

Grade 3 – Aboriginal Dot Painting



Texture

What do you see?



Water Dreaming, 2014, Robertson

Artistic Focus: Texture



Water Dreaming, 2014, Robertson

TEXTURE is an element of visual arts that portrays surface quality.

- Actual texture is how something feels.
- Visual texture is how something appears to feel.

Today's objective:

1. To practice dot painting as a way to create visual texture
2. To use alternative tools to paint

WA State Visual Arts Standard
Identify and explain how and where different cultures record and illustrate stories and history of life. (VA: Pr6.1.3)

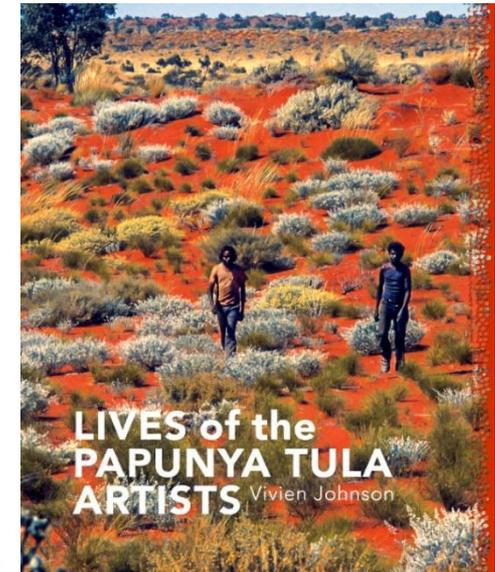
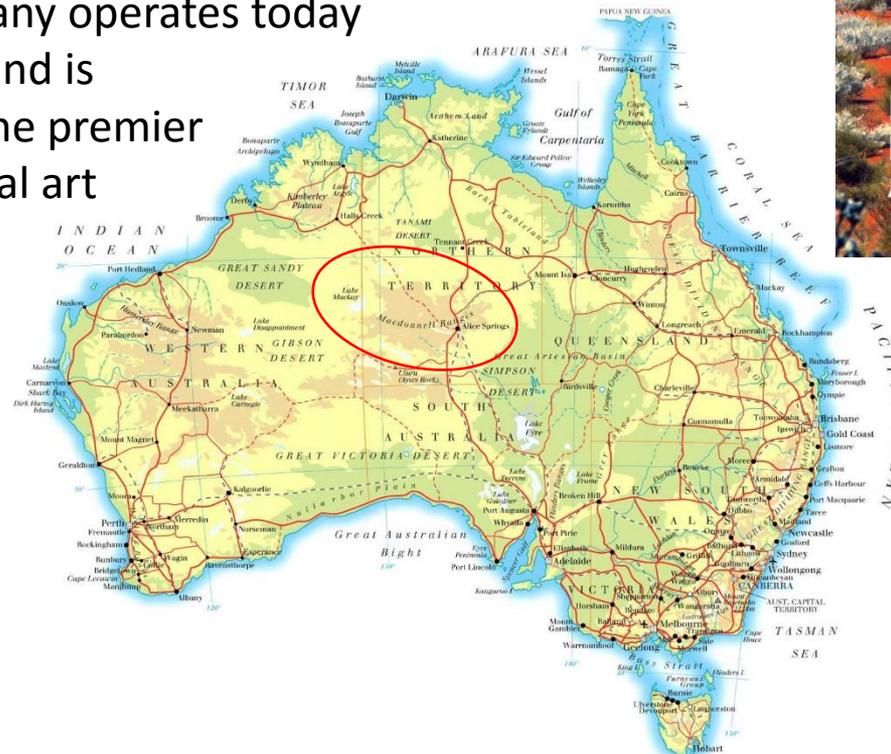
Shorty Jangala Robertson

- Australia, Jila (Chilla Well)
- 1925-2014
- Of the Warlpiri people.
- Member of the Papunya Tula Artists Pty Ltd.
- Painted “dreamings” of water, acacia, and local animals.
- Finding water is critical to survival in the Australian Western Desert, so water is an important theme in Robertson’s paintings.
- Used brushes, cotton swabs, or other alternative tools to paint on canvas, bark, or other hard surfaces.



Papunya Tula

Papunya Tula Artists Pty Ltd (proprietary company limited) is an artist cooperative formed in 1972 that is owned and operated by Aboriginal people from the Western Desert of Australia. The group is known for its innovative work with the Western Desert Art Movement, popularly referred to as "dot painting". The company operates today out of Alice Springs and is widely regarded as the premier purveyor of Aboriginal art in Central Australia.





Artwork

Ngapa Jukurpa (Water Dreaming), 2006
Shorty Jangala Robertson
Flood waters surge across the canvas.

