

CHILDREN'S TRAIL

MEET
MARGARET
PRESTON



ART
GALLERY
NSW

HAVE FUN EXPLORING THE ART
OF MARGARET PRESTON
AND MAKE SOME OF YOUR OWN!

Collect
a pencil



Go on a journey
through the
exhibition



Discover
her paintings,
prints, pottery
and textiles

★ **Look, draw and have fun!**



MARGARET PRESTON (1875–1963) is one of Australia's most celebrated artists, and is Australia's most famous woman artist. Her colourful paintings, prints and bold personality have delighted the Australian public since the 1920s when she first came to prominence.

Above: *Self Portrait* 1930 (detail) oil on canvas Art Gallery of New South Wales
Gift of the artist at the request of the Trustees 1930

Cover: *Australian coral flowers* 1928 (detail) oil on canvas Private collection

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★ **Look** at this shiny tea urn.



What can you see reflected in it?

What do you use to make your tea?

Imagine drinking a cup of tea at this table. What would you like to eat with your tea? **Draw** below what you are going to eat.

At home select some shiny kitchen utensils and arrange them on a table. Draw them and think carefully about the reflections in the objects.



★ **Here** is a colourful holiday picnic table.

Imagine you can enter this painting.

What can you hear? What can you smell?



Holiday still life 1913 oil on canvas Private collection

Extend the picture up and **draw** the view you can see beyond the gate. **Step** into this painting and tell a tale about your adventure.



★ **Look** at this portrait.

Examine the way the lady is sitting and the clothes she is wearing. Where is she? **Design** a new background for her.



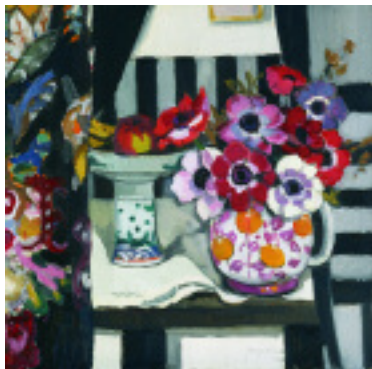
The flapper 1928 (detail) National Gallery of Australia,
purchased with the assistance of the Cooma-Monaro Snowy River Fund 1988

At home dress up. Try wearing a hat, jewellery, and fancy clothes and look in a mirror. **Draw** or **paint** your own self-portrait.



★ This painting has lots of **colours** and **shapes** in it.

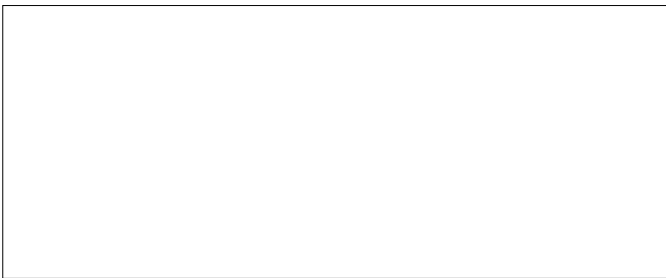
Still life 1925 oil on canvas National Gallery of Australia



Can you **name** four colours and four shapes?

Which ones are used the most?

Using this painting and ones nearby, **design** a pattern filled with shapes, stripes and flowers.



At home make a collage of a vase of flowers and some fruit using coloured tissue paper.



★ This **print** shows boats coming in and out of Circular Quay.

Look carefully at how Margaret Preston has used marks to show ripples in the water, leaves on the trees and windows on the buildings.

Extend the picture and **draw** some more buildings using the same technique.



Circular Quay 1925 woodcut, hand-coloured Art Gallery of New South Wales

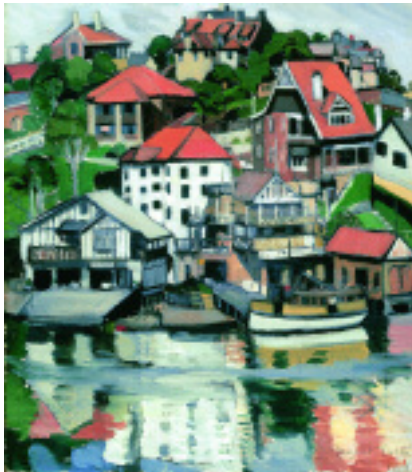
Imagine you are on one of the boats.

