

Colours

Signal flags

Purpose

Meaningful activity
Expressive, fun, stimulating

Time: Approximately 30 – 60 minutes,
one to one

Resources suggested you will need:

Plain paper
Pencils, crayons or felt tips
Paint, paint brushes and palette (if you
have them) Pot of water

Visual art

To nail one's colours to the mast
displaying your opinions or beliefs. The colours are the flags.



Signal Flags. Royal Naval signal flags (1900-30), date unknown, by William Lionel Wyllie.
RMG IC PAD9891

Signal flags represent the most important form of communication at sea. In 1805 Admiral Nelson signalled one of his most famous lines as the Battle of Trafalgar was about to commence - 'England expects that every man will do his duty'.

Activity: Write a short poem about a colour or colours

Step 1: choose a colour

Step 2: describe what this colour feels like, smells like, tastes like, looks like, and sounds like to you

Step 3: write down some of these words and descriptions

Step 4: create a poem using your words and descriptions

<https://www.rmg.co.uk/discover/museum-collections/flags-collection>

Country flags

<p>Purpose Meaningful activity Expressive, fun, stimulating</p> <p>Time: Approximately 30 – 60 minutes, one to one</p>	<p>Resources suggested you will need: Coloured paper Paper with patterns or textures Scissors Glue</p> <p>Visual art</p>
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Flags often use bright bold colours so they are easy to identify from afar when at sea. Different countries, communities, companies and peoples have different flags. Flags at sea are often used to send messages to other ships – for example, 'Pirate ship, don't approach'.

Activity: create your own collaged flag

Step 1: choose your background colour or texture and cut it to A4 size if it is not already

Step 2: choose 3-5 other colours or patterns you want included in your flag

Step 3: Cut your coloured paper into big bold shapes – you can use things in your house to trace around to create different shapes, for example a cup to create a circle

Step 4: Arrange the shapes on your flag background

Step 5: Adjust the shapes and trim down so they fit within the A4 paper and stick down

Inspiration from the Caribbean Social Forum: Flags of the Caribbean



Anguilla

Antigua and Barbuda

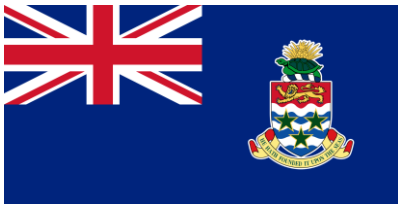
Aruba



Barbados

Bonaire

British Virgin Islands



Cayman Islands



Cuba



Curaçao



Dominica



Dominican Republic



Grenada



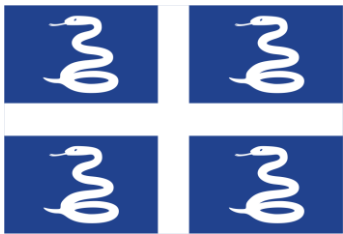
Guadeloupe



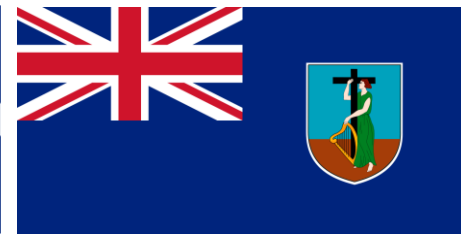
Haiti



Jamaica



Martinique



Monserrat



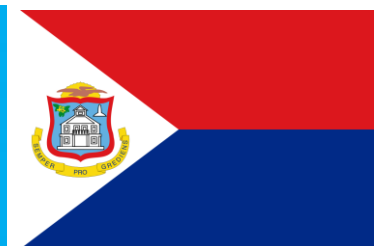
Puerto Rico



Saba



St Lucia



Saint Martin and Sint Maarten



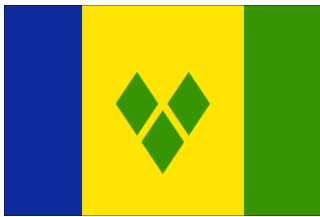
St Barthelemy



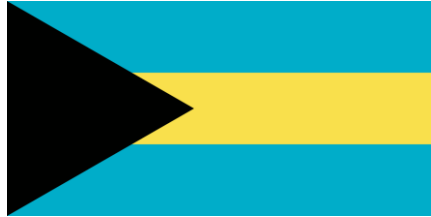
St Eustatius



St Kitts and Nevis



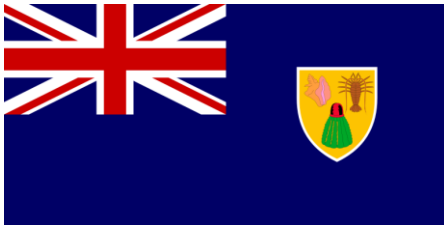
St Vincent and the Grenadines



The Bahamas



Trinidad and Tobago



Turks and Caicos



US Virgin Islands

Inspiration from the collection: House flags

House flags were first introduced in the late 18th century. They were used to indicate the company a ship belonged to and enabled ship owners to identify their cargo and passengers as their ship approached the port.



