



20TH AND 21ST CENTURY

AUSTRALIAN GALLERIES

ART GALLERY OF NEW SOUTH WALES

**HAVE FUN EXPLORING &
MAKE SOME ART OF YOUR OWN**

ART
GALLERY
NSW

Collect
a pencil



Go on a journey
through the
Australian
galleries



Discover
the artworks

★ **Look, draw and
have fun!**



20TH AND 21ST CENTURY AUSTRALIAN GALLERIES

Some of the Gallery's most famous and popular works of art are presented in new contexts alongside recent acquisitions and numerous works brought out of storage for the first time in years. Works across all media – paintings, sculpture, photography, video and prints – are included.

GROUND LEVEL

Written by Victoria Collings © Public Programs Department Art Gallery of New South Wales 2012

cover: Roland Wakelin *Synchromy in orange major* 1919 (detail), oil on cardboard. Bequest of Mervyn Horton 1983 © Roland Wakelin Estate. **above:** Exhibition installation view from left, Ron Robertson-Swann *Golden breach* 1965, purchased 1983 © Ron Robertson-Swann; Tony McGillick *Jasper's gesture* 1966, DG Wilson Bequest Fund 2003 © Reproduced with permission of the Artist's Estate; Richard Larter *Prompt Careb and how we never learn* 1975, Visual Arts Board Australia Council Contemporary Art Purchase Grant 1975 © Richard Larter; Peter Kennedy *Floor piece 2* 1970, 2011, Barbara Tribe Bequest Fund 2011 © Peter Kennedy. Licensed by Viscopy, Sydney

★ **Find** this sculpture of a car.

The artist – James Angus – has replicated (copied) a famous racing car in extraordinary detail, but has also distorted or shifted it 30 degrees to the right.

Notice how the distortion has changed the shape of the wheels. What words can you think of to describe how the car looks?

Imagine you could drive this car. How would it feel?

Draw a distorted city or country scene around the car.



James Angus Bugatti Type 35 2006, steel, aluminium, fiberglass, rubber, leather, automotive lacquer
Purchased with funds provided by Andrew Cameron, the Contemporary Collection Benefactors and
the Rudy Komon Memorial Fund 2006 © James Angus, courtesy Roslyn Oxley9 Gallery

At home make your own sculpture of a car using recycled materials and cardboard boxes. Will you make it twisted or straight?



★ **Walk** over to this colourful house.

The artist – Roland Wakelin – has used colour and simple shapes to depict a house and garden.

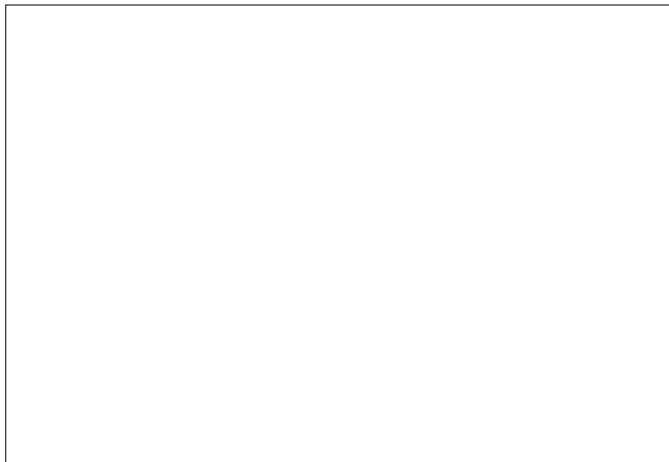
Look closely at the painting.
What colours can you see?
How do they make you feel?

Imagine who might live in a house like this.

Draw a garden for this house.



Roland Wakelin *Synchromy in orange major* 1919, oil on cardboard. Bequest of Mervyn Horton 1983



At home paint a picture of your own home. Think about what colours you could use. Will they be real or imagined?



★ **Meet** this elegant lady.

The artist – George Lambert – was well known for his portraits and enjoyed painting fine detail. Lambert often named his paintings after items of clothing.

Look closely at the detail in this portrait.

Pose like the lady. **Imagine** having to sit still while Lambert painted you.

How would you feel?



Find more portraits by Lambert that have been named after things the sitter is wearing.

Notice their hands, and copy what they are doing.

Draw a new background for this lady. Where is she?



At home dress up in different clothes and costumes with your friends or family, and draw or photograph yourselves. Will you pretend to be different people?



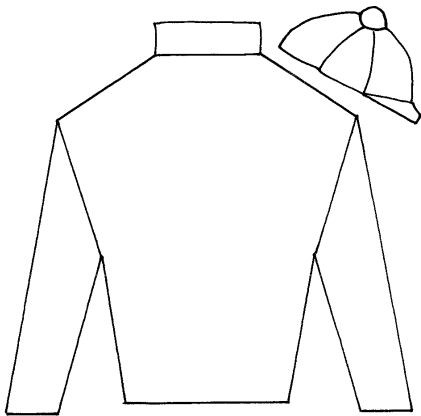
★ **Find** this exciting horse race.

How many horses and jockeys can you spot?

Observe how the artist – Weaver Hawkins – has created a sense of movement.

Imagine you are in the race?
How do you feel?

Design your own pattern for this jockey's outfit (silks) and cap.



At home find out more about the most famous horse race in Australia. What do people wear to the races? Design your own outfit and hat.



★ **Travel** to this farm paddock.

