



## Indigenous art

### Overview

Art has always been, and still is, a very important part of the social and spiritual life of Indigenous Culture. Song, dance, story telling and art are used to communicate ideas, record events, and pass on history and wisdom to the younger generations. Using a range of examples from the Indigenous Collection students will see the richness and diversity in the stories and the consistently deep connection between land, community and people.

In the guided tour students will:

- Discover the link between artistic styles and place.
- Appreciate how Indigenous styles and media have changed over time.
- Explore how Indigenous people communicate through art by hearing some of their stories translated.
- Compare some of the different shapes, patterns, colours and learn their meaning.
- Create their own artworks using techniques and ideas from the collection.
- Respect cultural awareness and appropriateness.

Dick Ngulei Ngulei Murrumurru  
*Kangaroo*, c 1960s  
ochres on stringy bark, sticks, string  
State Art Collection,  
Art Gallery of Western Australia

### Before your visit

**Locate** the Central Desert, Gascoyne, Pilbara, Kimberley and South West regions.

**Compare** these landscapes. **Discover** the meaning of the Dreaming and its importance to Indigenous cultures. **Investigate** the traditional country of the Nyoongar people of the South West of Australia.

**Explore** the effects of Government Policy on Indigenous Australia, for example: the Stolen Generation, Native Title, nuclear testing at Maralinga.

### Bookings

1. Interactive guided tour with a Voluntary Gallery Guide: free of charge.
2. Unique art activity with an Education Officer: charges and conditions apply.  
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