



# IKON ACTIVITY PACK

## KS3

Ikon's activity packs are designed for creative learning at school or home. Inspired by Ikon's exhibition of landscape sketches and drawings by Edward Lear.

Created by artist Taiba Akhtar, the packs include questions for thinking and talking about art in relation to other subjects, including global cultures and environments.

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

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# EDWARD LEAR

Edward Lear (1812–1888) is best known for his limericks and nonsense poems such as *The Owl and the Pussy-Cat* (first published in 1871).

He also worked as an artist, illustrator and musician, combining silliness and humour in his works. Whilst travelling in Europe, the Middle East and India, Lear made drawings and paintings of his surrounding landscape, creating over 9000 artworks during his lifetime.

Lear often made art work in-situ, capturing everyday scenes and passing moments. His drawings were made quickly in pencil and then painted with a wash of watercolour.

Experimenting with different techniques allowed the artist to express his thoughts and feelings. Often he would annotate his drawings with factual notes, documenting his observations of the landscape. At other times these notes would be fictional, added from his imagination.

**Key words and themes:** Landscape, journeys, documentation, creative process, time, space, place, transience.

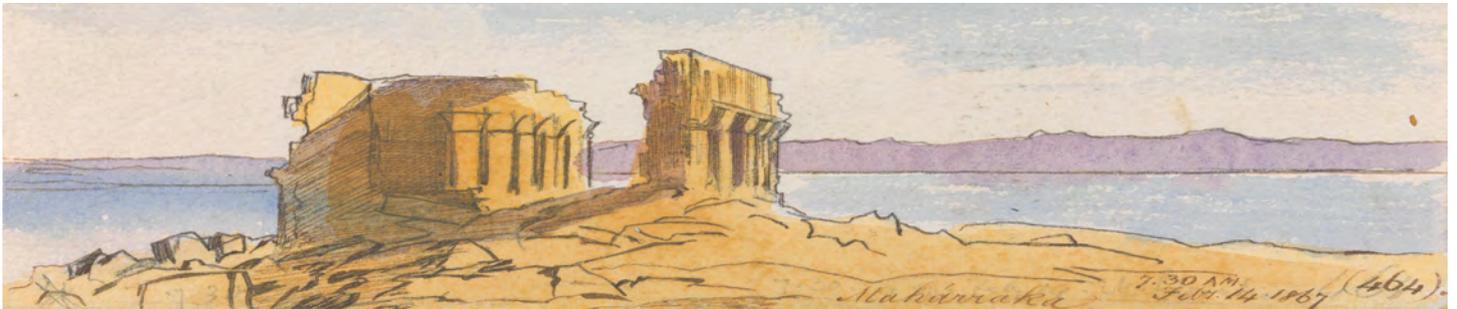
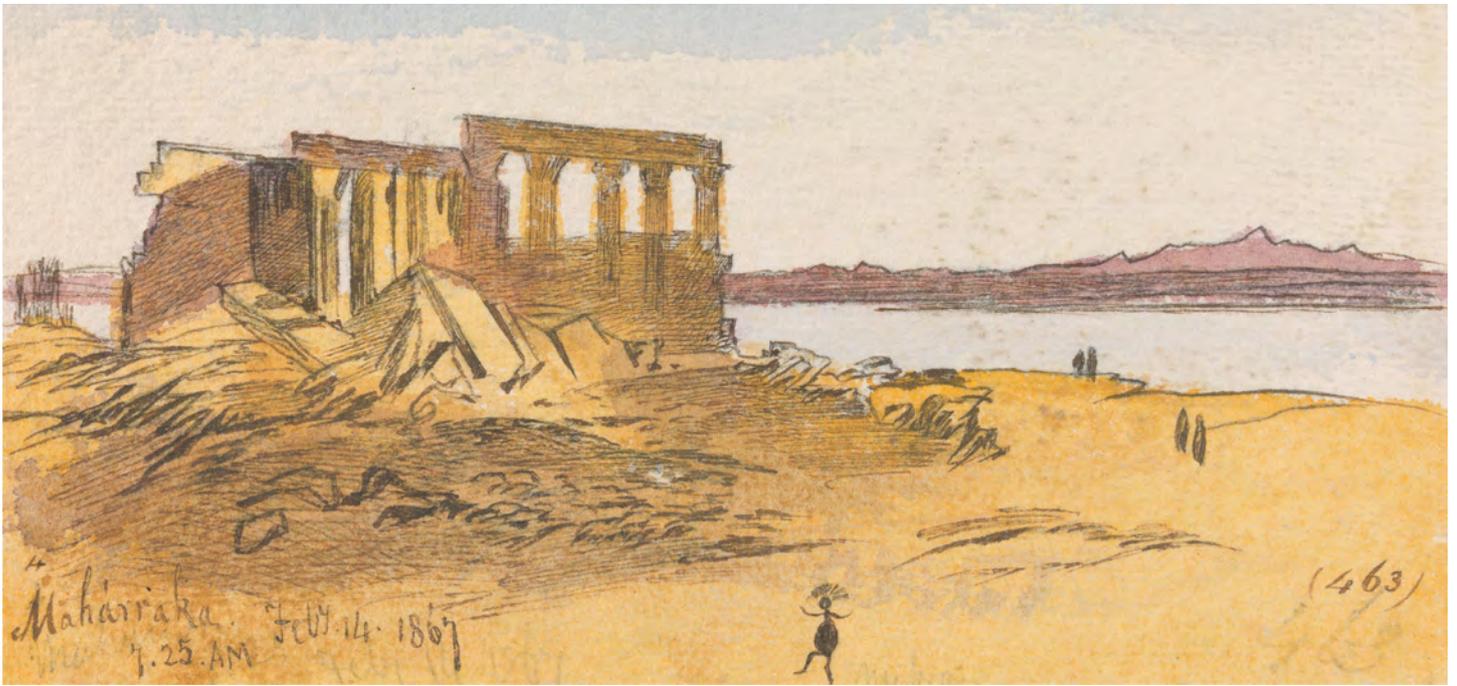
**Method:** Painting, drawing, writing.

