



Art Gallery  
of Western Australia

## Investigating Colour

### Overview

From a very young age, we are taught to recognise, enjoy and appreciate colour. Now, students can explore colour at the Art Gallery in an interactive guided tour. Students will learn how artists use colour as an element of design, to depict space and demonstrate how colours can be used to describe emotions and mood. They will have the opportunity to interact with artworks from the historical, contemporary and Indigenous collections. Students will:

- Demonstrate how colours can be used to describe emotions and mood.
- Investigate the use of analogous colours and the effect these groupings have on the viewer.
- Identify complementary colours and learn about their relationship to one another.
- Explore how artists use them to enliven an artwork.
- Explore more sophisticated colour-mixing techniques and effects.

### Before your visit

**Experiment** by mixing primary colours (red, blue, yellow), adding white to create tints and black to create tones. **Name** the colours created on their colour chart. **Create** a collage with a variety of colours and textures. **Talk** about colours in the environment. **Discuss** how different colours make you feel. **Debate** why some colours are noticed first. Consider the effect this has on road or safety signs. **Examine** the colour wheel and how it can be helpful when creating works of art.

### Bookings

Interactive guided tour with a Volunteer Gallery Guide: Free of charge.

Unique art workshop with an Education Officer: Charges and conditions apply.

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**Joanna Lamb**  
*Flatland (detail)* 2006  
acrylic on canvas  
State Art Collection, Art Gallery of Western Australia  
Purchased with funds from the Contemporary Art Group Art  
Gallery of Western Australia Foundation, 2006