

START AT HOME

#12



WOVEN WOOL

MATERIALS YOU NEED

- Paper plate
- Scissors
- Popsticks
- Scissors
- Wool of various colours
- Found objects like leaves and feathers

CREATE YOUR OWN WORK OF ART

- 1 Use the paper plate to create the frame for your weaving. Cut 11 3-4cm long notches around the edges of the paper plate.
- 2 Starting at the centre of the plate, loop the wool through all of the notches, crossing in the centre. Tie a knot in the centre of the plate to secure it.
- 3 Wrap a length of wool around a popstick, and tie the loose end to the centre knot.
- 4 Weave the popstick wool over and under the plate wool. The weaving will grow as you move around the plate. To change colours, cut another length of wool, wrapping it around a popstick, and tie it to the loose end before continuing to weave.
- 5 When you have finished, turn the plate over; cut the wool loops in the centre, and knot the loose ends so that the weaving does not come undone. Add leaves and feathers by threading them into the woven layers.

Shirley Macnamara, Indjalandji Dhidhanu people, Queensland/Alyawarr people, Northern Territory, born 1949, Barkly Downs Station/Mt. Isa, Queensland, *Dust Dreams*, 2015, Mount Guide Station, northwest Queensland, spinifex, emu feathers, kangaroo bone, ochre and fixative, 15.0 x 13.0 x 16.0 cm; Courtesy of the artist and Alcaston Gallery, Melbourne.

ABOUT THE ARTIST

Shirley Macnamara creates works of art that represent her life and experiences as an Indjalandji-Dhidhanu/Alyawarre woman in North-West Queensland Country. She incorporates colours and materials from the natural environment to signify the floods, drought, and fires of her beloved outback country. Macnamara began using spinifex in her works of art when one day, while riding, her horse kicked the dirt at the base of grey-green spinifex roots. The broken outer skin of the plant exposed the beautiful rust-red and pale gold centres and Macnamara soon began using stripped spinifex as her primary material.

ABOUT THE WORK

Dust Dreams represents Macnamara's experiences with the harsh droughts of the outback. She uses found objects like emu feathers to symbolize the dust clouds and kangaroo bones to represent the harshness of animals' lives throughout the dry season. Speaking of her own experiences in the outback, Macnamara says "There is always an abundance of dust, but rain is scarce".

FINISHED? We would love to see your work! Ask your parent or guardian to post a photo on Instagram and tag the Art Gallery of South Australia

 @artgalleryofsa #startatthegallery

Not on Instagram? No worries! Email your photo to us at public.programs@artgallery.sa.gov.au

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TARNANTHI

BHP