**Related artists:** Tacita Dean, Simon Faithfull, Samuel Palmer, Ingrid Pollard, J.M.W. Turner.



Look at the painting Lear made in Philae, Egypt.

- At what time was the painting made and how long did it take?
- How does being present in the landscape allow Lear to capture various phenomena?
- What natural features can you see in the landscape?
- What elements might be real, and what could the artist have added from his imagination?
- What has the artist written on the painting?
- Is this a finished artwork? How might Lear use it?
- How does Lear capture light and atmosphere?



**Look at the series of work made at the Temple of Maharraka in Egypt.**

- What are the time differences between the paintings?
- The works are presented as a series. How does this change the way we view and understand the scene?
- Why does Lear include details of the place, time and date of the paintings?
- Other than differences in time and date, how might you identify time is passing?
- Does Lear want to accurately depict the place or capture a moment in time?
- How do Lear's paintings compare to photographs and films of the ancient site?

Edward Lear, *Maharraka, 7:25 am, 14 February 1867* (463). Yale Center for British Art, Gift of Donald C. Gallup, Yale BA 1934, PhD 1939

Edward Lear, *Maharraka, 7:30 am, 14 February 1867* (464). Yale Center for British Art, Gift of Donald C. Gallup, Yale BA 1934, PhD 1939

Edward Lear, *Maharraka, 7:35 am, 14 February 1867* (465). Yale Center for British Art, Gift of Donald C. Gallup, Yale BA 1934, PhD 1939

# MORNING WALK AND DRAW

Lear often made drawings in the morning. Following in his footsteps, take a morning stroll and quickly write down or sketch the different things you see and experience.

**You will need:** A4 paper, tea bag, bowl of warm water, drawing ink, watercolour paint, paint tray, paintbrush, marker pen, coloured pencils, paper towel.



- 1 After taking a walk, soak a tea bag in a bowl of warm water. Squeeze out any excess water and dab it over a sheet of paper create a stain wash.



- 2 Using ink and a paintbrush, create a line drawing of your favourite place from your morning walk. Experiment using different lines and patterns, and erase areas using a paper towel to create different effects.



