

## 15a Group Arts and Crafts - Upper primary

### Natural Material Creations

- Collect natural materials from the local environment to take back to your centre or classroom .
- Select and read as a whole group 4 different stories that are about aboriginal culture. Divide into groups and use the materials to represent and retell the stories shared.
- Use the materials to tell or retell a story and
- combine with other items such as hand or finger puppets, small toys or other props for story telling. Find out information about the animals in the story.
- Find out the local language and use this to label the animal. Write a report on the animals of choice.

#### *Books to inspire.....*

Going Bush– Nadia Wheatley  
Bartja and Mayila– Sue Atkinson and Annette Sax  
How fish were made–Aurora Hilvert–Bruce and Elether Bruce  
A possum made with the natural materials of paper bark, leaves and wool with a tail made from beads and wire.. Inspired by a contemporary story 'Bartja and Mayila' and represents Batja the possum.

### Community Quilt

- Make a community quilt using traditional materials such as possum skin or kangaroo skin or...
- Make a community quilt using contemporary materials of recycled fabric or ...
- Combine traditional and contemporary materials.
- Using ochre, acrylic paints or fabric paints have each person place their hand print onto the quilt.
- Randomly select participants to give a positive word or words that describe the children of today and tomorrow eg strong, smart, caring. Etch, paint or draw the words onto the pieces of the quilt.

#### *Books to inspire....*

Visit the local library or school library and borrow books about art and craft or handicrafts for inspiration

### Community Stories

#### *Books to inspire...*

When I was little like you - Mary Malbunka

The shack that dad built – Elaine Russell

- Share one of the suggested stories with the children and record what children do now eg which games the children play, are the houses the same etc.
- Invite an elder to come and share their experiences and with permission use their story to make a piece of artwork inspired by their story.
- It might be a series of art works on canvas and the children work in small groups on the designs etc. You could use other mediums such as natural materials and clay sculptures or mobiles, wire and beads, drawing materials such as pastels or ochre on large pieces of bark etc.

Parents/care givers work together with children on pieces of long pieces of fabric such as calico or recycled fabric.

#### *More books to inspire...*

Swan eggs- Sue Briggs–Patterson and Bev Harvey

The Min Min–Joy Kelly and Shane Russell

## 15b Group Arts and Crafts - Upper Primary

### Where are we?

- Design a card that you could give to new teachers or visitors that could help them to learn about local culture. Information you might include are:
  - A map of the local area, local places for swimming , local places for eating out
  - The card could include a yearly calendar to show when events are on during the year and could include information such as: Information about sporting teams events and the times of the year they begin. Important dates for cultural events etc
  - You could photograph places of interest and make a map using symbols that you developed together to represent each place.

### Networking Inspiration

- Networking with other schools within the region is a great way to find out which projects and ideas they are using within their school to promote positive cultural learning experiences.
- Talk with local workers to share ideas and be inspired by each other.

### Outdoor Spaces

- Create sustainable outdoor spaces or classrooms that are designed with an indigenous perspective.
- Use recycled natural and manmade materials to create pieces of art work that may depict contemporary and traditional local indigenous culture. For example use recycled pavers, bricks etc to paint designs onto or use them to make a mosaic style piece of art work. Go to gardens, parks or other schools for inspiration.
- Develop a project to encourage the planting local plants and other fruits and vegetables to make a school community garden. When the produce is ready, use this to cook and make a meal together to share.



Birak– One of the Six Noongar Seasons painted onto a cement tile that leads to the Gnulla Mia

### Art Exhibition

- Celebrate the day or week by collecting all the art works that the children have made and display these by having a community art exhibition. The children can design and write out the invitations, programme etc to the families and make the recipes on the following pages to be served. Invite a local group of performers and invite an elder to 'open' the NAICD art exhibition.



Photo: Gnulla Mia East Waikiki Primary School Western Australia

- The following is a photograph that I have taken of an area where I have held an art exhibition and it is in the school grounds. This area is known as the Gnulla Mia and it was a year long project that involved everyone across the school and the local community. This area is an outdoor classroom and a meeting place for all.