

# COLOURS OF THE RAILWAY

## **ACTIVITY DESCRIPTION**

Children will learn about the elements of art. They will investigate how colour is used in the railway, to express our heritage and evoke a response in visual arts. Students will experiment with complementary, harmonious and monochromatic colours when creating a piece of artwork.

## **THEME**

- Visual Arts
- Colour Wheel
- Colour Theory

## **MATERIALS REQUIRED**

- Grey lead pencils
- Acrylic paints
- Paint brushes
- Cartridge paper
- Palette for mixing colours
- Newspapers or table cover to prevent mess!
- Glass jars filled with water to wash brushes

## **INSTRUCTIONS**

1. Explain and discuss, “The Era of Significance”, “Elements of Art” and “The Colour Wheel” using the information provided in the background information section.
2. Children’s gather materials and complete The Colour Wheel worksheet provided.
3. Children create their own artwork with inspiration from the Puffing Billy Railway Museum.
4. Share and display children’s artwork.

## **BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

### **ELEMENTS OF ART**

By using these elements, the artist can create a more powerful work of art. We are able to create works that conveys meaning and emotion. Without the use of the elements of art, a work of art will be boring and unorganized. It is impossible to create a work of art without using at least one of these elements.

### **THE 7 ELEMENTS OF ART ARE:**

**LINE:** Line is the most used element of art and is the foundation of all drawings. A line may be diagonal, vertical, horizontal, thin or thick. Also, lines can be parallel, curved, broken, straight or zig zagged. A line is not just a line. It can be used in your artwork to show movement or convey emotion. You can use line for shading or to add texture.

**SHAPE:** To be a shape, you have to have a line that connects at the beginning and at the end. The lines that create a shape can be straight or can be curved. A shape can be positive or negative. It can be realistic or abstract.

**COLOUR:** Colour is seen when light is reflected back to your eye from an object. There are three properties of colour. They are hue, intensity, and value. Hue – the name given to the colour (red, blue, yellow, green, etc.) Intensity – the amount of saturation a colour has. Value – how light or dark a colour is. This refers to tint (adding white) and shade (adding black)

**VALUE:** Value is how we use light and dark in our artwork. It can be shading from a pencil, or by mixing white or black to a colour.

**TEXTURE:** Texture refers to the way an object looks or feels. When creating art, we are working with perceived texture, not actual texture (unless working with a three-dimensional object such as clay). When creating a drawing, or painting, you may want it to look rough or smooth.

**FORM:** When a shape is made three-dimensional, it becomes a form. Such as a sculpture. Also, it could be perceived in a two-dimensional work of art using shading and perspective.

**SPACE:** The use of space can make a flat image look like it has form. This can be done through the use of perspective, size, or overlapping. When talking about the foreground, middle ground, and background, we are referring to space. Space is how we show depth or distance.

Reference: <https://artbyro.com/the-7-elements-of-art/>

## **COLOUR WHEEL**

A colour wheel is a colour grouping based on the primary colours, secondary colours, and tertiary colours. The mixing of these colours will make a colour wheel that helps artists understand the variations and the cycle of colour.

The first circular colour diagram was designed by Sir Isaac Newton in 1666. Primary Colours are yellow, red, blue (colours that cannot be made by mixing any other colour together) Secondary Colours are orange, green, purple (Combinations of two primary colours mixed together). Tertiary Colours are red/orange, yellow/orange, green/yellow, blue/green, purple/blue, red/purple (combinations of one primary and one secondary colour mixed together).

Complementary colours are any two colours that are found directly opposite each other on the colour wheel. Those colours that are located beside each other on the colour wheel are known as “harmonious” or “analogous”. The term “monochromatic” refers to tints, shades and tones of a single colour. These variations are achieved through the addition of black, white or grey to the colour.

## **THE ERA OF SIGNIFICANCE**

The Era of Significance at Puffing Billy Railway is a period in history of the Railway that is selected to establish its guidelines. Restorations, reconstructions, general works and new developments need to conform to specifications based on detailed research into the period 1900 – 1930.

Where modern requirements must be considered, they will be designed to harmonise with the elements which conform to the Era of Significance.