- 3 Using a coloured pencil, and your non-writing hand, choose an area of the image to draw as a continuous line. Try to not lift your hand from the paper.

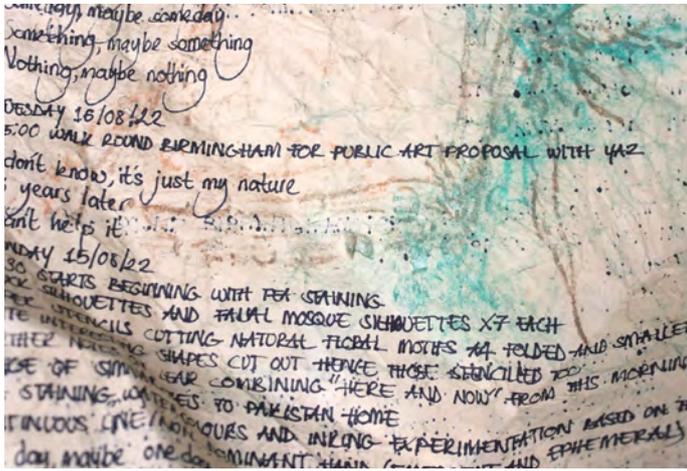


- 4 Continue to experiment with different techniques and materials including pencils, ink and watercolour paints. Finally, write the time and date you made your art work on the paper.

# HERE AND NOW

Create a journal to express your thoughts and feelings using drawing and writing. Follow the steps below or [watch a video tutorial](#).

**You will need:** 20 × 20cm paper, tea bag, bowl of warm water, chalk pastels, marker pen, kitchen towel.



- 1 Tea stain your paper. Using the same image from the previous activity, choose one area to quickly draw with pastel chalk.
- 2 Scrunch up your paper and write a journal entry on one side of the paper. Write in reverse on the back (you could take a photograph of the first page and flip it to copy from).



- 3 With the paper laid out in front of you in a square shape, fold the paper diagonally so the top and bottom points meet, make a crease, and open the paper back out.



- 4 Make a diagonal fold on the opposite side of the paper, crease, and open the paper back out.



- 5 With the paper laid out in front of you in a diamond shape, fold the right and left points into the centre of the paper, creating two smaller triangle shapes.



- 6 Fold the top point into the centre of the paper, crease, and open this section back out.



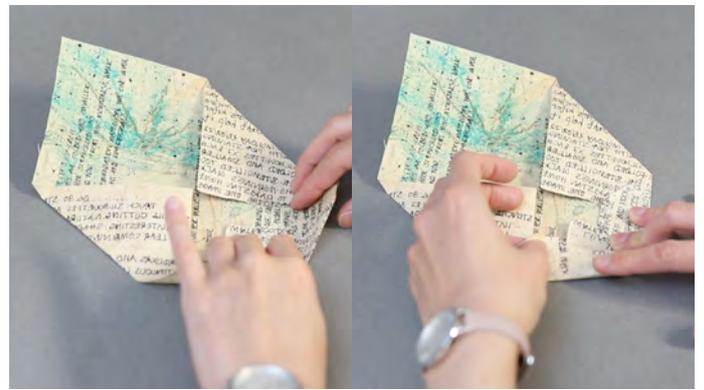
**7** Now fold the bottom point up to the crease you have just made (near the top of the paper), crease, and open this section back out.



**8** Fold the right edge of the bottom section inwards, aligning the top corner of this section with the crease you have just made, crease, and open this section back out. Repeat on the left side.



**9** Fold the bottom point up to the same bottom crease (as in step 6), and crease.



**10** Now bring the right and left edges of the bottom section inwards again.



**11** On each side, tuck the right and left bottom flaps inside the bottom central section.



**12** Fold this bottom section upwards, into the centre of the paper, and use the flap you have just created to secure the bottom section into place.

**13** Fold the top section down to complete your envelope.

# SCHOOLS AT IKON

Ikon welcomes school groups and offers free online resources, activity packs, tours and workshops.

[VIEW SCHOOLS OFFER](#)



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