



Ikon Activity Pack

KS3

Ikon's activity packs are designed for creative learning at school or home. Inspired by Ikon's exhibitions by [Mit Jai Inn](#) and [Bill Woodrow and Richard Deacon](#).

Created by artist Lucy Grubb, they include questions for thinking and talking about art in relation to other subjects, including global cultures and environments.

Share your creations with learning@ikon-gallery.org or via social media [@ikongallery](#) [#ikongallery](#).

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Mit Jai Inn / Bill Woodrow and Richard Deacon

Mit Jai Inn is a Thai artist who uses bright colours and abstract forms to create environments for use by the community and in meditation. He paints on large rolls of canvas, which he cuts and folds to fit the gallery's architecture.

Bill Woodrow and Richard Deacon have been making artworks together for more than thirty years. In their Ikon exhibition, the artists reveal their "shared drawings", resulting from a process of back-and-forth exchange during 2019–2020.

Key words and themes: Dreams, utopia, community, collaboration, identity, sharing, togetherness.

Method: Drawing, painting, print-making, collage, sculpture, installation.

Materials: Pen, ink, pencil, paint, paper, canvas.

Related Artists: Julie Mehertu, Ian Davenport, Deborah Roberts, Rirkrit Tiravanija.



Mit Jai Inn, *Dream Tunnel* (2021)



Mit Jai Inn, *Midlands Dwelling* (2021)

Mit Jai Inn's exhibition at Ikon, titled *Dreamworld*, represents the artist's hopes and vision for a brighter future. Often working at night, on rolls of unstretched canvas, he uses his hands, fingers and palette knives to dab, slap and pull colours across the surface. The colours in Mit's works sometimes reference Thai politics. Silver paint alludes to the traditional role of the Tai Khun (a Northern Thai ethnic group) as silversmiths in the Thai royal court. [Take a 3D tour of the exhibition.](#)

What colours might you use to express your cultural heritage? How might you bring aspects of your identity into an abstract artwork?

What are your hopes and dreams for the future? How might you express your utopian vision through an artwork?



Bill Woodrow Richard Deacon, *I CAN'T STAND THE RAIN* (2019)

In Bill Woodrow and Richard Deacon's drawing titled *I CAN'T STAND THE RAIN*, there is a colourful interplay of paint, collage and ink that covers the entire surface. The artists took turns to work on the drawing, placed on a table top and pinned to the wall. It was late in the process that the artists decided the drawing's orientation. The final decision was the work's title, which is often derived from a music track: here a song originally recorded by Ann Peebles in 1973. [Take a 3D tour of the exhibition.](#)

What music might you listen to when making an artwork? How might you reference that music through line and form?



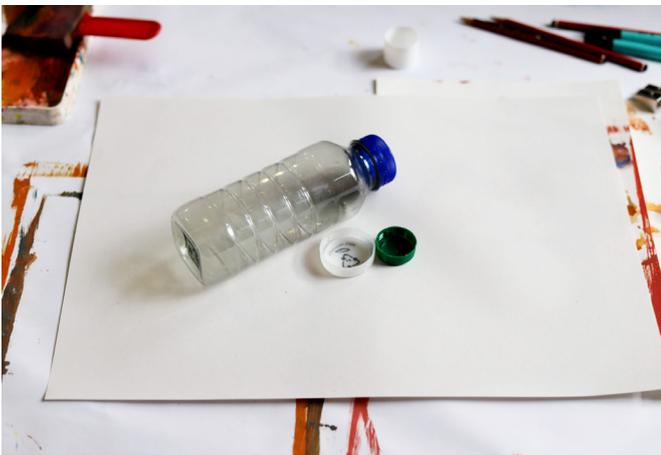
Bill Woodrow Richard Deacon *EACH #6* (2020)

Dream worlds

This activity is based on artworks by Mit Jai Inn. Use bold and bright colours, recycled materials and abstract forms to create your own version of a utopian dream world.

You will need: Bottle caps, paper, glue, paint, paintbrush.

1. Collect bottle caps and other material you can recycle. Wash and clean the items you have found.



2. With a paintbrush, paint your own vision of a dream world.



3. Alternatively, you can use your collection of items as mark-making tools, similar to how you would use a paintbrush.



4. With glue, stick your items on a piece of paper in an edgy composition.





Friendship drawing

This activity is based on artworks by Bill Woodrow and Richard Deacon. Have a conversation with a friend and find out more about them. Create a drawing that celebrates who they are as an individual.

You will need: A friend, paper, glue, magazines and newspapers, pens, paints.

