

Aboriginal Culture

By Eden



Art

Aboriginal art is one of the oldest surviving art forms still practised today. The oldest paintings were painted thousands of years ago in caves. These would have been painted with Ochre. Traditional Aboriginal paintings always have a story because the Aboriginal people do not have a written language. The only way they could tell their story's was through paintings and songs. Aboriginal art comes in many forms including dot painting, bark painting, body painting and wood carving.



Shelter

The Aboriginal people built their shelters out of leaves, wood or sticks sometimes. They lived in a rock shelter. A rock shelter is a hollow cave. Some of the Aboriginal shelters are built in caves. The Aboriginal shelters are very small but creative. Also some Aboriginals sleep under the stars so they get some light. Aboriginal housing mostly consisted of simple shelters made from branches and then covered with leaves and sheets of bark.

Food

The Aboriginal people had a very healthy diet. The women were the



main food gatherers and they would go out and search seeds, vegetables, fruit and witchetty grubs. The men were in charge of hunting animals. They would hunt for kangaroo, lizards, snakes and goannas. To catch the animals they would use boomerangs, throwing sticks and spears.

Transport

The Aboriginals had to walk everywhere because they had no car and no trains.

Aboriginals made boats out of wood and logs they also made canoes to travel place to place and they made rafts out of logs, bamboo and wood. The Aboriginals made canoes to go fishing so they can survive. Canoes were made out of Hollow wood so they don't need to cut the wood in the inside. They also sometimes had horses to travel places on land instead of being tired of walking. The Aboriginal people can also ride animals so they can get to places faster.



Clothing

In the northern parts of Australia the Aboriginal people rarely wore clothes and usually covered their bodies with paintings. The Aboriginal people would often use bark, grass and leaves to cover their bodies. The men would wear a riji and this was a item of clothing that went around their waist. It was tied together by grass and leaves. In the cooler parts of Australia the Aboriginal people would wear possum



cloaks. These were made by combining several possum skins together.



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 landscape) It is traditionally connected with important events such as the bringing of rain, healing, wounding enemies and wining of battles. 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.

