

LESSON PLAN: MY PLACE

From the miniscule to the vast, compare two artworks that reflect special places. Explore the similarities and differences in use of colour, scale and view, then use these observations to create an artwork of a special place.

This activity is based on a study and comparison of *Ataga Ulumu* by Teho Ropeyarn and *Blue Moon Rain* by Naomi Hobson.

The session begins with an introduction to the artworks and the artists, followed by the storytelling and a discussion about colour and scale. The session culminates in a creative task where students represent a place that is special to them. At the conclusion, students reflect on their work.

Duration: 60 mins

Objectives

In this activity students will:

- build their knowledge of Queensland artists
- study, reflect on and respond to 2 artworks
- consider the concept of public art.

Curriculum Learning Area/s

- Visual Arts
- HASS

General capabilities

- Critical and Creative Thinking
- Ethical Understanding

Cross-curriculum priorities

- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Histories and Cultures
- Sustainability

Resources

- [Download from Cross River Rail](#)
 - Lesson plan
 - Presentation
 - Copy/copies of *Ataga Ulumu* by Teho Ropeyarn and *Blue Moon Rain* by Naomi Hobson
- In this lesson plan, a guided reading of *Giinagay Gaagal*, *Hello Ocean* by Melissa Greenwood is included. Similar questions could be used to discuss another picture book with relevance to the theme of special places.
- Blank paper (A4 size)
- Art materials such as crayons, pencils, water colours etc

Presentation

Slide 1	Title slide
Slide 2	<p>Introduce the activity and Cross River Rail</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ask students if they have heard of the Gabba? What do they know about it? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – It is a sport stadium – It is located in the suburb of Woolloongabba (the Gabba) in Brisbane – Opposite the Gabba Stadium a new train station is being built, Woolloongabba station. – The new station is part of the Cross River Rail (CRR) project (a new 10.2km rail line that includes 5.9km of twin tunnels running under the Brisbane River and CBD; with four new underground stations at Boggo Road, Woolloongabba, Albert Street and Roma Street. – The project will also deliver a new above-ground station at Exhibition, a rebuild for seven stations between Dutton Park and Salisbury; construction of three new stations on the Gold Coast; construction of two new train stabling facilities and installation of a new world-class signalling system. • Watch this video: Everything you need to know about Cross River Rail <p>Introduce the concept of public art</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Today we are going to be looking at about two of the artworks that will be in the new CRR train stations. • Let's find out more about the station art. Watch this video: Find out about the art inside the four underground stations • One of the artworks we are going to look at is called Ataga Ulumu and the artist is Teho Ropeyarn. This artwork will be on the escalator wall in Boggo Road station. The other artwork is Blue Moon Rain by Naomi Hobson and it will be on the platform screen doors at Woolloongabba station. • Has anyone ever seen art in a train station before, or in some other public place? • Why do we have art in public places? (Art can be beautiful to look at, or make you think about something, or send a message, or all of these.) It can make a place more interesting. • What are some things you might need to consider when creating public art? • The decision to include art in the stations was made many years ago, long before the construction of the tunnels and stations started. A panel of art experts chose the artworks. Imagine how hard it would be to choose the artworks from all the artists in Queensland.
Slide 3	<p>Find out more about Ataga Ulumu Teho Ropeyarn</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The artist, Teho Ropeyarn has lived most of his life in Injinoo near the top of Cape York Peninsula. • Theo has exhibited in major national and international exhibitions.

