

## EXTRA LESSON 2: NIGHT FLIGHTS WITH KITES

For this art activity the students can be reminded of the common legend that Benjamin Franklin went out into a lightning storm and decided to fly a kite with a metal key on the end of it. It is suggested that he did this in a bid to prove that lightning was a form of electricity. As a renowned scientist it is highly questionable whether Franklin would have been foolish enough to perform such an obviously life threatening experiment. Nonetheless it provides a nice art activity to illustrate this first section of EUW. For this activity the students will create a storm picture with a man flying a kite. They may want to put a warning on it along the lines of “This is a shocking idea so please don’t try it at home”. It is anticipated that this art activity should take about two lessons (1½ to 2 hours) to complete with additional drying time between those two lessons.

### Materials Required:



A4 art paper



Colourful wax  
crayons



Black paint



Paint brush or  
other sharp ended  
tool



Scissors



Glue



Nylon  
thread



Scrap of bright  
material

Copy of the picture  
below or a  
similar drawing

## Method:

1. Brightly colour the piece of paper in a random fashion using the crayons.
2. Cover the entire page in black paint and leave it to dry completely.
3. Using the end of a paintbrush scratch off thin lightning bolt lines of paint.
4. Cut out a copy of the picture below and paste it on the bottom of the page.
5. Cut out the material into a small kite shape.
6. Paste a piece of thread from the man's hand to the top half of the page.
7. Paste the kite on the other end of the nylon thread so that it appears as if the man is flying the kite.
8. Type the warning and paste it onto the page.