This painting is on display in the Seattle Art Museum.

Artwork



Ngapa Jukurpa (Water Dreaming), early 2000's

Materials



paper towels

artist's palette



cotton swabs to apply the paint



tempera paint in autumn forest colors, black & white



orange construction paper with a leaf stenciled on it

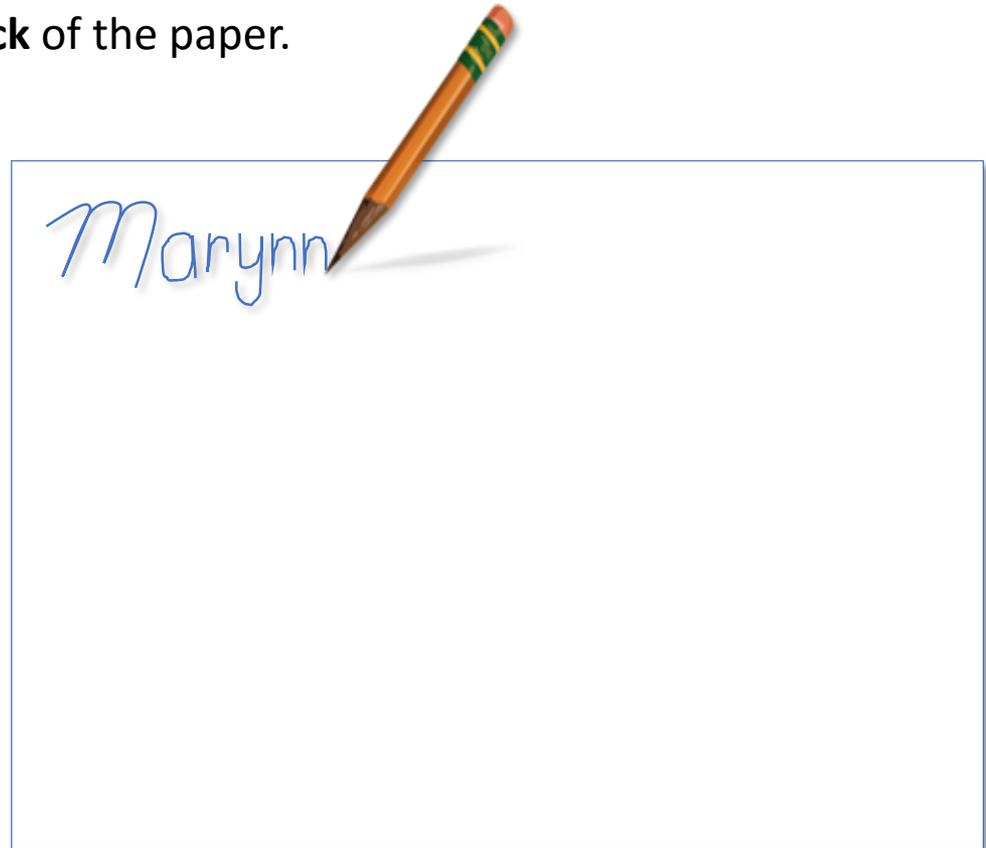


Examples of Today's Project



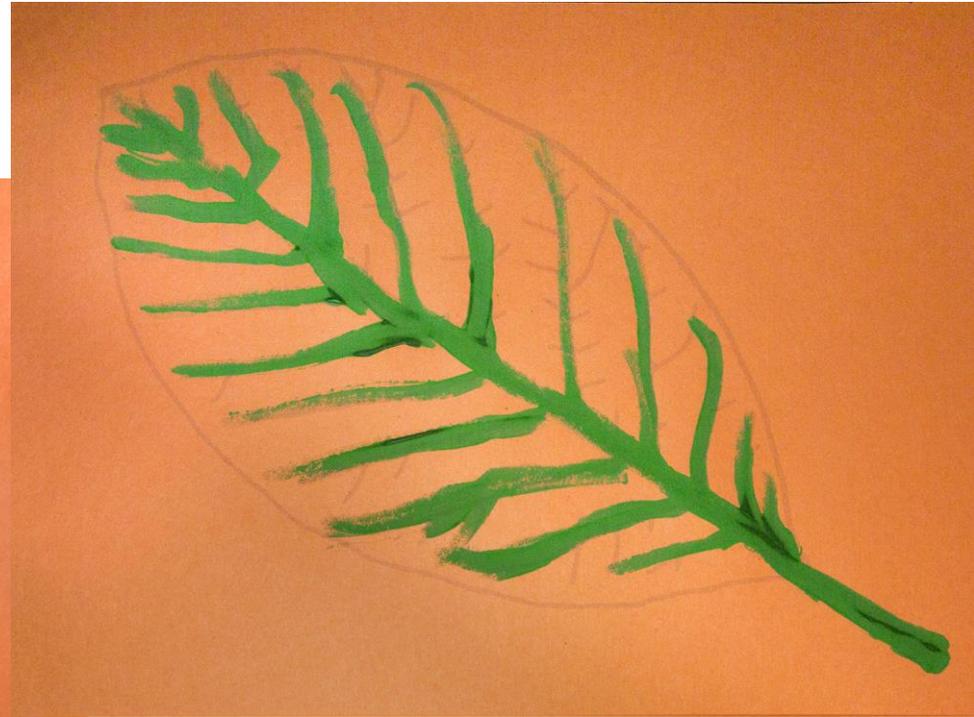
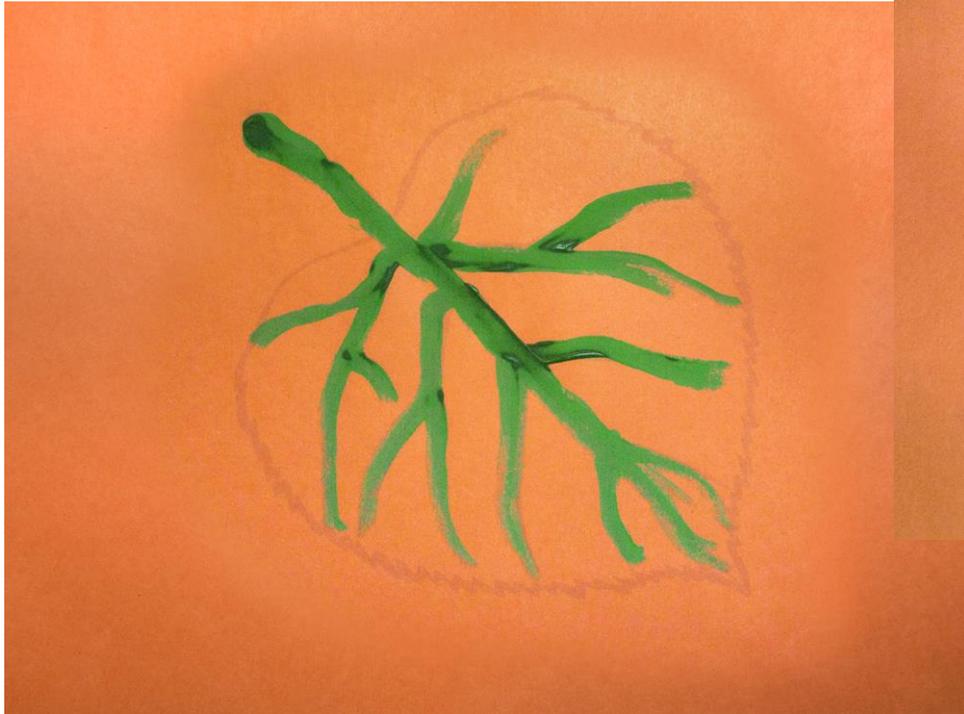
Before You Begin

