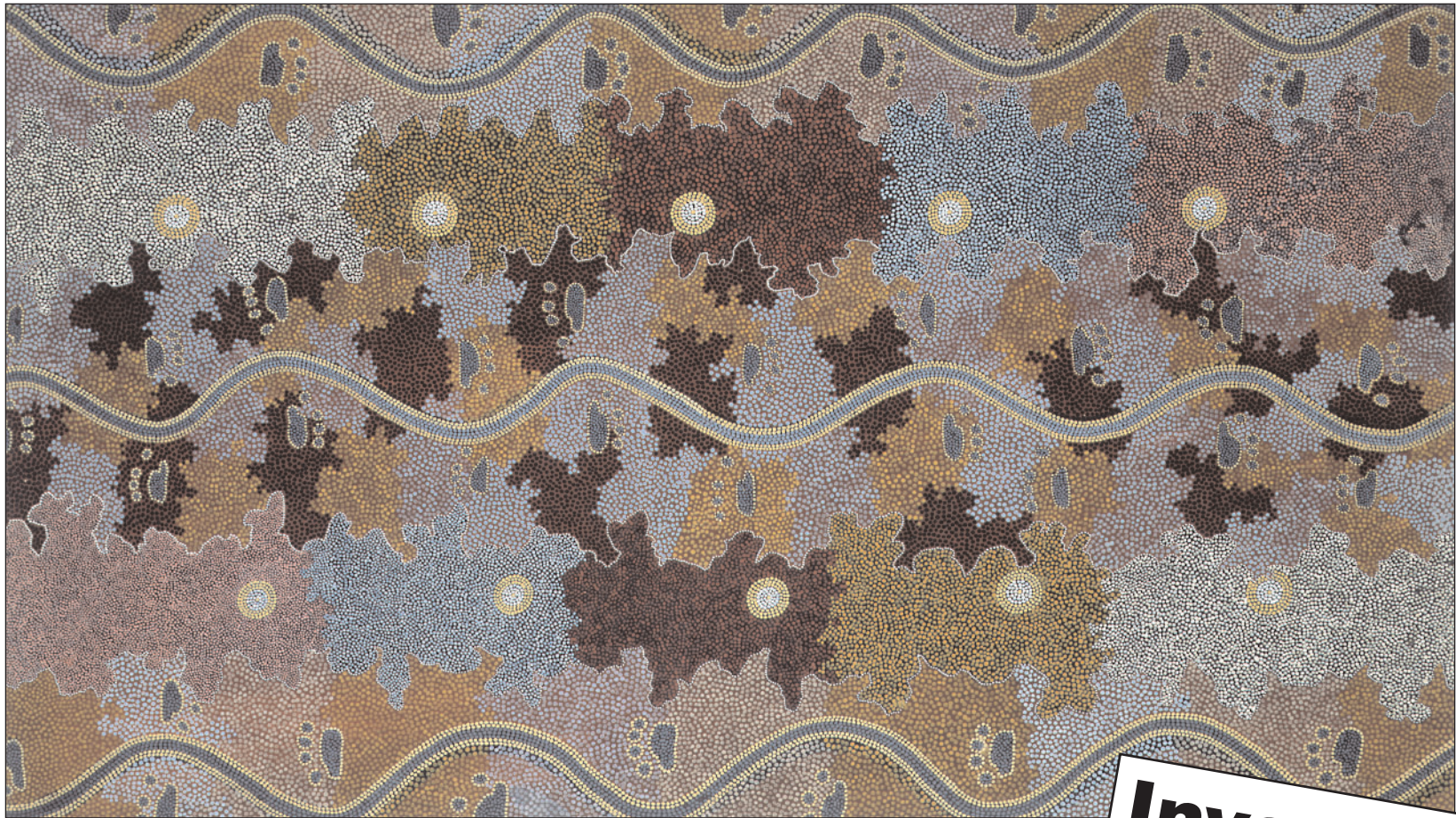


# Just Imagine

## Activities for children



### Look



These questions will help you look closely at the artwork. They will introduce you to art words that will make it easier for you to understand and talk about art.

Try the test on the other side of this sheet to see how many artworks you can remember!

- 👁️ How many **horizontal** wavy lines can you count?
- 👁️ Name as many **colours** as you can.
- 👁️ What **pattern** do the possum footprints make?
- 👁️ Which **shapes** are repeated?

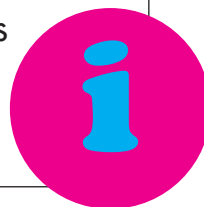
### CLIFFORD TJAPALTJARRI

#### *Possum Dreaming, 1983*

**Language: Anmatyerre**

Synthetic polymer paint on canvas, 96 x 180 cm  
Collection, Art Gallery of Western Australia  
Copyright, Estate of the artist licenced by  
Aboriginal Artists Agency, Sydney

This **Dreaming story** is about the possum's journey through the land. The artist uses **symbols** (these are objects that have another meaning) to tell the story. You will discover where the possums go at night and how they travel. The wavy lines are the tracks they make, the white circles are the trees and the yellow is the vegetation. The way the artist uses dots in this artwork is called the **Western Desert style**.



### Investigate

These questions are more difficult. They will make you think about how and why the artist made this artwork.

Discover more about **art techniques, hidden meanings and stories** connected to this artwork.



- What** do the trees and vegetation look like in this artwork?
- Where** does the possum go at night?
- What** view of the **landscape** does the artist show us in this painting?
- This artist**, who lives in the Central Desert of Australia, paints in a particular way. This is called the **style** of an artwork. Can you name the artist's style?

## Art changes the way we see the world

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# Do You Remember



## Artwords

1. What do you call the outline of a form or object?
2. Can you name the style that this artist uses to create this painting?
3. What do we call red, orange and brown colours?
4. What is an Indigenous story about the Creation or ancestors called?
5. What is an object that has another meaning?
6. What do you call the lines that move across the painting?
7. Some shapes are repeated. What do we call this?
8. What do we call an artwork which describes the land?
9. What do we call an artwork which is balanced and the same on both sides? Would you use that word to describe *Possum Dreaming*?

## Talking Art

- Q. From the clues in the painting, can you describe the possum's journey?
- Q. How does the artwork help you learn about the possum's habitat and behaviour?
- Q. How do you think the artwork was created? Which colour was painted first?
- Q. Can you describe the **symbols** used in this painting?
- Q. Why does the artist tell the possum story to us?
- Q. Do you know why Indigenous people who live in the desert use dots in their artworks?
- Q. Describe the type of **landscape** the artist shows you?



The **dot and circle** style of painting began in the 1970's in the Papunya community, which is 230 km northwest of Alice Springs. Today this region is also well known for its batiks, woodcarvings, decorated beads and pottery. Look around the Gallery for artworks from other regions - The Kimberley, Arnhem Land and the Tiwi Islands. Compare their styles with those from the Central Desert.

HOW MANY  
DID YOU  
SCORE?

## Answers to Artwords

1. Shape
2. Western Desert style
3. Warm colours
4. Dreaming story
5. Symbols
6. Horizontal
7. Pattern
8. Landscape
9. Symmetrical



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