small kitchen knives)
- Pencil or black marker
- Paper towels
- Water based paints, gouache or fabric paints. (The paint should be thick for a bold, sharp print.)
- Inkpad (optional)
- Paint brushes (sponges work well, too)
- Fabric or paper
- Scrap paper

What to do

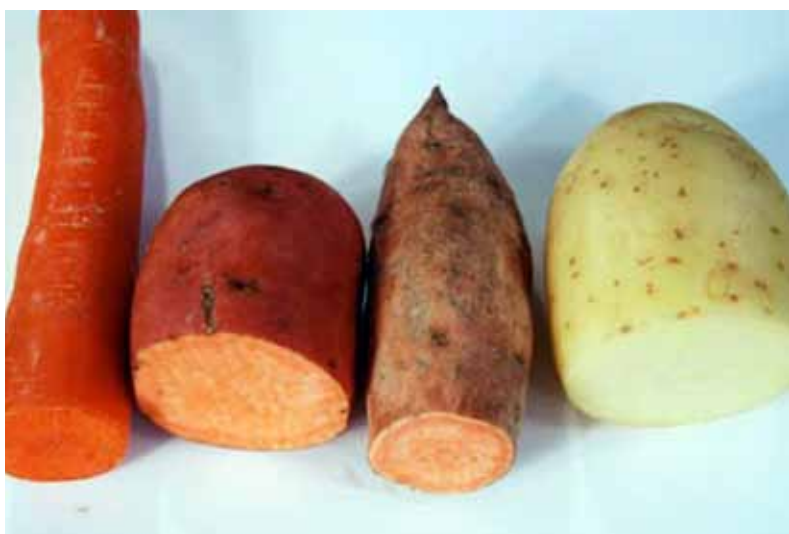
- Cut the potato in half.
- Blot the cut surface with paper towels to absorb as much moisture as possible.
- Draw your motif onto the potato with a marker.
- Using your knife, carve around the out line of your design and cut away the background to a depth of about half a centimetre.
- Apply inks or paint to your potato stamp with a brush or a sponge, or use an inkpad.
- Gently press the potato stamp on to your fabric or paper. Press evenly, transferring the image to your material.
- Use repeated shapes to create patterns and shapes



Cut the potato with a sharp knife and be sure the cut surfaces are flat and even.



Blot the cut surface with paper towels to absorb the moisture and starch.



Other vegetables such as carrots, peppers etc can also be used.



You can cut simple or more complex shapes and designs.



Make sure the stamp is at least 6mm deep. Take care when cutting the shape.



Patterns can be overlaid and developed. Different colours and types of paper can be used.



2. Metamorphoses

Read the story of the Battle of Yumurpa in the Research Notes.

Dreamings figures (or heroes) are able to change from animals, plants rocks and other natural objects to human form. So the Yams are thought of as both people and as yams, or in the case of Jajurtuma, as both caterpillar and man. This phenomenon occurs in nature (ie a grub changing to a butterfly), the idea also occurs in mythology and stories and is often called metamorphoses.

Look at the Metamorphosis of Narcissus (1937) by the Spanish surrealist painter Salvador Dalí. Find other paintings or movies that have used this devise?

Make an artwork titled "Metamorphoses".

Create your own creature or object changing from one manifestation to another.



Write a story line titled Metamorphoses. Use plastercine or modeling clay to create small models. Photograph the creatures in scenes to tell a story. Show them changing from one form to another.