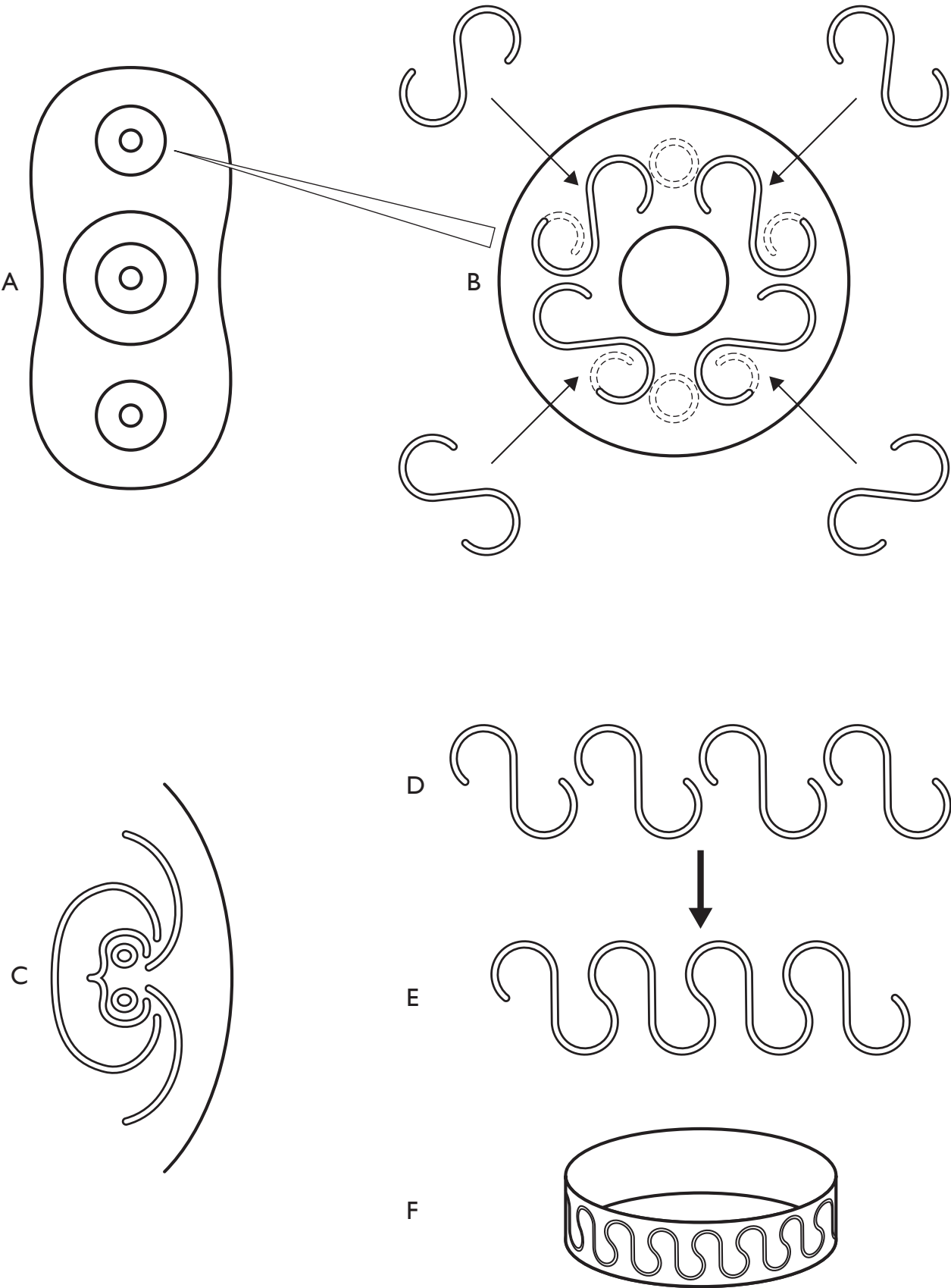


Celtic art



Celtic art

Objectives

- To understand some major features of Celtic art.

Cross-curricular links

Art and design

- 1c Collect visual information to help develop ideas including using a sketchbook.
- 2b Apply their experience of processes, including drawing in developing their control of techniques.
- 3a Compare ideas, methods and approaches in their own and others work and say what they think and feel about them.
- 4c Know about the roles of artists working in different times.
- 5d Investigate art in a variety of traditions.

Resources

Each child or group will need a copy of the *Celtic times* book page 42, a copy of worksheet 10, sketch book, paper, pencil, piece of card 22cm by 2cm, scissors, paste or sticky paper.

Starter

Tell the children that the Celts used a style of art known as La Tene after the place where many metal artefacts such as swords were found with distinct designs on them. These designs were used by Celts in other places including Britain. This style of art was mainly used on metal objects where the designs were moulded, hammered or engraved onto the objects. The main features were swirling lines, circles and designed incorporating S's and C's. Tell the children they are going to look at these features of the designs and then use them to make designs in the Celtic style.

Main activities

1. Look at page 42 in the student book and point out the main parts of the shield. Tell them that it was about 70cm long and measure this out to show its size. Say that it was probably not used in battle and was used for ceremonial purposes as the crown jewels are used today in the coronation of a monarch.
2. Issue the worksheet and look at picture A with the children. Point out the use of circles in setting up the major features of the shield. The children could compare this simple illustration with the picture on page 42 and discover other circles in the design.
3. Look at picture B which is a simple representation of the top circle. Point out where S's have been used to set up the design and incorporated with small circles.
4. Move on to picture C which shows the right hand portion of the centre circle of the shield. Point out how a C has been used in the design and circles made inside it connected to lines which glow out of it to make other circles.
5. Tell the children that Celtic art features a device called the eternal knot which does not have a beginning or end. Pictures D and E show how S's can be used to make one.
6. Picture F shows an eternal knot made from S's on a card bracelet.
7. Ask the children to experiment with the design features and make a design for another shield which could be a different shape from the one in the book.
8. When the children have produced their shield designs issue the pieces of card and let them make an eternal knot on one side of them. They may add other embellishments in the Celtic tradition. The children could then cut the card to fit comfortably around the wrist and stick the ends together.

Plenary

The children could display their shields and wear their bracelets as they compare their work.

Outcomes

The children can:

- Recognise some features of Celtic art.
- Use features of Celtic art in their designs.