

Art and Design Technology-Year 2 -Aboriginal Art

In this unit of work, the children will learn about the origins of indigenous Australian art as a means of both story telling in the absence of a written language. Children will examine cave paintings and symbols, sand and dirt paintings, ochre, bark and rock paintings, charcoal, as well as body painting. They will also explore the 1930's style of watercolours and collage used by Aborigines at Hermannsburg Mission near Alice Springs and the aboriginal artist Albert Namatjira. In addition to this, children will examine and compare dot art to that of pointillism used by European artists Paul Signac and Georges Seurat in the 1880's.

In this unit children will:

- Use different media and tools to paint. These will include paint, brushes, bark, rocks, sand, charcoal, dirt and chalks to explore texture.
- Use symbols and icons to tell stories through drawings.
- Have the opportunity to paint their bodies and compare and contrast this to other cultures (Henna mehndi in Hindi from Asia)
- Use watercolours and colour mix to paint landscapes.
- Compare and contrast pointillism and aboriginal dot painting.

Prior Learning

EYFS Colour mixing, exploration with textures and combination of different media to create a new effect, exploring tools and techniques.

Year 1

Art around the world, colour mixing, colour wheels, exploration of texture, using different tools and media, sculpture, indigenous art-sculpture (North America/ Australia).

Cross Curricular Links

Topic Who has a passport to go around the world?

Geography Hot v Cold Countries

Literacy Traditional tales from Australian folk stories, Australian poetry, holiday brochures.

Key Questions

- What is aboriginal art and what does it look like?
- Why did aborigines use symbols and icons in their art?
- What media and tools do aboriginal artists use?
- What is the difference between dot art and pointillism?

Key Vocabulary

Aboriginal/ Indigenous Australian art or Australian

Aboriginal art is art made by the Indigenous peoples of Australia and in collaborations between Indigenous Australians and others. It includes works in a wide range of media including painting on leaves, wood carving, rock carving, sculpting, ceremonial clothing and sand painting.

Aborigine's- First Settlers/people that live in Australia.

Rock Art- The first evidence of Aboriginal ethos or philosophy is evident in the still visible rock art which dates back more than 20,000 years.

Pointillism-a technique of painting in which small, distinct dots of colour are applied in patterns to form an image. Georges Seurat and Paul Signac developed the technique in 1886.

Aboriginal symbols-Aborigines had no written language so symbols were an alternative way of recording stories of cultural significance.

Key Knowledge

- There are different styles within the aboriginal art style/ movement. These include cave/rock paintings, landscape watercolour, body painting and dot painting.
- Aboriginal art is used to tell cultural stories and history.
- Aboriginal art uses symbols and icons.
- Aboriginal art and pointillism are similar but are two distinct art styles.