

Family Resource: Holding Memories



Introduction

In Galleries 2 & 3 is the artwork of artist Dala Nasser.

In this gallery the artist has built a space to remember and recognise people who fought for independence and freedom.

Notice the colours and patterns on the fabrics. Dala has stained and marked the fabric using rocks, shells, seeds and ash.

Walk around the gallery and see what you can discover.

Listen to the sounds in the gallery – what can you hear?

Try looking at the artwork from different places in the gallery.

Does it look new or different when you stand somewhere else?

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Materials:

- x4 Fabric Pieces
- x4 Wooden Frames
- x4 Labels

Activity:

Take a close look at the fabric pieces.

What colours can you see? What patterns or shapes do you notice?

How does each fabric feel when you touch it?

Look at the labels.

Can you match each fabric to a label?

Think about someone you'd like to show the fabric to.

Which fabric did you pick?

What do you think they would like about the fabric?

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Activity:

Make an artwork for someone you know using the wooden frames and fabric pieces.

Make a structure using the wooden frames, you could balance them or use your body to hold them up. Pick some fabric to use.

You could think about:

- Balancing
- Wrapping
- Tying
- Covering

Imagine your artwork bigger- as big as the gallery!

Who would you like to invite inside to see your artwork?

Cyanotype: A special fabric that turns blue when it's left in the sunshine. Objects can be put on top of it, and when the fabric is washed in water, white shapes appear where the objects were.

Rubbings: Paper or fabric is placed on top of something bumpy or textured. When you rub a crayon or charcoal over it, a copy of the shapes underneath appears.

Dyed fabric: Dyeing is when you change the colour of the fabric by putting it in a special mixture of coloured water.

Clay marked fabric: Fabric marked using natural clay from the ground. This kind of clay is often used to make pots and sculptures.