1. Write your **name** in pencil on the **back** of the paper.
2. Flip over your paper.
3. **Roll up your sleeves!**



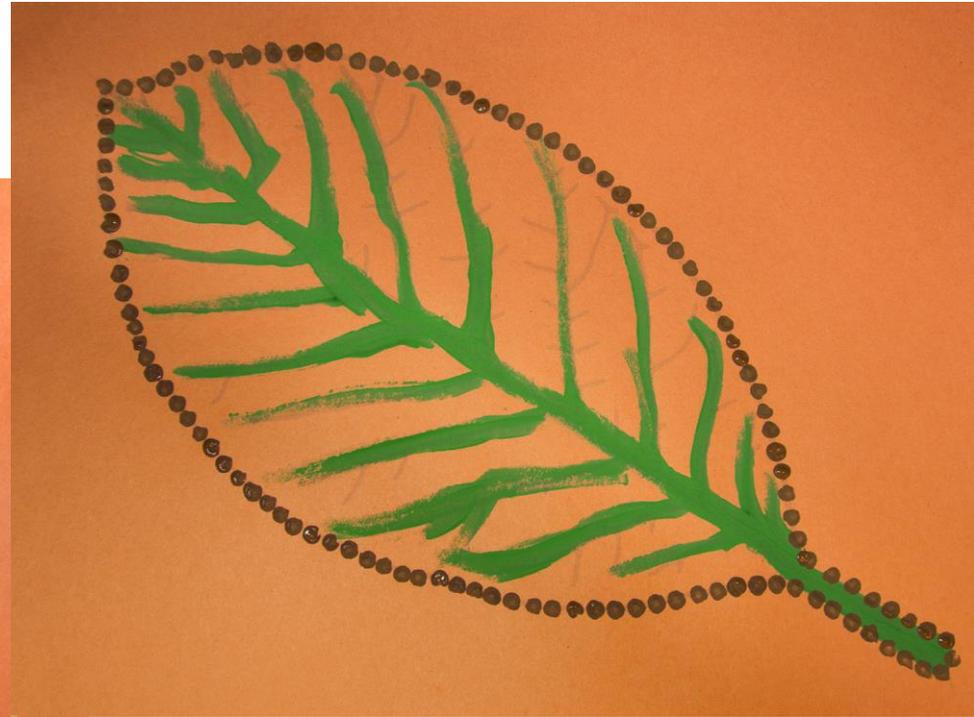
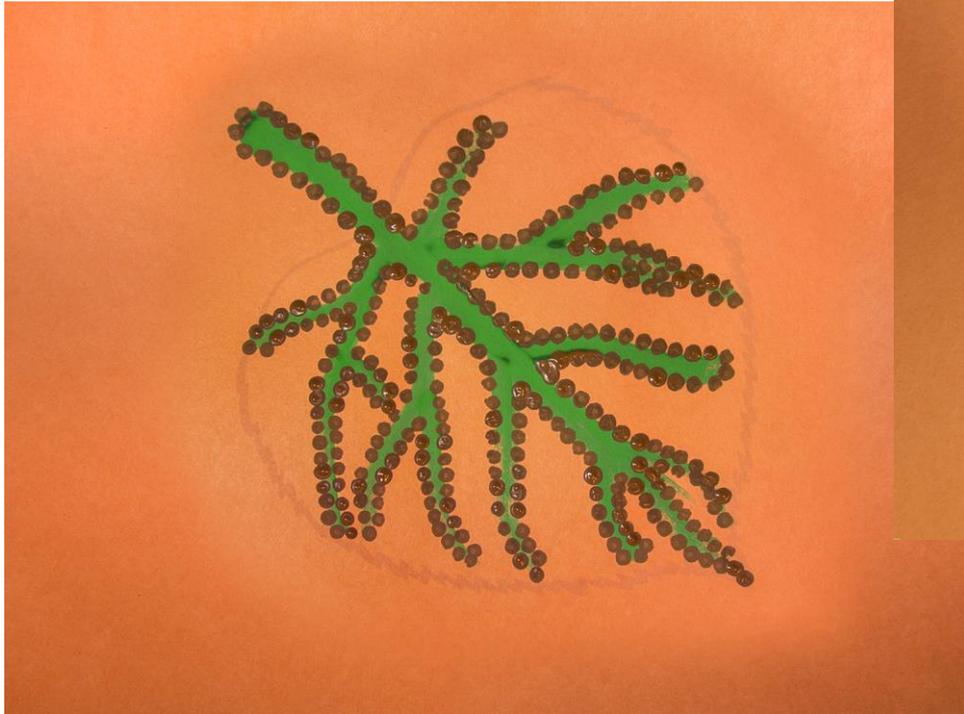
Step 1

- Paint your green stem.
- The green stem is the only continuous line to highlight the importance of the water that flows through the leaf.



Step 2

- Use your cotton swab to make dark dots around the green stem on the outer contour line of the leaf.
- Leave a bit of space between each dot.



Step 3

- Continue to dot around the inside of your leaf.
- Change to a clean cotton swab when you change colors.
- Leave a bit of space between each dot.



Step 4

- Continue to dot around the inside of your leaf.
- Change to a clean cotton swab when you change colors.
- Leave a bit of space between each dot.



Step 5

- Continue to dot outside of your leaf if you have time.
- Clean up.



Reflection

- What kind of **texture** do you feel you created with your artwork today?
- What did you think of using a cotton swab rather than a brush?
- What was your favorite part of today's project?
- Would anyone like to share their art?



Credits

1. About Papunya Tula https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Papunya_Tula
2. About Shorty Jangala Robertson
<http://www.kateowengallery.com/artists/Sho207/Shorty-Jangala-Robertson.htm>
3. Book cover shown, Lives of the Papunya Tula Artists, by Vivien Johnson
<https://www.amazon.com/Lives-Papunya-Artists-Vivien-Johnson/dp/1864650907>
4. Photograph of tall dot painting taken at the Seattle Art Museum by Audrey Guidi, used with permission.
5. Original LWSD sample art, used with permission.



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