

LANDSCAPES IN BIRMINGHAM MUSEUM AND ART GALLERY

Stop 1. The Round Room

Look for the painting *An English Hayfield*, by B.W. Leader.

Describe what is happening in the foreground...

Why aren't the children in school?



What are the tools that you can see in the foreground?

What are the objects to the right of the pile of clothes?

What is happening in the background?

The artist has made haymaking look like fun in this picture. Do you think it really was fun?

Do you think the artist had ever worked in the fields on the harvest himself?

Do you think that this is a real scene, or did the artist make it up? What makes you think that?

Why is the background painted blue?

What has been used to paint this picture

Ink Oil Watercolour or Felt pens?

Stop 2. The Round Room

Look for the painting *February Fill Dyke*, by B.W. Leader.



Victorian artists often made life in the countryside look more attractive than it actually was. For the poor, life was hard and uncomfortable.

Look at the cottage. What do you think it was like inside?

- Comfortable Warm Draughty or Damp?

Can you guess what the woman on the right near the cottage is doing?

How can you tell how the cottages were heated?

It looks very wet underfoot. How do you think people kept their feet dry? Did they have wellingtons in Victorian times?

Look at the colours in the sky. Compare these colours to the ones the artist has used in 'An English Hayfield'.

Fill in the table:

<i>Colours in sky in 'February Fill Dyke'</i>	<i>Colours in sky in 'An English Hayfield'</i>

What is it about this painting that gives us a feeling of cold and damp?

What time of day do you think this shows?

Stop 3. Gallery 21

Look for the painting *Building the Rick*, by Sir George Clausen

What date did Clausen paint this picture?

Look at the way the artist has used his paint. How is the paint put on differently here from the paintings in the Round Room?



How is this technique different from the other paintings you have seen? (Look closely at the *surface* of the picture and look at the *outlines* of the objects in the picture).

What are the men standing on?

What do you think the buildings behind are?

What do you think the roofs are made of?

Why do you think the horses have got blinkers?

What colours can you see in the shadows?

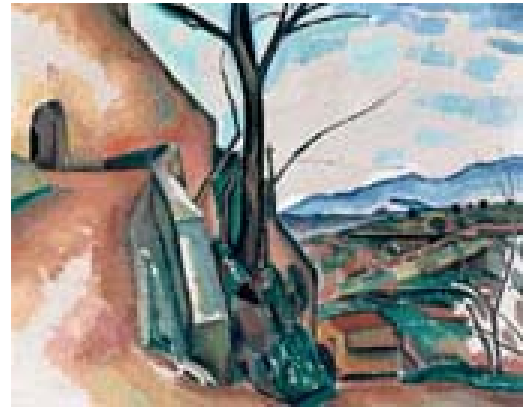
If you were asked to paint a tree, what colours would *you* choose to paint the tree trunk?

What colours has Clausen used?

Stop 4. Gallery 21

Look for the painting *Landscape near Cagnes*, by Andre Derain

Derain was the founder of a group of artists who used very strong, pure colours. Because of this they were called 'Les Fauves'



The artist has left areas of bare canvas. What are these unpainted bits supposed to represent?

Do think this picture is finished?

Derain's 'Fauvist' painting style is different to the Impressionists, Pissarro and Guillaumin. Compare a small section of each of their pictures. What is different about the way the paint has been put onto the canvas?

What else is different about Derain's painting?

In which century was this picture painted?

Which paintings in Gallery 21 look more realistic – the Impressionist images of the Bridge at Rouen and the yellow road on the outskirts of Paris, or the 'Fauve' landscapes by Derain and his friend Vlaminck? Why do you think this?

Draw the 'Landscape near Cagnes' in outline only with no shading.

