Painting sunsets using a wash

You have practised making a wash and now you are going to have a go at painting a sunset or night sky like these. You can see that although the children have used more than one colour, they were still painting a wash.



Practical Activity (pg 71)

1. Mix a deep orange (vermilion & gamboge)
2. Dampen the paper with cotton wool and paint a deep orange with the side of your brush across the top quarter of the frame, leaving a circle for the sun.
3. Next add some gamboge to the orange and a little more water to make a weak and lighter orange. Then dip your brush in this and drag it across the deep orange at the top of the picture and on down to about the half-way point.
4. Quickly wash your brush and lay them sideways along the bottom edge of the paler orange and pull the colour down to the bottom of the frame. The picture should start deep orang eand fade down to a yellow or pale orange.

Practical Activity (pg 71)
Experiment with different colour combinations for sunsets such as deep red down to orange or dark blue down to pink.
You could try an early evening sky by using a deep purple-blue down to pale violet, leaving space for a moon, or a darker late night sky.

