

# Exploring Land Art with Key Stage 1

## PART 2 Group Discussion

Creative Activities Suitable for Early Years and Key Stage 1

### Prompts for Class Discussion - About Richard Long at Hestercombe

Richard Long's newly installed artwork *Jackdaw Line* is set in Hestercombe's Georgian Landscape Garden. The piece has been commissioned as part of Bampfylde 300, a year of exhibitions and events celebrating the life and work of Hestercombe's former owner and landscape designer, Coplestone Warre Bampfylde.



- Made using local Morte Slate, *Jackdaw Line* snakes through the landscape below the Box Pond at Hestercombe, and uses stone sourced from a quarry in the same valley
- Richard Long describes his work in general as a 'love and celebration of the natural world'; and of this new sculpture he says, 'I'm an opportunist – I was invited to make a work, not far from my home, in these beautiful gardens with a fantastic supply of stones, and the help of gardeners who turned their skilled hands to manning wheelbarrows.'
- The meandering sculpture is a reminder for the artist of *River of Stones*, a work made at the eighteenth century Madhavendra Palace in Jaipur in 2018
- Originally programmed for early 2021 the commission had to be rescheduled due to the Covid-19 pandemic. Since the start of the pandemic, Long has continued to make work from his home in Bristol, including *Spring Line* (2020) and *Daydreaming Line* (2020) both made by the act of walking near his home. This new stonework is Long's first since the easing of the lockdown

[www.spaeda.org.uk](http://www.spaeda.org.uk) | [info@spaeda.org.uk](mailto:info@spaeda.org.uk) | 01823 410160



Supported using public funding by  
**ARTS COUNCIL  
ENGLAND**



## Who is the artist Richard Long?

Sir Richard Julian Long, CBE, RA is an English sculptor and one of the best-known British land artists. Visit [www.richardlong.org](http://www.richardlong.org) to find out more and find images of his work.

'My work is my studio... my work is walking from place to place'  
*Richard Long*

## What is Land Art?

Land art, variously known as **Earth art, environmental art, and Earthworks**, is an art movement that emerged in the 1960s and 1970s, largely linked with the UK and the United States. As a trend "Land art" expanded boundaries of art by the materials used and the siting of the works.

### Questions for discussion with the children

- Q: Why is making art about the earth important now?
- Q: Why do you think artists like Richard Long make land art?
- Q: Does artwork have to hang in a gallery in a picture frame?

## Richard Long – The Boy

Born in Clifton, 2<sup>nd</sup> June 1945, a suburb of Bristol, England, as a young boy Richard Long played alone in the surrounding hillsides and lush nature of the Avon Gorge. He often returned home after walks of many miles, during which he immersed himself in the natural landscape.

### Questions for discussion with the children

- Q: Who has been to Bristol?
- Q: Who has been for a walk near Avon Gorge?
- Q: Where do you go for walks with your family?
- Q: What is "natural landscape"?

## Richard Long – The Artist

He studied at a famous art school called Saint Martin's School of Art. He started to work in lots of different ways using various media including sculpture, photography and text. Now his work is on permanent display in Britain at the Tate and Bristol City Museum and Art Gallery as well as galleries in America, Switzerland and Australia. He is world famous and is the ONLY artist to have been short-listed four times for the Turner Prize. He was nominated in 1984, 1987 and 1988 and then won the award in 1989 for 'White Water Line'.

[www.spaeda.org.uk](http://www.spaeda.org.uk) | [info@spaeda.org.uk](mailto:info@spaeda.org.uk) | 01823 410160



Supported using public funding by  
**ARTS COUNCIL  
ENGLAND**



### Questions for discussion with the children

- Q: What is the Turner Prize Competition?
- Q: Where is the Tate Gallery?
- Q: can we use writing in artwork?

### What is Richard Long famous for?

Considered one of the most influential artists of his generation, Richard Long's works have extended the possibilities of sculpture beyond traditional materials and methods. Central to Long's work is the activity of walking. Since the mid-1960s he has taken countless walks throughout the world, in such places as the Sahara Desert.

### Questions for the discussion with children

- Q: Where is the Sahara Desert/
- Q: Where else has Richard Long walked and then created art? (Ensure Hestercombe is mentioned)
- Q: Where do you walk that you could make art?

**Download Part 3 for creative activities to learn about Land Art.**

[www.spaeda.org.uk](http://www.spaeda.org.uk) | [info@spaeda.org.uk](mailto:info@spaeda.org.uk) | 01823 410160



Supported using public funding by  
**ARTS COUNCIL  
ENGLAND**

