

283. Aboriginal Art

Glossary and large pictures, story to print



GLOSSARY

Aborigines : the first people to live in Australia.

Ancestor Spirits: spirits who created the world during Dreamtime and who live in landscape features, animals and plants as well as in the memories, stories and art of the Aboriginal people.

Boomerang: a curved, flat piece of wood that is thrown in the air and then returns to the person who threw it. Boomerangs are used for hunting animals and birds but are also used as clap sticks in dances.

Bush Tucker: food that is found living or growing on the land.

Ceremony: a special occasion.

Creek: a small stream.

Country: a word used by the Aboriginal people to describe the area they come from.

Didgeridoo: an Aboriginal musical instrument made from a hollowed out branch or tree trunk.

Dreaming tracks: tracks made by the Ancestor Spirits in their journeys across Australia during the Dreamtime.

Dreamtime : the time when the world was created according to Aboriginal beliefs.

Drought: when no rain falls for long time leaving a shortage of water.

Sacred: a thing or a place that is special to a religion.



THE DIDGERIDOO

an Australian Aboriginal legend

Long ago, in a time the Aborigines of Australia called Dreamtime, the world we know did not exist. Many of the things we imagine have always been with us hadn't even been thought of.

One day, during that time, three men went out to take a walk in the wilderness. The men walked for many days and many nights, though they did not know precisely where their walk would take them.

One evening the air grew cold, and so the men went to collect wood to build a fire. When they had collected a stack of wood, they began to build the fire.