



Developed with Cheryl Scott and Tricia Couch

# Aboriginal dreaming

Volume 46 | Gr. K-12

Time: Approximately 3 class periods (50 minutes each)



## Standards

### VA:Re.7.2.5a

Identify and analyze cultural associations suggested by visual imagery.

### VA:Re.7.1.6a

Identify and interpret works of art or design that reveal how people live around the world and what they value.

### VA:Cr.2.3.7a

Apply visual organizational strategies to design and produce a work of art, design, or media that clearly communicates information or ideas.

## Vocabulary

- Aborigine
- Visual balance
- Pattern
- Dreaming
- Symbols
- Shape
- Composition
- Repetition
- Line

## Objectives

*Students will...*

- Create an aboriginal dot painting
- Prove understanding of the dreaming images and icons of Australia
- Recognize the importance of storytelling and symbolism in world cultures
- Experiment with a variety of elements of art to create a cohesive composition





# Introduction

Briefly explain the history of “dreaming” or “creation” stories (Jukurrpa) of the Aborigine culture in Australia. Dot or sand paintings were made by Aboriginal ancestors from the desert area of Central Australia to tell the stories of creation. Show reproductions of dot paintings from Central Australia.

## Instructions

- 1** Base coat a square canvas panel or ceiling tile with one solid color of acrylic paint.
- 2** In pencil, draw Aborigine animal and plant shapes and creation symbols. Focus on a central theme (i.e., creation of water) and select animals, plants, and symbols to illustrate that story.
- 3** Paint shapes and symbols with black acrylic paint. Fill in shapes completely (like a silhouette). Let dry.

**5-6**

- 4** Decorate each animal and symbol with concentric patterns of dots and lines in bright colors, including white, on top of the black silhouette. Use the wooden end of a paintbrush to make the dots. Various materials can be used to create different size dots.
- 5** Paint lines and/or dots in concentric circle patterns on the background.





### Tip:

Creation stories and imagery can be painted on almost any surface. Try using paper, tag board, wood, walls, doors, trash cans, mailboxes, etc.





## Materials

- Royal® Soft-Grip™ Golden Taklon Brush Sets:
  - Fans, set of 4. – sizes 20/0, 2, 4, and 6 (**9720685**)
  - Filberts, set of 5. – sizes 2, 4, 6, 8, and 10 (**9720691**)
  - Assortment of 72 – 12 each of size 3, 6, and 10 rounds; size 8 and 12 shaders; and ¾" wash brushes. (**9720693**)
  - Classroom Pack of 72 Flats – 12 each of size 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, and ¾". (**9725165**)
  - Classroom Pack of 72 Rounds – 12 each of size 1, 3, 5, 6, 8, and 10. (**9725166**)
  - Classroom Specialty Pack of 72 – 12 each of size 4 fan, ⅜" angular, 6 filbert, 3/0 and 2 rounds, and 20/0 liner (**9726053**)
- Big Kid's Choice™ Box Set - 72-Brush Combo Set and 18 AquaFlo™ Paint Brushes (**9723226**)
- Nasco Square Canvas Panels:
  - 8" x 8" (**9724715**)      12" x 12" (**9724717**)
  - 10" x 10" (**9724716**)    16" x 16" (**9724718**)
- Nasco Acrylic Paint, 5-oz. tubes [**9714718(A-Y)**]
- Nasco Acrylic Paint, 5-oz. tubes, set of 6 (**9724921**)
- Nasco Acrylic Paint, 5-oz. tubes, classroom set of 40 (**9725881**)

