

# Aboriginal Australian Art Symbols

There is no written language for Aboriginal Australian people so important cultural stories are passed down through the generations by symbols and icons portrayed in artwork.

These symbols were used as a means of communication; communication of their lives on earth, their rituals, food and customs.

Symbols vary from region to region but they are generally understood and form an important part of Aboriginal Australian art. Aboriginal Australian art has been used for thousands of years to convey stories and messages that are extremely important to their culture. Aboriginal Australian artists create their works based on how the land was created, basing their subject matter mainly on patterns and animals.

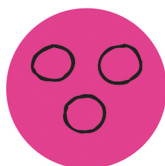
The iconography used when applied to any surface then converts it to having religious or time-honoured meaning.



boomerang



bush berry



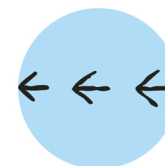
bush tucker



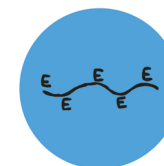
campfire



digging sticks



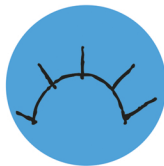
emu tracks



goanna tracks



heavy rain



human tracks



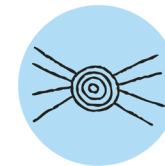
hunting  
boomerang



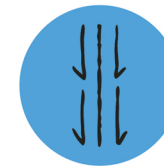
kangaroo tracks



man sitting



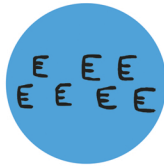
meeting place



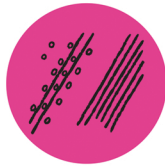
moving  
kangaroo tracks



people sitting



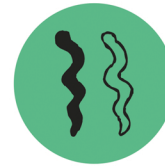
possum tracks



rain



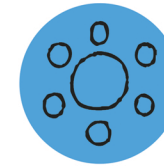
sandhill or cloud



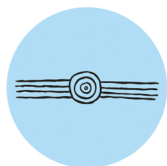
snake



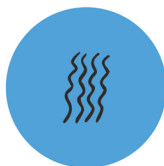
spear



sun or star



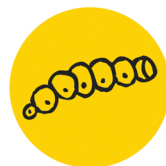
travelling resting  
place



water



water holes



witchetty grub



woman



women sitting



4 women sitting