House flag, Greenpeace
Sutherland'
circa 1948. RMG ID AAA0454



House flag, Elder Line
RMG ID AAA0990



House flag, 'Clan
RMG ID ZBA5483

Dazzle ships

Purpose

Meaningful activity
Expressive, fun, stimulating, calm

Time: Approximately 30 – 60 minutes,
one to one

Resources suggested you will need:

Plain paper
Pencils, crayons or felt tips
Printer or tracing paper

Visual art



Converting the SS 'Naneric' into an Armed Cruiser. 1918. RMG ID BHC1382

To show one's true colours
making your true opinion known and revealing your real self (after being misleading).

The First World War saw the general introduction of 'dazzle-painting', an idea of the artist Norman Wilkinson to help protect ships from enemy surface raiders and submarines by camouflaging them with zig-zag lines of many colours. It helped to conceal them in poor visibility, impeded easy identification and visual range-finding, and was adopted by several navies and merchant fleets.

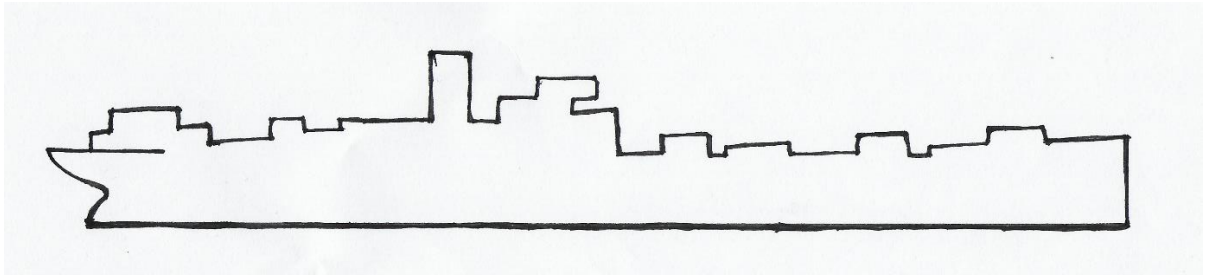
Activity: Mindful colouring

Step 1: Print out or trace over the outlines of the ship template below for both sides

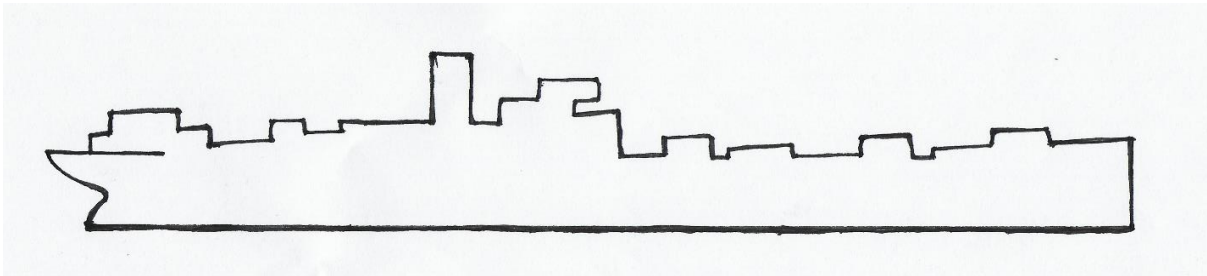
Step 2: Use a pencil to draw on your design - focus on the lines and shapes

Step 3: Choose some colours and colour in your picture to bring it to life

Side 1



Side 2



More inspiration from the collection



S.S. Argyllshire Starboard side silhouette showing camouflage. 1917-18 RMG ID PAH0415
A small group of artists, led by Wilkinson, tested the camouflage on ship models in the basement of the Royal Academy, before sending scale drawings such as these to harbours around Britain



A Convoy of the First World War. The picture was painted for the Ministry of Information, possibly from ahead to show how dazzle camouflage was asymmetric, not the same on both sides of a vessel. Circa 1918. RMG ID BHC0668



Taking in ballast. RMG ID PAH6683

Find more images and information about dazzle ships here:

<https://www.rmg.co.uk/discover/explore/john-everett-and-art-dazzle-camouflage>