

The Good

ANNA LOUISE RICHARDSON



MAKING ACTIVITY: FLIES AND FLY SWATS

When you meet an animal in your life, have you thought about what objects you have or need with you to meet them?

Some objects are kind and helpful (food, brushes for pets, nestboxes and homes) some are to make the animal go away (fences, poison and fly swats).

Why do we welcome some animals and not others?

For this activity you will be making a fly swat and flies from cardboard, string, sticks and paper.

What you need:

- Scrap cardboard (it needs to be thick enough it won't go floppy, but still thin enough to cut with your scissors)
- Scissors
- Holepunch
- Different coloured string or wool
- Tape
- A stick for the swat handle
- Colouring pens and pencils

FLY SWATS:

Scan here for video tutorial



1. Cut out a square of the cardboard. About the size of your hand with fingers spread out.

2. Punch holes evenly around the edges, these will be for threading the string. Optional: poke a hole in the centre with scissors and cut out the centre, leaving a 2cm border.



Photo: Bo Wong

3. Thread the string through the holes and weave the mesh of the fly swat. You can get creative with any weaving pattern, colours, or type of string. Remember to tie off the ends of your string.

4. Attach the stick as a handle by weaving in and knotting with string, or tape. Make sure it is nice and secure.

FLIES:

Now time to make your flies! You could colour in and cut out the flies here. Or make your own with card and paper. The possibilities are endless!

When your fly is finished, punch a hole and attach a long piece of string. You can hang your fly from the ceiling, or something tall or you could tie a string from one end of the room to the other and hang lots of flies on it. Can you hang some high and some low?

Time to get swatting!



Photo: Bo Wong

DID YOU KNOW?
Most of the insects we see flying around have 4 wings, however flies only have 2! How many different kind of flies live near you?



Anna Louise Richardson is well known for her charcoal and graphite drawings of animals. Her artwork is based on her experiences of life in rural Australia living and working on a multi-generation beef cattle farm just south of Boorloo (Perth) in Western Australia. Her drawings help her to explore the role of animals in our lives: as food, as business, as part of the environment and as pets.

Anna shares her studio on the farm with her artist-husband Abdul-Rahman Abdullah who makes sculptures of animals to tell stories about politics, cultural identity, and the natural world. Their three kids are the seventh generation to grow up on the property.

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