Where are you going? **Write** a story about your voyage.



★ Here is another **view** of Sydney Harbour.

Corner of Mosman Bay 1929 oil on canvas National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne, purchased through The Art Foundation of Victoria with assistance of Westpac Banking Corporation, Founder Benefactor 1997



Spot the differences in the way this one is painted compared to *Circular Quay*.

Find these things and **tick** them as you find them:

- A boat
- A boatshed
- A house with 3 windows in the roof
- A path
- A telegraph pole
- Steps
- A balcony

At home make a picture of where you live and the surrounding neighbourhood.



MARGARET PRESTON ART AND LIFE

ART GALLERY OF NEW SOUTH WALES

29 JULY – 23 OCTOBER 2005

NATIONAL GALLERY OF VICTORIA

12 NOVEMBER 2005 – 29 JANUARY 2006

QUEENSLAND ART GALLERY

18 FEBRUARY – 7 MAY 2006

ART GALLERY OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA

26 MAY – 13 AUGUST 2006

ART
GALLERY
NSW

PRESIDENT'S
COUNCIL



© Public Programmes Art Gallery of New South Wales 2005
Based on the Children's Trail concept from the Fundays at the Gallery program sponsored by The Sunday Telegraph

★ Let your **senses** explore this painting.

There are lots of sweet things to smell and taste in this painting and lots of interesting surfaces to imagine touching.

What **tastes** delicious?

What **feels** spiky and rough?

What might you **see** your reflection in?

List them below.



Native honey Suckle 1933 oil on canvas Private collection

Make a drawing of something sweet to eat or smell you could add to this painting.



★ Margaret Preston **lived here** from 1932–1939.

Can you **find** her house?

I lived at Berowra 1941 oil on canvas Art Gallery of New South Wales



Name the colours she has used to create this painting?

What time of year is it?

Imagine you are Margaret Preston.

Write a letter to a friend describing your new house in Berowra and what you can **see** through the window.



★ We are at a country **show**.

List the activities you can see.

Molong Show 1946 tempera on canvas Private collection



Have you ever been to a show?

Write a poem about the fun things you did,
or could do, if you stepped into this painting.

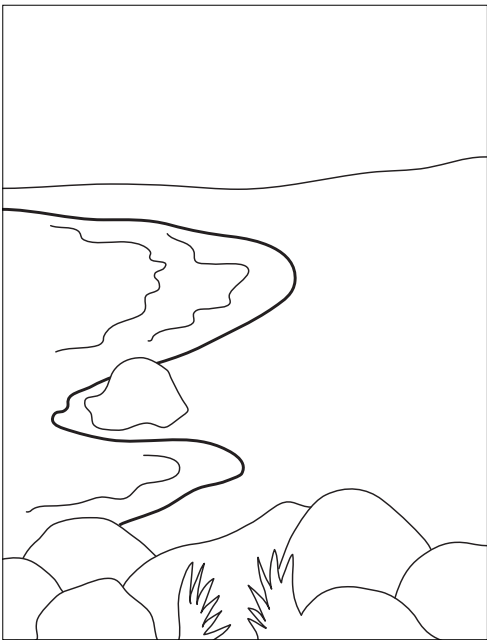


★ **Dive** into the deep blue sea.

Look at the lines Margaret Preston has used to show the curve of the beach. **Draw** yourself on the beach.

Add trees and houses to the scene.

Balmoral Beach c1929 woodcut, hand-coloured Shepparton Art Gallery, Sir Andrew Fairley Bequest 1975



At home trace over the lines of the print and colour in using different colours. **Create** a beach scene on a cold, dark, winter's day and another for a hot, sunny, summer's day.

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