



High Tide, A Winter Afternoon, 1958, Joan Eardley

NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

Learning Resource



SECONDARY LEVEL

NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

This resource supports learning at home or school for secondary school learners. The six themes cover different curricular areas: Art of Empowerment, Science of Colour, Wellbeing, Victorians, Manufacturing and Engineering and Natural Environment.

The **natural environment** has always been an inspiration to artists. The following artworks and activities will help you explore this.



Google Classroom code: **eprmca3**

Requiem by Barbara Hepworth (1957) is a carved wooden sculpture made of walnut. Inspired by the rocks, movement of the sea and natural environment, the artwork is an abstract shape, almost like a piece of driftwood standing on end that has been worn into smooth, polished contours.

Barbara Hepworth is a celebrated British artist who lived and worked in St Ives, Cornwall. Renowned for organic sculptures, inspired by the natural shapes of the coastline and by the human form. Aberdeen Art Gallery has collected several pieces of her artwork including *Requiem*, *Meditation* and *Oval Form (Trezion)*. The senses of touch, texture and sensation were all important to the artist in creating these sculptures.

Activity

Have a look at how these Dance Artists have responded to natural environments: [Click Here](#)



Explore your local area. Using a notebook or mobile phone, record some of the things you find: Aim to collect three sights, three sounds, three textures and three thoughts or feelings on your walk. Examine what you have collected from the natural environment. Could it form the basis of an artwork?



Requiem, 1957, Barbara Hepworth

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High Tide, A Winter Afternoon was painted by Joan Eardley in 1958. The artist lived in the clifftop village of Catterline, south of Stonehaven and painted the views near her cottage. This painting shows a dark, stormy sky and the sea being churned into motion by the wild weather. The natural environment of sea, sky and weather forms the subject of this painting. These powerful elements create an unsettled effect of ceaseless movement.

The coast provides an inspiration to many artists. Read more about them in this fantastic [blog from Art UK](#)

Joan Eardley used natural materials in her work [Seeded Grasses & Daises, September](#), which contains grasses and seeds within the paint.



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Activity



Using found natural objects from outside your home, make your own natural sculpture, painting or land art. Watch this short video to see how. [Click Here](#)

Find *Requiem* and other artworks on the Discover Aberdeen Art Gallery virtual tour on Smartify, where you can listen to an audio and look at the artwork. [Click Here](#)

Andy Goldsworthy's work is also rooted in the natural environment, see example of his work [here](#)