<p>Slide 4</p>	<p>Let's look more closely at the artwork</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What do you think is being shown in this artwork? • How would you describe the colours? • How do the colours make you feel? • In Ataga Ulumu, Teho draws on similarities between the Brisbane River that runs close to one of the CRR stations, Boggo Road station, and the Jardine River from his Country near the top of Queensland's Cape York. • When you think about the Brisbane River, or another river you are familiar with, what thoughts come to mind? • There are three main parts to this artwork and they represent the significance of the water, land and sky in both Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander heritage. • The red element is a road that travels across the cape • The dark blue is the night sky, and the teal is the saltwater. • One thing to consider about this artwork is the view – some elements of it show an aerial view (which elements are those?) and some are not. Do you like that? • How does this artwork make you feel?
<p>Slide 5</p>	<p>Find out more about Blue Moon Rain</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The other artwork is Blue Moon Rain, by Naomi Hobson • Naomi lives in Coen, which is in far north Queensland • Naomi likes to observe nature on Country around her. • She is influenced by nature and how it changes with the seasons.
<p>Slide 6</p>	<p>Let's look more closely at the artwork</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What do you think is being shown in this artwork? • How would you describe the colours? • How do the colours make you feel? • This painting shows the tiny animals and plants that Naomi has observed on the banks of the Coen River • So, this artwork is also showing a landscape, but at a very different scale to Teho's artwork. <p>Compare and contrast</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Apart from the scale (miniscule compared to wide), what other differences can you see between the two artworks? • Apart from them both showing part of the world around them, what other similarities can you see between Blue Moon Rain and Ataga Ulumu? • They are both about places that are special to the artists.

<p>Slide 7</p>	<p>Storytelling</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Today we are reading this story called GINGAGAY GAAGAL Hello Ocean. It is written and illustrated by Melissa Greenwood. Melissa is a Gumbaynggir, Bundjalung and Dunghutti nyami woman. She lives on the mid-north coast of NSW. • Just like Naomi Hobson and Teho Ropeyarn, Melissa is expressing her appreciation for her place near the ocean. <p>Read the story, pointing out any features and allowing time to observe the illustrations closely.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Who liked that story? • Who has done some of these things at the beach? (Depending on the age of the children, these could be acted out) Swim in the waves, walk on Country and take care of it, run on the sand, gather bush fruits and dance, watch out for sharks, watch whales and dolphins, catch crabs, collect seaweed and sticks, have a feast, • In what ways are the illustrations like Blue Moon Rail or Ataga Ulumu? Is the scale tiny like Blue Moon Rain, or wider like Ataga Ulumu? • How does Melissa use view? Is it an aerial view?
<p>Slide 7</p>	<p>Creating</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • You are going to create an artwork based on a place that is special to you. • You could take some inspiration from one of these artworks, or use some other ideas. • Think about the colours, the scale and the view you will use to portray your special place.
<p>Slide 7</p>	<p>Reflecting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Let's have a look at these beautiful artworks you have created about special places. • Ask students to share their artworks, describing the place and one element of their artwork (colour, scale or view) • How does it make you feel when you look at this artwork? • What are some of the things we talked about today?

Additional resources

- [FIND OUT MORE ABOUT CROSS RIVER RAIL](#)
- [FIND OUT MORE ABOUT THE STATION ART](#)
- [WATCH VIDEOS ABOUT CROSS RIVER RAIL](#)
- [GET MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE CROSS RIVER RAIL EDUCATION PROGRAM](#)

Australian Curriculum alignment

VISUAL ARTS	
Years 3 and 4	Years 5 and 6
Exploring and responding	
Explore where, why and how visual arts are created and/or presented across cultures, times, places and/or other contexts (AC9AVA4E01)	Explore ways that visual conventions, visual arts processes and materials are combined to communicate ideas, perspectives and/or meaning in visual arts across cultures, times, places and/or other contexts (AC9AVA6E01)
Developing practices and skills	
Experiment with a range of ways to use visual conventions, visual arts processes and materials (AC9AVA4D01)	Experiment with, document and reflect on ways to use a range of visual conventions, visual arts processes, and materials (AC9AVA6D01)
Creating and making	
Use visual conventions, visual arts processes and materials to create artworks that communicate ideas, perspectives and/or meaning (AC9AVA4C01)	Use visual conventions, visual arts processes and materials to plan and create artworks that communicate ideas, perspectives and/or meaning (AC9AVA6C01)
Presenting and performing	
Share and/or display artworks and/or visual arts practice in informal settings (AC9AVA4P01)	Select and present documentation of visual arts practice, and display artworks in informal and/or formal settings (AC9AVA6P01)

HASS		
Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Knowledge and understanding: Geography		
The importance of environments, including natural vegetation and water sources, to people and animals in Australia and on another continent (AC9HS4K05)	The influence of people, including First Nations Australians and people in other countries, on the characteristics of a place (AC9HS5K04)	