

# Artist Activities

## Paper waratahs with Jenny Kee



↑ *Waratahs*. 1925 is one of my favourite works by Margaret Preston. My home is surrounded by thousands of waratahs when in full bloom. The waratah is seen from afar, as she stands out in bush against all the smaller more delicate native flowers.

Jenny Kee is a pioneer of Australian style and internationally acclaimed artist and designer. Her vibrant art and design reflects her passion for the unique and precious Australian environment.

The scientific name for waratah is *Telopea Speciosissima* – which means beautiful. I have painted this beautiful Australian flower for over 40 years and even use it as my personal symbol.

Like Margaret Preston, my art is all about Australian nature. In this activity, I have taken the composition of Margaret Preston and made it my own by suggesting colour and movement to the waratahs I love so much. You might also like to start by recreating Margaret Preston's work with your favourite colours. Then, use these colours to create paper waratahs!



## Paper waratahs



### Materials:

- 1 piece of A4 red paper
- 1 piece of A4 green paper
- A ruler and pencil
- Scissors
- Glue
- Sticky tape

### Making your flower:

**Step 1** – Take your red paper and fold in half lengthways.

**Step 2** – Use your ruler and pencil to mark a line at about 2cms in along the unfolded edge.

**Step 3** – Use your scissors to cut from the folded edge to the line, all the way along to create a fringe.

**Step 4** – Unfold your paper and line one edge with glue.

**Step 5** – Refold and glue, mistakes can look interesting in your finished flower!

**Step 6** – Roll your green paper into a long tube like a flower stem. Use sticky tape to seal.

**Step 7** – Stick the short end of your red paper at the top of your tube.

**Step 8** – Gently spiral the red paper around the tube, use sticky tape to seal the end.