This artwork is one of the most popular paintings in the Gallery.

The artist – Elioth Gruner – painted it in a farm paddock in Emu Plains and had to wrap his legs in sacks to protect him from the cold, frosty air.

Look closely at the farmer.

Notice his pink ears in the cold morning air. Can you see the breath of the cows?

Observe how the light is coming through the trees and creating long shadows. Can you spot the farmhouse hidden in the trees?

Draw what you think the farmhouse looks like.



Elioth Gruner *Spring frost* 1919, oil on canvas. Gift of FG White 1939

At home find out more about Emu Plains on Sydney's western outskirts. Are there still farms there now?



★ **Stroll** around the corner to the beach.

Do you like going to the beach?
Here, the artist – Charles Meere –
has painted a scene showing people
doing lots of different activities at
the beach.

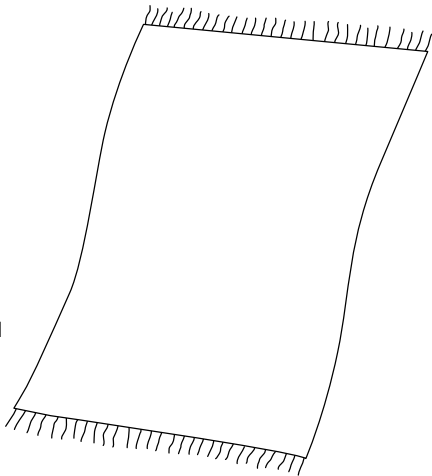


What activities do you enjoy at
the beach?

Look closely at the painting and
find the following things:

- ☐ an umbrella
- ☐ a sailing boat
- ☐ a beach bag
- ☐ a bucket and spade
- ☐ a surfboard
- ☐ a deck chair
- ☐ a towel
- ☐ a rubber ring
- ☐ a beach ball

Design your own towel
for going to the beach.



At home collect magazine pictures, photos and things you
connect with the beach, and create a collage to show what
you love about the seaside.



★ **Travel** into the dusty, hot desert.

The artist – Russell Drysdale – was interested in looking at the landscape and the harshness of life in the centre of Australia, and often painted desert scenes.

Notice the colours Drysdale uses to depict the dry desert.

List the colours you can see.

Are any of them unusual?

Imagine you were suddenly dropped into this landscape.
How would you feel? **Write** a story about your adventure.



Russell Drysdale *Desert landscape* 1952, oil on canvas. Purchased 1959 © Russell Drysdale Estate

At home find photos and images of Central Australia on the computer or in books. What is the weather like? Who lives there? What animals survive well in the desert?



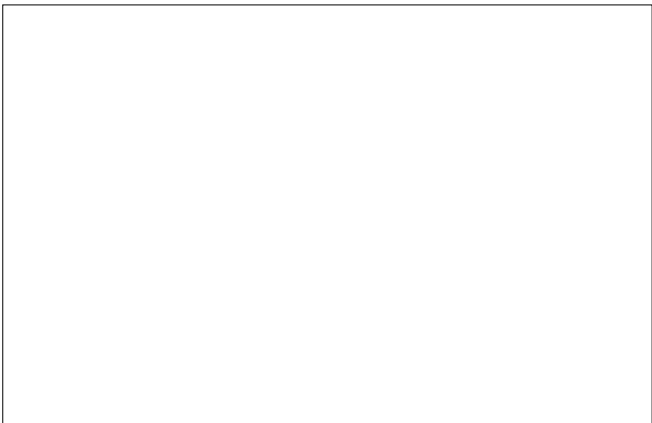
★ **Find** this abstract painting.

The artist – Ralph Balson – loved to paint geometric shapes in many colours, overlapping and arranging them on the canvas in abstract constructions.

Name the geometric shapes you can find in the painting. Do they remind you of anything?



Invent your own geometric pattern here using circles, squares, rectangles, triangles and lines. Will you make your picture look like anything or just an abstract pattern?



At home cut out shapes from coloured paper, and arrange them on a background into a shape or pattern and create your own abstract artwork.



★ **Meet** the famous bushranger Ned Kelly.

The artist – Sidney Nolan – painted a series of pictures about the bushranger Ned Kelly, and the way he painted Kelly's black armour has become famous and part of Australian folklore.



Notice Ned Kelly's eyes peeking through the slit in his helmet. How do you think he is feeling? What or who might be about to appear through the bush?

Write a poem about Ned Kelly's adventures, starting each line using the letters of 'Ned Kelly'.

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At home find out more about Ned Kelly. Imagine you are part of the Kelly gang, and write an imaginative story about your adventures.



★ **Find** this metal sculpture.

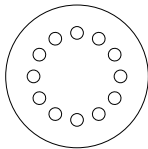
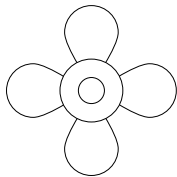
The artist – Robert Klippel – was one of Australia's leading sculptors and he enjoyed combining things from nature with technology, creating artworks that looked both man-made and organic.

Look closely at *No. 202*. **Describe** what objects you can see. Where do you think Klippel may have found them?

Stand back and look at the whole group of sculptures. What is the same about all of them? Are any of them different?

Role-play how the artist would have moved his body, arms and fingers to create these sculptures.

Add more shapes from nature and machines to these shapes here, to create an idea for a sculpture.



At home collect recycled materials and found objects, and make your own sculpture with them.