



Government  
of South Australia



SOUTH  
AUSTRALIAN  
MUSEUM

## Aboriginal art and play - Level 1 Teacher information

Principal Sponsor



This program for schools is made possible through the partnership between the Department for Education and Child Development and the South Australian Museum. It is part of Outreach Education, a team of DECD educators seconded to public organisations.

© Department for Education and Child Development and the South Australian Museum.

This work may be reproduced by South Australian teachers for use with their students. For all other uses contact the South Australian Museum Education Centre.

Authors: Chris Nobbs and Simon Langsford



South Australian Museum education program

Email: [Education@samuseum.sa.gov.au](mailto:Education@samuseum.sa.gov.au) Web: [www.samuseum.sa.gov.au](http://www.samuseum.sa.gov.au)

## Visiting the Museum Student expectations

**We would like you, and all our visitors, to enjoy visiting the museum.**

- Please stay with your group.
- Walk safely around the exhibitions.
- Share the space with other visitors.
- Talking is an important part of learning. Please remember to use a quiet voice.
- The museum glass cases can get dirty or scratched. Please enjoy looking without touching.
- Please use the stairs and avoid the lifts. (They are slow and are needed by people who can't use the stairs.)
- Help keep the museum clean. Please eat and drink outside on the lawns.

## Visiting the museum Teacher expectations

**Bookings are essential for all school visits to the museum.**

Please supervise your groups of learners at all times. If your visit involves visiting more than one gallery, divide your class into small supervised groups. Respect the needs of other classes that have booked particular galleries. **Parents must specifically consent to students under 18 participating in activities involving indirect supervision.**

When you arrive please let the staff at the front desk know. If the weather is fine, your students can enjoy the outside lawn area while they wait.

Do not use clipboards with metal backings and clips. For your convenience and for the safety of our exhibits, cardboard backings are available at the front desk.

The coffee shop and the museum shop do not cater for large groups. Small groups can visit, with adult supervision. Bags must not be taken into the shop.

Only students with special needs should use the lifts. Many students visit the museum and using the lifts would cause excessive delays for people who really need them.

**The Museum has limited capacity to store bags. A large crate or two for lunches is easier to keep secure.**

**Supervisors' bags must be left at the reception desk, or be inspected and tagged by the security officers.**

# Australian Aboriginal Cultures Gallery - Level 1

## Early Years - Teacher Information

### Program aims

Students learn about Aboriginal childhood and Aboriginal art and the Dreaming. They explore the gallery in small groups and discover some of the toys and games that Aboriginal children and adults played in the past, and in some cases still do today. They identify similarities with the toys and games that they play.

Students discover and identify diverse styles and forms of Aboriginal art including paintings, sculptures, ornaments and masks from different regions. They learn about the special relationship between Aboriginal art, Dreaming stories and the environment.

### Curriculum links

#### Society and environment

Students:

- talk about and reflect upon the differences between, and the significance of places to Aboriginal people; and about how resources, including places, are used to satisfy needs and wants.

#### Societies and cultures

- Students: identify diverse Aboriginal customs, traditions and practices of groups of people.

#### Arts

Students

- talk about Aboriginal arts and culture from other times and places, and make connections to individuals and communities today.
- describe features of art works and identify the different media used.

### Teaching strategies

#### Orientation

All classes will need at least 10 minutes to explore the gallery in small groups with a teacher or parent/carer before starting more directed activities. This is an opportunity for students to work collaboratively and discover where things are.

They can also make connections between their own ideas about Aboriginal people and culture with those presented in the displays.

### Hands-on artefacts

An education officer can be booked for an introduction to a program about Aboriginal art and play. The duration of this activity is usually 30-40 minutes. The class can then be divided into small groups for focused activities using the **learning guides** in the gallery.

### Learning guides

Teachers can choose the **A4 activity sheets**, an **A5 booklet** or **Inquiry Cards** to guide student learning. Students work collaboratively in small groups with an adult group leader. Each group can share their answers with the whole class in the gallery or back at school.

The pages for the A5 booklet can be printed from the museum website, photocopied back to back and stapled together to make a booklet. **Note:** depending on your photocopier, the pages are arranged in the feeder with pages arranged in a stack, face side up but alternating - page 1 up, page 2 down and so on.

Encourage your students to watch the **contemporary voice film screens** that are located at the introduction to each Regional Display. They can listen to Aboriginal people from these regions telling their stories about their own histories and culture today.

**Archival film screens** are also found throughout the displays showing old films from the Museum Archives.

# South Australian Museum

## Australian Aboriginal Cultures Gallery Guide

www.samuseum.sa.gov.au

Open 10am to 5pm every day, except Christmas Day and Good Friday.

