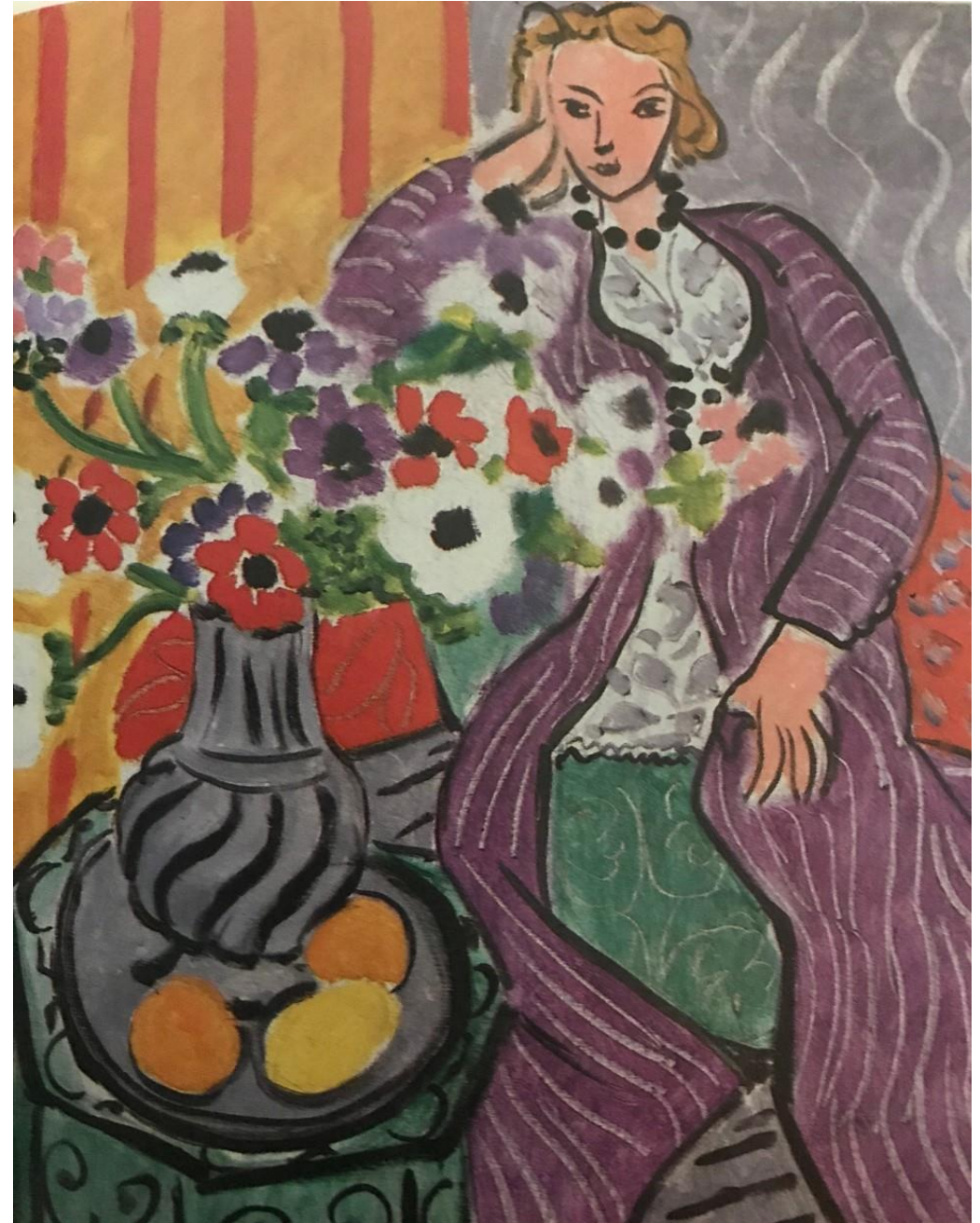


Patterns and Rhythms

Exploring Brushstrokes

**Purple Robe and Anemones
by Henri Matisse**



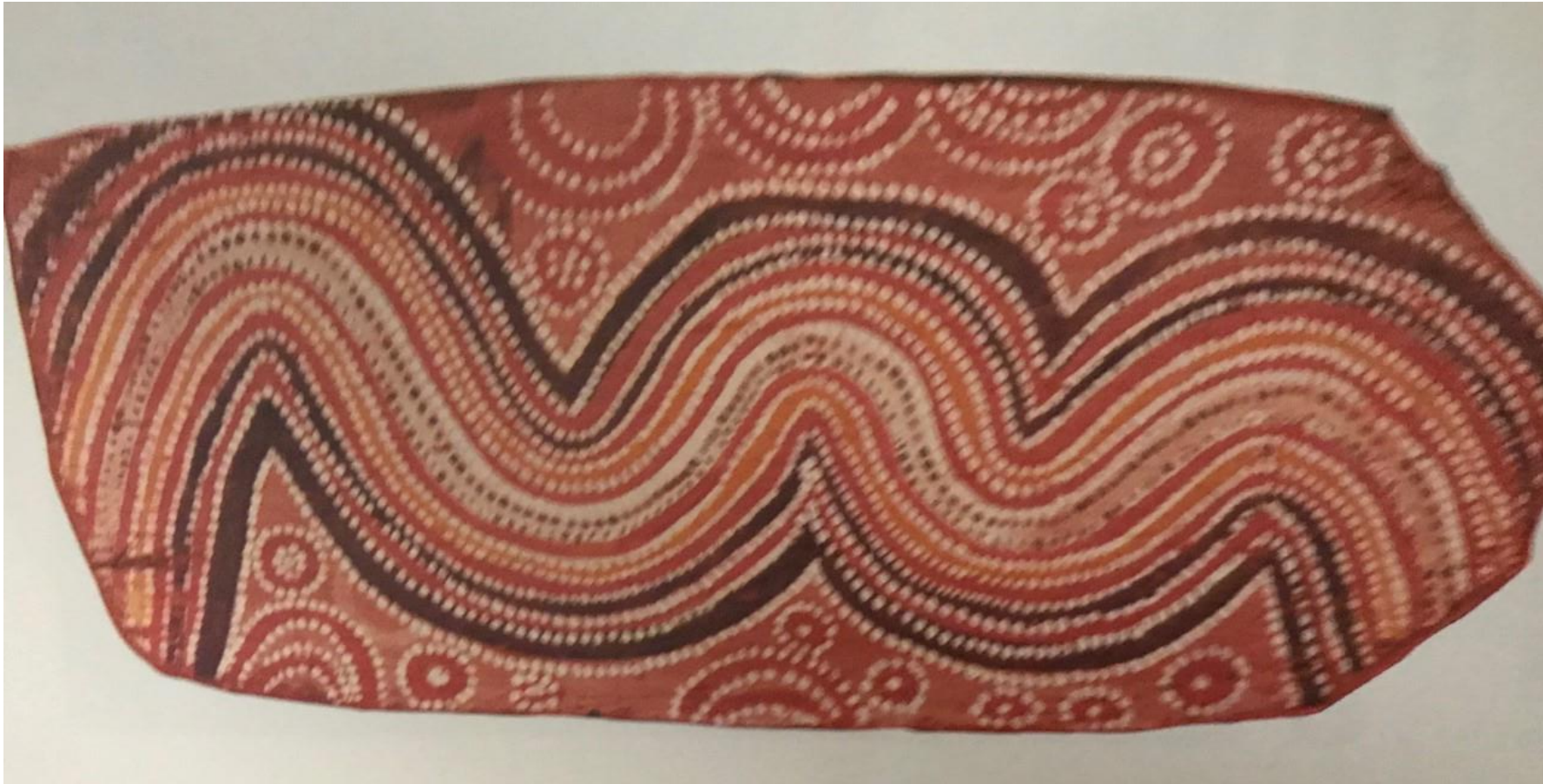
This painting by French artist Henri Matisse has many kinds of brushstrokes. It is filled with patterns that make visual rhythms.

Where do you see wavy lines repeated?

Where do you see patterns with straight lines?

