

Australian Aboriginal Cultures Gallery
Early Years - Art & Play
Level 1

Interesting things I discovered:



My name:

This program for schools is made possible through the partnership between the Department for Education and Child Development and the South Australian Museum. It is part of Outreach Education, a team of DECD educators seconded to public organisations.

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Government of South Australia
Department for Education and
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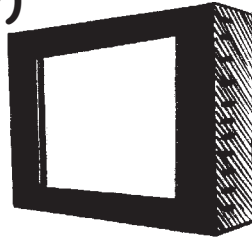
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PLAY (south-west of gallery)

Spinning and Throwing Toys
Look at the film of Aboriginal children playing.



Some of their toys are on display.

See if you can find the balls used by Aboriginal children for throwing games.



What are they made from?

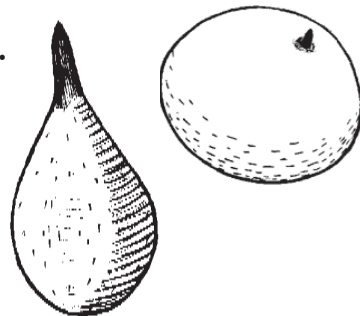
Grass emu feathers possum fur string

(Circle your answer/s)

These toys have sharp points.

What were they used for?

Throwing or spinning?



Dot paintings (on doors from an old Aboriginal school.)

Sit down in front of the dot paintings made by Aboriginal artists.

Look at the different shapes.
How do you think they painted them?

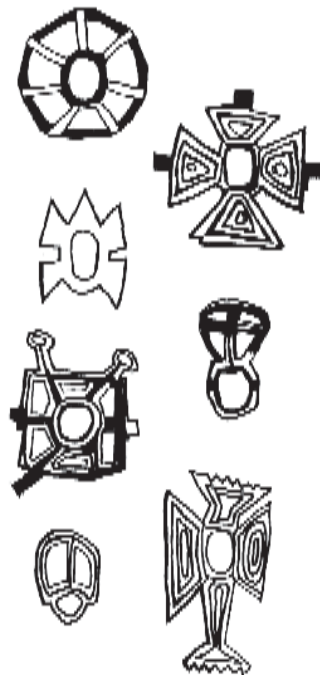
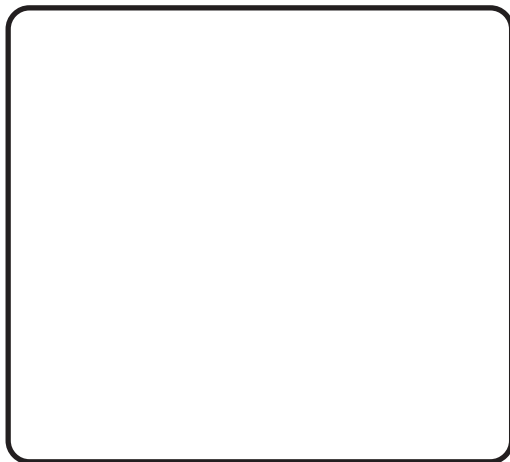
The artists who painted these doors told stories about the patterns when they painted. Copy one of the shapes and guess what its story might be.



Tindale Masks

Look for the tin masks hanging on the wall.
Aboriginal people wore these tin masks over their faces in a special ceremony.

Try drawing your own mask shapes here.



Make up names for your masks.

Try making your own masks out of cardboard back at school and then decorate them.

Playing House

Find this toy *wiltja* or house made by Pitjantjatjara children.

Imagine you are living in the hot dry desert.

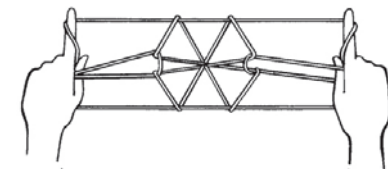


A *wiltja* will protect you from the ...

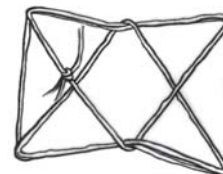
sun wind or snow?

(Circle your answer)

Cat's cradle



See if you can find these string games played by Aboriginal children:



Write down the name for each game.

Hunting Games

The *Pitjantjatjara* boys practised hunting animals by throwing their spears at a special target rolled along the ground.

Find one of their targets on display.

What is it made from?

stone tree bark grass

(Circle your answer)

Draw a spear stuck in one of these targets.



Find a hunting toy that will fly.
Try drawing it here.



Tiwi body decorations

Choose two decorations worn by Tiwi people in their *Pukumani* ceremonies.



Draw a decoration worn on the arm.

It is made from _____

Draw a decoration worn around the neck.

It is made from _____

A wonderful wood carving

Find this sculpture of the Dreaming Ancestor *Purrukaparli*. Try saying his name to a friend.

List the colours painted on *Purrukaparli's* body here.

-
-
-
-

Draw lines to show the colours on *Purrukaparli's* body.

Try drawing *Purrukaparli's* beard.

What is it made from?

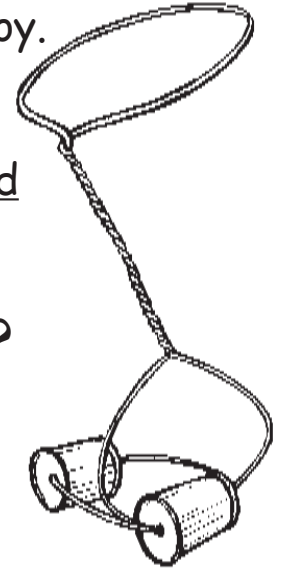


Roller Toys

Find this *trucka trucka* or roller toy. Write the name of each part.

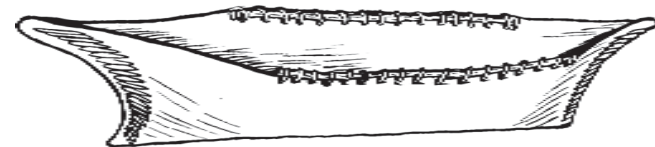
Aboriginal children pushed or pulled this toy around.

Do you have a toy like this at home?
Try drawing it here.



Toy Canoes

Find this toy canoe on display.



How many hands long is it?

What is it made from?

Bark Paintings (along the eastern wall)
Some Aboriginal artists paint their Dreaming
Ancestors on bark.

Find the bark paintings hanging on the wall.
Look for paintings of these Dreaming Ancestors:

- A spirit person
- Rainbow serpent
- A bird



Tick them when you find them.

Try drawing one of them here.

Choose your favourite painting.
Which parts do you like the most?

Circle the colours used in your painting.

blue red yellow green brown

Look for this painting of an animal.

What is it?



Do you think the animal is...

Soft or prickly?

Write down the names of other animals that
have been painted.