

ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER HISTORIES AND CULTURES: FOCUS ON THE AUSTRALIAN COLLECTION TEACHER RESOURCE

QUEENSLAND ART GALLERY | GALLERY OF MODERN ART

AFTER

Follow-up work to consolidate cognitive and affective learning.

- Appraising task – compare artworks by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander artists who draw inspiration from the ocean. Discuss how art practices, tradition, culture or theories influence artists' processes and choice of materials.
- Making task – 3D artwork inspired by students' natural environment, mythology and culture; incorporate discarded and found materials, or use traditional materials in new ways. Display artworks with artist statements.

WANT TO SHARE YOUR STUDENT OUTCOMES?

We would love to include examples of student outcomes inspired by this resource and collect your feedback. Email QAGOMA.Learning@qagoma.qld.edu.au

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

The Queensland Art Gallery and Gallery of Modern Art stand in an important place originally occupied by the Turrbal and Yugara (Jagera) peoples. The Gallery proudly recognises them as traditional owners of this site and we respectfully acknowledge their Elders past, present and future.

CONTRIBUTORS

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This resource was prepared by participants in the 'Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Histories and Cultures: Focus on the Australian Collection' teacher professional development program, March 2018.

SELECTED ARTWORKS

Alick Tipoti / Kala Lagaw Ya people / Australia b.1975 / Kudosur 2017 / Synthetic polymer paint / Mural: dimensions 2800 x 11460 cm / Commissioned 2017. Queensland Art Gallery / © The artist | **Shirley Macnamara** / Australia b.1949 / Nathaniel Macnamara / Indjalandji-Dhidhanu/Alyawarr people / Australia b.2004 / *Cu* 2016 / Hand-coiled copper wire and raw copper / 22 x 25 x 25cm / Purchased 2017 with funds from Gina Fairfax through the Queensland Art Gallery | Gallery of Modern Art Foundation / Collection: Queensland Art Gallery / © The artists. **Sonja Carmichael** / Ngugi people of Quandamooka, Minjerribah (North Stradbroke Island)/ Australia b.1958 / *Deranji Dabayil (Rocky place, healing waters): Baskets of Culture*, 2017 / Commercial raffia and ghost net strands / Dimensions / Commissioned 2017. Queensland Art Gallery/ Collection: Queensland Art Gallery / © The artist.

KEY CONCEPT ELABORATION

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander artists draw inspiration from their natural environment, mythology and culture.

Years
9–10



LEARNING GOAL

Students will draw inspiration from their natural environment, mythology and culture to develop 3D artworks using discarded and found materials

AUSTRALIAN CURRICULUM LINKS

CROSS-CURRICULUM PRIORITIES: ORGANISING IDEAS

Country/Place — highlights the special connection to Country/Place by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples and celebrates the unique belief systems that connect people physically and spiritually to Country/Place.

OI.2 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities maintain a special connection to and responsibility for Country/Place.

Culture — examines the diversity of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples' culture through language, ways of life and experiences as expressed through historical, social and political lenses. It gives students opportunities to gain a deeper understanding of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples' ways of being, knowing, thinking and doing.

OI.5 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples' ways of life are uniquely expressed through ways of being, knowing, thinking and doing.

People — addresses the diversity of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander societies. It examines kinship structures and the significant contributions of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples on a local, national and global scale.

OI.8 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples' family and kinship structures are strong and sophisticated.

AUSTRALIAN CURRICULUM CONTENT DESCRIPTIONS:

- Conceptualise and develop representations of themes, concepts or subject matter to experiment with their developing personal style, reflecting on the styles of artists, including Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander artists (ACAVAM125)
- Manipulate materials, techniques, technologies and processes to develop and represent their own artistic intentions (ACAVAM126)
- Develop and refine techniques and processes to represent ideas and subject matter (ACAVAM127)
- Plan and design artworks that represent artistic intention (ACAVAM128)
- Present ideas for displaying artworks and evaluate displays of artworks (ACAVAM129)
- Evaluate how representations communicate artistic intentions in artworks they make and view to inform their future art making (ACAVAR130)
- Analyse a range of visual artworks from contemporary and past times to explore differing viewpoints and enrich their visual art-making, starting with Australian artworks, including those of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples, and consider international artworks (ACAVAR131)

BEFORE

Preliminary preparation to provide context and prior knowledge of concept.

- Explore Torres Strait Islander artists who draw inspiration from the natural environment, mythology and culture, which is deeply linked to the ocean.
- Discuss artists, artworks, view videos, slideshows and complete a selection of activities:
Education resource: Land, Sea And Sky: Contemporary Art Of The Torres Strait Islands
<https://www.qagoma.qld.gov.au/learn/teaching-and-learning/resources-for-schools>
- Explore how featured Aboriginal artists from island communities also draw inspiration from the ocean and manipulate found materials.

DURING

Motivate, stimulate new ideas, and create personal connections through the gallery experience.

Guided floor talk. Questions for discussion:

1. Discuss and compare how patterns, colours and textures are used in two-dimensional and three-dimensional artworks.
2. What traditional processes have been used? In what ways have the processes and forms been reinvented with found or new materials?
3. What does the artwork communicate about culture, natural environment, or mythology? What similarities can you find with the artists approaches or meaning?