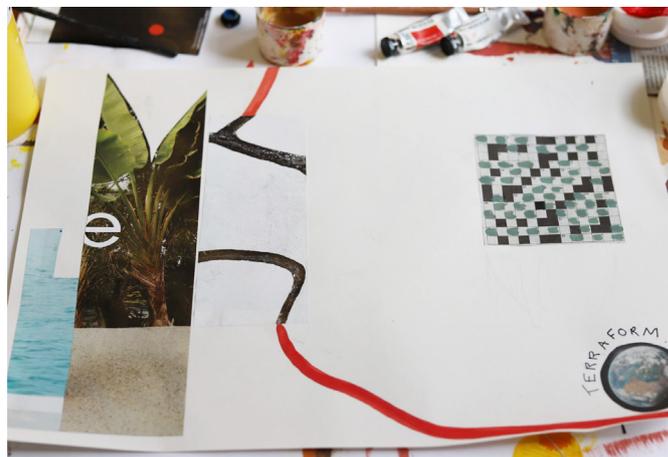
1. Have a conversation with a friend.
You could find out: Where were you born?
What's your favourite colour? What's the last dream you had? What's your hobby?
What's your favourite lesson at school?

2. Look through magazines or newspapers and cut out images that reflect your conversation. Keep these cut outs to one side for the moment.

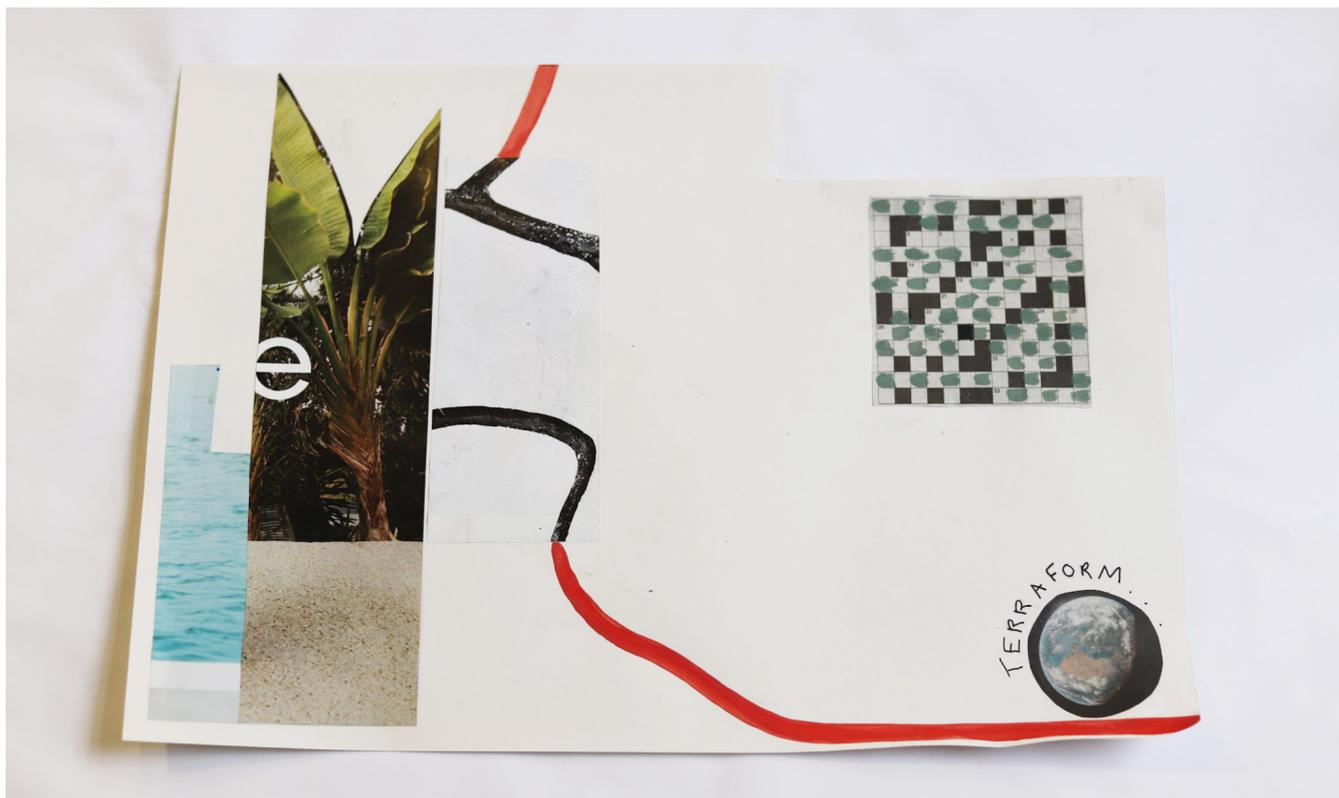


3. You can also draw, paint, write and use frottage to create your diagram.

4. Use everything you have collected to compose your diagram - glue everything down.



5. Now show your friend.



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Ikon is supported using public funding by Arts Council
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