



IKON ACTIVITY PACK

This activity pack is designed for creative learning at school or home. It is inspired by Ikon's exhibition by Maryam Wahid, *Dreams of Brum*.

Created by artist Haseebah Ali, the pack include questions for thinking and talking about art in relation to other subjects, including global cultures and environments.

Dreams of Brum is organised in collaboration with Handsworth Library and supported by Birmingham City Council's Cultural Development Service.

Share your creations via social media @ikongallery #ikongallery or with education@ikon-gallery.org

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MARYAM WAHID DREAMS OF BRUM



Ikon has worked with Birmingham artist Maryam Wahid to photograph the people at Handsworth Library. As well as loaning books, the library offers a Warm Welcome space for community members to take part in craft activities, fitness clubs and have a chat over a cup of tea.

Wahid's portraits, of which there are 16 in total, capture the unity that exists across the different cultures and generations in the community around Handsworth Library.



Maryam Wahid uses photography to explore themes of womanhood, migration, memory and ideas of home and belonging. As a British Pakistani, her work captures the experiences of South Asian migrants in the UK.

Key words and themes

Community, culture, inter-generational, unity

Art form

Photography, portraiture, storytelling

DISCUSSION POINTS



In taking photographs, Wahid captures the identity of her sitter, revealing their past stories and dreams for the future.

Look at Wahid's portrait of Bibi. What is she wearing and what does this reveal about her identity?

What is Bibi doing with her hands? What does this communicate?

Look at Wahid's portrait of K. Singh. What is he wearing and what does this reveal about his identity?

How is K. Singh performing for the camera? What does this communicate?



How might you share aspects of your identity in a portrait? What items would you wear or hold?

How might you share your dreams for the future?

How would you sit or look at the camera?

Many of the older residents portrayed by Wahid have advice for younger generations. When do you see different generations of people come together?

Who do you look up to? Is it important to have a role model?

What advice would you give to someone younger?

ART ACTIVITY

Some of the mounts holding Maryam's photograph's are decorated with colourful prints made by members of Handsworth Library. The activity below shows how you can pair photography and printmaking together.

You will need: Camera, scissors, tray, paints, brushes, glue stick.



- 1 Take a picture of yourself or an item inspired by the *Dreams of Brum* photographs. Make sure you leave space in the image and print and cut out.



- 2 Pick out three paint shades that are similar to the colours in the image. Using paint brushes, sweep the paint in different abstract patterns on the tray.



- 3 Place a piece of paper on top of the paint patterns and press down with your hands to apply pressure. Remove the paper to reveal the pattern on the other side.



- 4 Once the paint is dry, apply the glue on the back of your printed image and stick it in the centre of your painted pattern sheet.

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Open Wednesday–Sunday, 11am–5pm
Free entry, donations welcome

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