What other brushstrokes create patterns.

indji, The Rainbow Snake, Australian Aboriginal

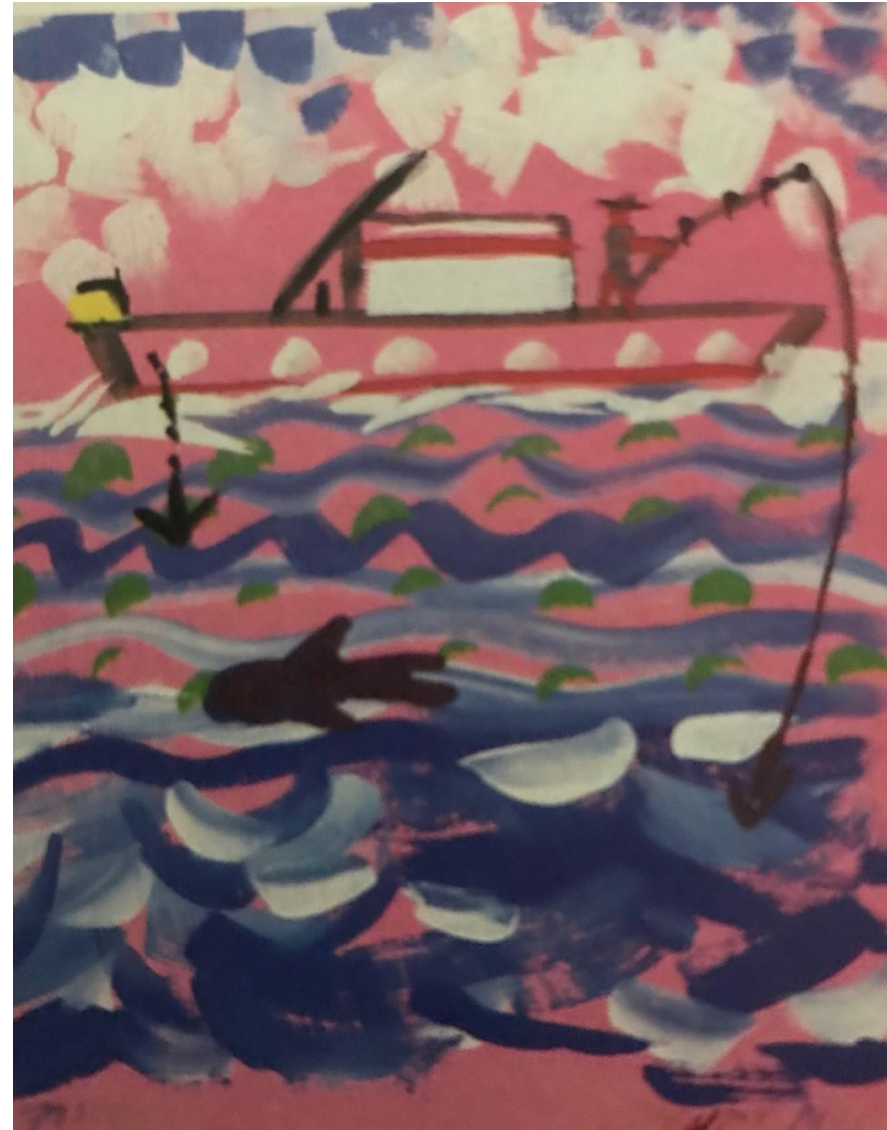


Artists use brushstrokes in many ways . An artist in Australia made this painting of the Rainbow Snake. His painting is about the “Dreamtime.” A Dreamtime story tells about the beginning of life in Australia. The painting tells about a giant rainbow snake that went into the desert. It dug holes to bring up water. Then the snake wriggled across the sand, leaving deep grooves. The grooves filled up with water and became rivers. The water changed the desert into a place where people and other living things could survive.

Why do you think the painting is filled with tiny dots?

What do you think the patterns and visual rhythms mean?

Student artwork exploring patterns and rhythms with brushstrokes



Now, think of a subject or theme you would like to create. Try different ways to use a paintbrush. Then create a painting with visual rhythms. Make patterns with brushstrokes to create the rhythms.