

This trimestre, our class (5eLL) learned about Australia.

Here's a recap of what we did:

First, we learned about Australia itself, it's colonisation, the first Australians ( Aboriginal people), their culture, their art and their condition of life.

Australia's colonisation:

Australia was colonized by the British Empire who claimed the land for their own nation (England), imposed their language and their religion. They dispossessed the Aboriginal people (who inhabited the entire land and lived in tribes) of their land and gave them no rights.



Aboriginal Australians were deprived of their traditional ways of life and many of their customs were wiped out.

Aboriginal art:

Aboriginal people painted secret sacred objects on rocks, on pieces of wood, on their everyday objects...etc by using dots to hide the secret information. These paintings are called "dot paintings". This art can be naturalistic (of animals, plants and people) or non-naturalistic (of shapes and symbols). There were also X-Ray paintings which showed both the outside and inside of living creatures.



Aboriginal culture:

According to Aboriginal culture, The Dreamtime is the period in which life was created. Dreamtime stories are stories that teach every generation where they come from, the civilization they are raised in and the importance of the relation to nature in their culture. Indigenous Australians pass on their Dreamtime tradition through storytelling.



Following the knowledge of what we learned, we did a project which consisted in writing our own Dreamtime story, creating an Aboriginal-style dot painting to illustrate it and presenting it to our class.

If you are interested in reading our Dreamtime stories, we invite you to have a look at our projects. We hope you enjoy!

Anaïs HOENIG

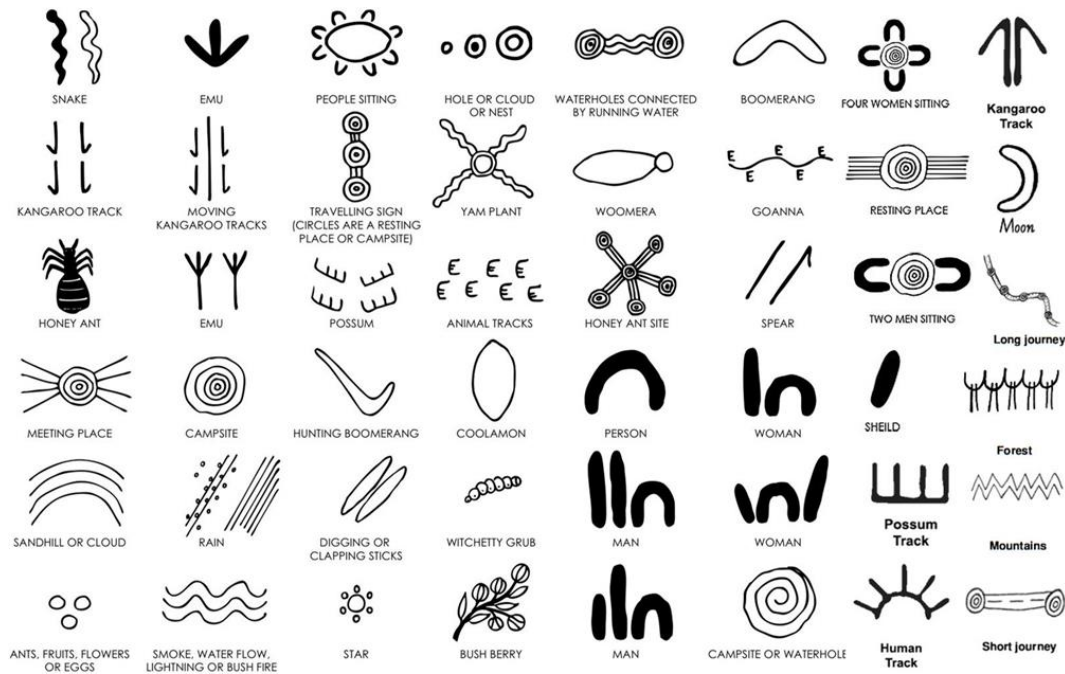
# Aboriginal Art – by Daniel Mordo

Over the past month, the 5eme LL English class worked on the topic of Aboriginal Art. For those who don't know what it is, Aboriginal art is the oldest form of artistic expression in the world. Since there was no written language for the Australian Aboriginal People, in order to convey their important cultural stories through the generations, they portrayed their artwork through symbols/icons. To pass on their stories, this was imperative to preserve their culture. Indigenous art is centred on story telling. It is used as a chronical to convey knowledge of the land, events and beliefs of the Aboriginal people.



Apart from that, we also worked on symbols. Here are a few types of symbols we studied:

## ABORIGINAL SYMBOLS



After having done a test about Australia, our teacher Mrs.Pindado, asked us to do a project in groups which consisted of writing a Dreamtime story which is the period in which life was created according to Aboriginal culture, and creating our own aboriginal-style dot painting to illustrate our story.

Hi there,

I'm Pauline and I'm from the 5eme LL English class. Our first topic of the year was Australia. You may have seen our dot paintings in the CDI, they were really fun to make! Australia is awesome, we learned all about its geography but also a lot about Aboriginal Australians. We learned about their stories and their symbols, here are a few of them.



Emu Track  
/ Spear



Rainbow  
/ Cloud



Possum  
Track



Rain



Star / Sun



Waterhole  
/ Campsite



Fire / Smoke  
Water



Kangaroo  
Track



Human  
Track



Man  
/ Woman

For our Aboriginal Art Project we had to write our own Dreamtime story, these are stories that explain the creation of a natural element. Some of the topics we chose are: how the moon was made, how the rainbow was made ext... And we also had to make a dot painting, a dot painting is an aboriginal painting but instead of drawing strokes, it is made of dots to preserve the tribe's secrets. We also read a really good book, it is called the Rabbit-Proof Fence. It is about 3 half-caste girls who are taken from their home to learn the white man's ways. But these 3 girls are determined to **WALK** back home... They start a 9-week long journey, a very inspiring story to read! Our teacher, Ms.Pindado, taught us a lot of in-depth facts and explained us so much! She is awesome! I can't wait for our next topic! I hope you liked our drawings. I hope that I taught you something about Australia and inspired you to learn more about it. Maybe you can check out the Rabbit-Proof Fence in the CDI. Thanks for taking the time to read my article. Bye!

Pauline Sibout 5e1, LL English group