

Indigenous Australian Art Symbols

There is no written language for Indigenous 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 Indigenous Australian art. Indigenous Australian art has been used for thousands of years to convey stories and messages that are extremely important to their culture. Indigenous Australian artists create their works based on how the land was created, basing their subject matter mainly on patterns and animals.

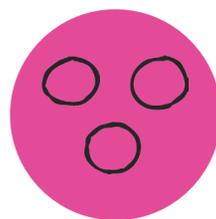
The iconography used when applied to any surface then converts it to having religious or time-honoured meaning.



boomerang



bush berry



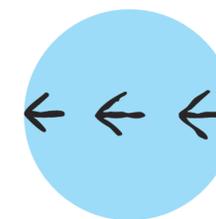
bush tucker



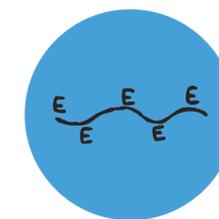
campfire



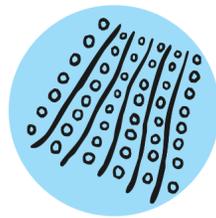
digging sticks



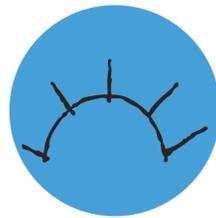
emu tracks



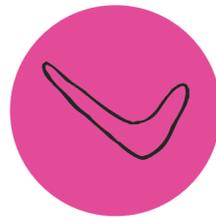
goanna tracks



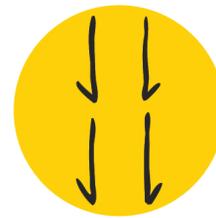
heavy rain



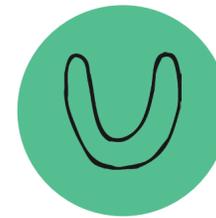
human tracks



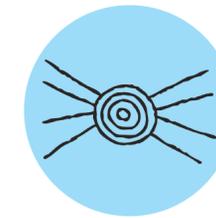
hunting boomerang



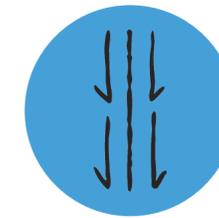
kangaroo tracks



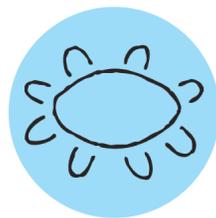
man sitting



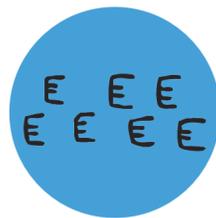
meeting place



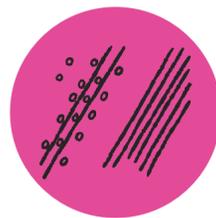
moving kangaroo tracks



people sitting



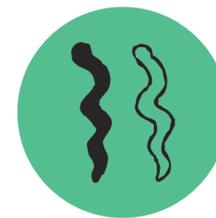
possum tracks



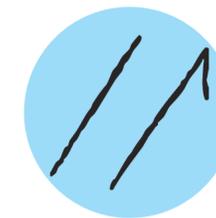
rain



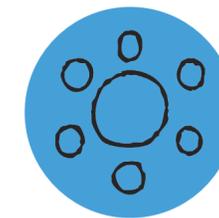
sandhill or cloud



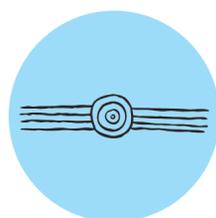
snake



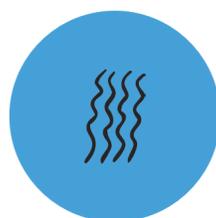
spear



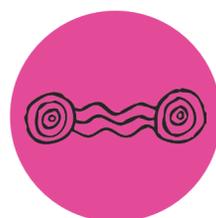
sun or star



travelling resting place



water



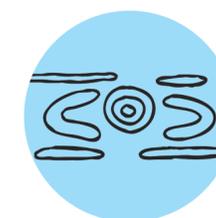
water holes



witchetty grub



woman



women sitting



4 women sitting