Family Resource : The World is a Forest

Sarah Cunningham: *Midnight Sun*

Galleries 2 & 3

Materials:

- 2x Frames
- Painted sheets of acetate
- Torches
- Word Bank
- Drawing Tablet

In Galleries 2 & 3 is the artwork of artist Sarah Cunningham.

Sarah painted imaginary landscapes that feel like windows into other worlds.

Sometimes she would lie her paintings flat on the ground and stand on top of them to paint, putting herself into her paintings.

Background image credit: *I Will Look Into the Earth*, 2023, © Sarah Cunningham; courtesy of Lisson.

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Warm Up



Look at Sarah's paintings – what colours and textures can you see?



What shapes and marks can you see in the paintings?



Imagine walking into one of the paintings – what would you see, hear and feel?

Background image credit: *I Will Look Into the Earth*, 2023, © Sarah Cunningham; courtesy of Lisson .

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Creating a Painting

Use the painted acetate sheets to create artwork inspired by Sarah's paintings.

Slide the sheets into the acetate frame.

Experiment with adding and taking away layers.



How do different colours change the feeling of the artwork?

How do different textures and lines look together?

Try holding your artwork up to the window– how does it look with light shining through?

Try shining the torches through your artwork to light up the colours and cast shadows.

Background image credit: *I Will Look Into the Earth*, 2023, © Sarah Cunningham; courtesy of Lisson.

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Creating a Poem

As well as painting, Sarah enjoyed reading and writing poetry. Her poetry often inspired her paintings, and her paintings inspired her poetry.

Can you write a poem to go with your artwork? Use the word bank and sentence starters to build your poem.

You can write or draw your poem on the drawing tablet.

Background image credit: *I Will Look Into the Earth*, 2023, © Sarah Cunningham; courtesy of Lisson.

Word Bank

forest

song

light

moss

dappled

flow

midnight

portal

starshine

dusk

squelch

muddy

trunks

rhythm

vine

surprise

dream

space

roots

Sentence Starters

I stepped into a painting and...

In a painted forest...

Hidden among the colours I found ...

I was dreaming in the trees and then...

In the moonlight...

In the sunlight...