

# Aboriginal Culture by Quinn Laura Pearce



## Art

Aboriginals love art. Australian Indigenous art is the oldest tradition of art which is still practiced today. Aboriginals used ochre to make paint. Did you know that Aboriginals had NO bright colours!? Aboriginals make dot art, dot art is famous in Australia. The dot art is beautiful. Aboriginals made bark paintings. Their (I mean always) art always has a story to tell because the Aboriginal people do not have a written language. Aboriginal art is the oldest surviving art in Australia.

## Food

Aboriginals men had to hunt for their family food. The women were the main food gatherers and they would go out and search for seeds, vegetables, fruit and grubs. Aboriginals had no sweet stuff like chocolate, lollies and ice cream. Aboriginals have lots of food like us such as fish, pigs and some people eat kangaroo like us. They also spear fish. They also liked bush tucker. Aboriginals eat TURTLES! Disgusting! At least they clean their food first. They cook their food on fires.

## Clothes

In the northern parts of Australia the Aboriginal people rarely wore clothes and usually cover themselves with paint. They also wear all different animal skins. The skins were usually rubbed with fat and this provided extra warmth during the colder nights. Animal skins were also used as blankets and bedding. Lady's wear leaves for skirts. When Aboriginals are cold they wear possum cloaks (which sound weird.) These were made by combining several possum skins together. Men Aboriginals wear something called riji. The Aboriginal people would often use bark, grass and leaves to cover their bodies.

# Shelter

Aboriginals sometimes live in caves. Aboriginals have very simple shelters made out of wood, tree branches, leaves and paper bark. Some places in Australia there's only branches and leaves that could be used. Other places there was wood, straw and paper bark. When it was cold Aboriginals made closed dome-shaped shelters. Sticks were bent over and bark, grass and leaves were used to cover the shelter. In the northern areas of Australia, the shelters were often larger in size. The shelters often had multiple entrances and were big enough for a small fire to be made inside.



# Music

Music plays a major role in traditional Aboriginal societies and is linked with a person's ancestry and country (the animals, plants and physical features of the landscape). It is traditionally connected with important events such as the bringing of rain, healing, wounding enemies and the winning of battles. Aboriginals loved playing music and they made beautiful songs. They made different instruments. Aboriginals used rain sticks. But also used the didgeridoo. Most Aboriginal music has a story to tell like art. Music is used throughout an Aboriginals life to teach what must be known about their culture, about their place in it and about the world of nature.



# Transport

Aboriginals are nomadic which means they run and if they are tired they walk. Aboriginals had NO cars so they would get tired from time to time. I wouldn't like to walk (or run) all the time. They make hollow tree trunks into (you won't believe this) canoes! These canoes were very helpful in fishing activities, as well as for travelling around.