Every Monday, National Galleries of Scotland posts a new set of creative activities that have been designed for children of all ages to explore at their own pace. And, of course, grown-ups can join in too – especially with the mid-week art together activities!

These wee taster activities require absolutely NO ART MATERIALS – just a little bit of imagination and a lot of creativity. They aim to develop creativity skills, such as problem solving, imagination, curiosity and open-mindedness. Please keep in mind that there are no wrong answers - this is all about looking, chatting, making and enjoying your time together at home!

Visit nationalgalleries.org to see the activities, artist videos, zoom in on artworks and more – or work your way through these PDF versions! We’d love to see the great art you make at home, and to hear how you’re getting on so please share your photos on our Facebook page or by using #HomeArt on Twitter or Instagram!
This week's inspirational artwork was created by an entire family - Mark Boyle and Joan Hills, and their children Sebastian and Georgia Boyle. The artwork is an exact copy of part of a street in London. The Boyle Family threw a dart onto a map in order to decide which piece of the land they were going to reproduce!

The Boyle Family used lots of different things to create this piece of art - they wanted to make it EXACTLY the same as the piece of land they found on a map. It looks like the artists have removed part of the roadside and stuck it onto a wall. Isn't it amazing to think that anything you can see, even a kerbside, can become a work of art! It is a HUGE artwork which draws our attention to the shapes, textures and patterns we pass by daily without really noticing.
1. Recreate the ordinary to make it extraordinary!
Find something in the world around you that you’d like to turn into a work of art. It could be something in your house, in your garden, or in the street just outside. You could do a drawing of your carpet, a photograph of a garden gnome, a sculpture of a traffic cone... anything!

If you have a sheet of card or paper, you could start by making a viewfinder to help. It’s really easy to create a viewfinder - just fold your paper or card in two and cut a small square in the middle.

Try drawing, collaging or photographing your view – or use anything that you have in the house. We looked at a tree outside our window and tried painting it!
Week Six
Look Closer: Boyle Family

2: See, Think, Wonder
Art can inspire us in lots of different ways. This activity doesn't require you to do or make anything, just to think and to talk, using these questions as prompts to help you see the world afresh. You could just think about these questions to yourself, write down your thoughts, or have a conversation with others.

Take a closer look at this week's artwork by the Boyle Family...
- Do you like it or not?
- Do you think it is a good artwork?
- Why? / Why not?

The Boyle Family make art that looks like an exact copy of something in the real world. They recreate every tiny detail. They talk about using their hands and using their heads to make art.
- What do you think is most important when you make art?
- Your hands, your head or something else?

Some artists make art about real places, people and things, while other artists use their imagination to invent new worlds, people and things, to share ideas or feelings, or to tell stories. Some people like to escape from reality when they look at art.
- Do you think art has to look real?
- Do you think the Boyle family argue when they work together? What might they disagree about? Make a list.
- Are your family good at working together?
3: A mid-week challenge for all the family
The Boyle Family threw darts into a map to work out what part of the world to recreate. We’re not going to ask you to throw darts, but if you have the internet you can use Google Maps to discover inspirational views! We want you to go on a virtual wander in Google Maps and switch to Street View to ZOOM in on any point-and get close up. Then recreate what you see using anything you have in the home- or just draw what you see. We looked at a traffic cone and then recreated it out of a blanket, shower mat, a cereal box, and a red chili!
If you don’t have the internet, we want you to close your eyes and go on an imaginary journey! Where will you go? Draw what you see in your head!

4: Watch
Think about what an interview with your family might look like. How would you sit, what would you like to be asked, who would speak first?
If you have a mobile phone that records, try recording it and share it with us on Facebook or Twitter - using #HomeArt- or share it with your friends! Ask them to do one too.
Week Six
Look Closer: Boyle Family

5: Get to know the back of your hand!
We use our hands every day but how often do we REALLY look at them closely? Would we recognise them if we saw them on someone else?
Use anything you can find around the house to recreate the lines, lumps and bumps that you can see on your own hands - look really closely and try to capture any wrinkles and creases. Make a version of the hands of the people you live with, and see if they can recognise their own!

Especially for under 5s: X marks the spot!
The Boyle Family threw a dart on a map to inspire their amazing artwork. We want you grown-ups to create a simplified map of somewhere such as your living room - with symbols for things like the sofa and the telly. Then, hide something in this room and mark on your map where you’ve hidden it. You could hide anything - maybe a small toy, or even a treat! Once it’s hidden, see if your wee one can find it using the map! You could take it in turns to hide and find the ‘treasure’.