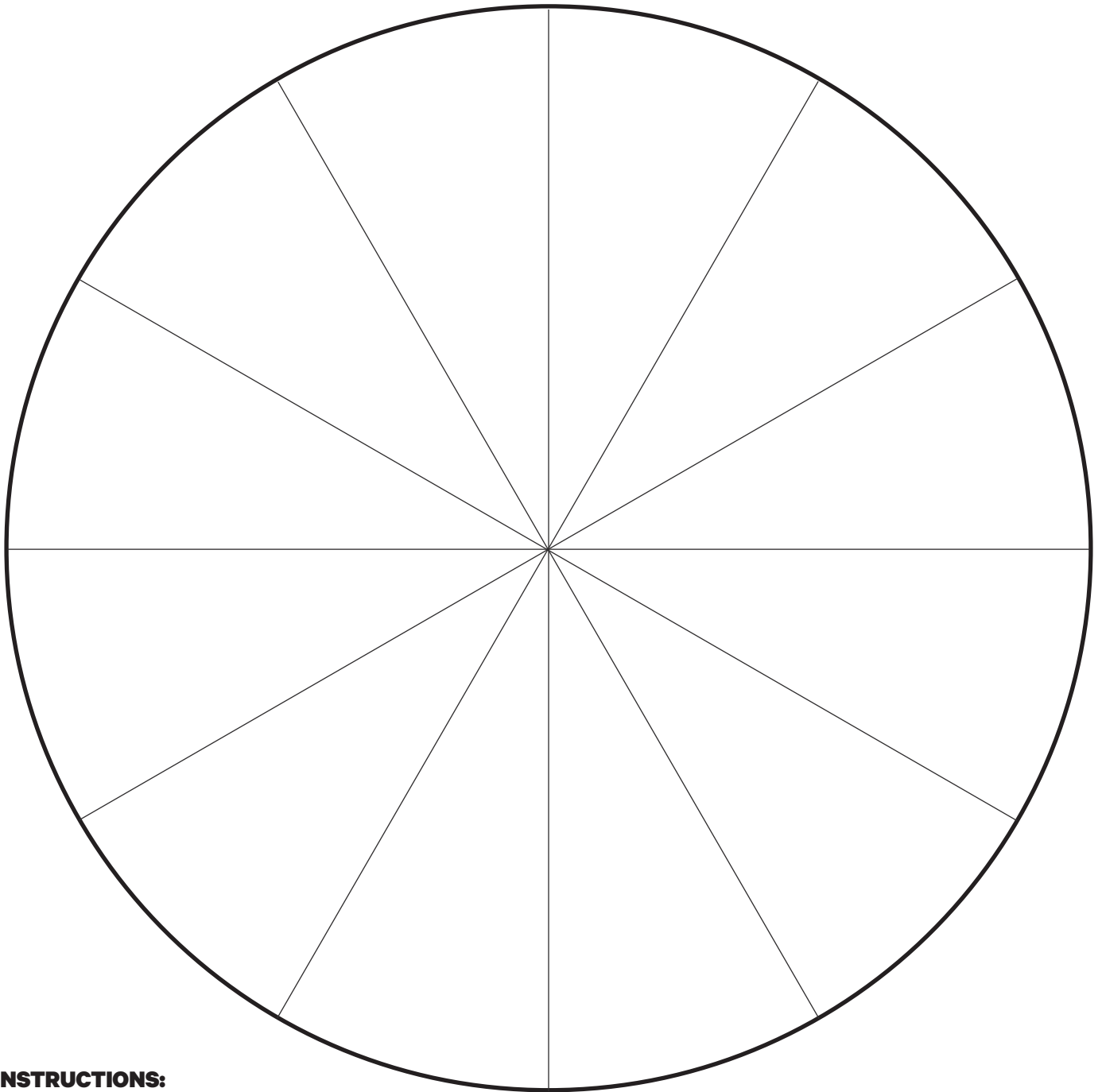
Locomotives will only be restored to a colour scheme and configuration that was historically carried by each locomotive. Since only 1A & 2A carried the “Baldwin Green” livery, this livery will not be represented as these locomotives are long since scrapped. 3A & 6A will be restored to the V.R (Victorian Railway) green livery and characteristics, &A & 12A to the V.R. red livery, with 8A & 14A to the “all over black” livery.

In simple terms, everything that is part of the scene of the Railway i.e. from locomotives and rolling stock to buildings, fencing, signs, furniture, etc. and even staff clothing, will be representative of the Railway, or the Victorian Railways generally, as it operated in the 1900 – 1930 period. The aim is to take the visitor “back in time” as it were.

Some aspects will be restoration of original features, some will be exact recreations of original features, and some will be new features designed to fit the Era of Significance.

Reference: [PuffingBilly.com.au](http://PuffingBilly.com.au)

## **COLOUR WHEEL WORKSHEET**



### **INSTRUCTIONS:**

1. Put a small amount of red, yellow, and blue paint on your palette. (Primary colours) First, neatly paint the red, yellow, and blue swatches on every fourth chip of the colour wheel, so they are evenly placed around the wheel.
2. With the remaining primary colour paint on your palette, mix the primary colours to create orange, green and purple (Secondary colours). Firstly, mix the red and yellow to create orange, then mix yellow and blue to create green, followed by mixing blue and red to create purple. Neatly paint each of the secondary colours on every third chip of the colour wheel.
3. Next, create your tertiary colours by mixing your primaries and secondaries together on your palette. Red-orange, yellow-orange, yellow-green, green-blue, purple-blue and purple-red.



## **PUFFING BILLY RAILWAY – ARTWORKS AT THE MUSEUM**

Using the information learnt on the Era of Significance, 7 Elements of Art and The Colour Wheel, create your own artwork with inspiration from the Puffing Billy Railway.