

Name the different parts of a feather?

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Name the birds whose feathers are used in the exhibition?

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Design your own headdress and belt. What feathers would you use and why?

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Information and questions developed by Lynette Riley and Diane Riley-McNaboe. Formatted by Lara Scolari & Kent Buchanan



image verso: MIIMI-BULA NGAN.GIRRA BILA-DHA Two Sisters Meeting at the River, January 2012. Photograph by Shantell Toomey

DHAGA NGIYANHI NGAN.GIRRA

WHERE WE ALL MEET

YALBILI-DHAANY-GALANG MALDAN GARRANDARANG

LEARNERS WORK BOOKLET



LYNETTE RILEY

MALDHAANY WAYAL BADHANG-GALANG

DIANE RILEY-McNABOE

MALDHAANY NGULUNG GAYIRR-GALANG-BU BANDANY-GALANG-BU

DHAGA NGIYANHI NGAN.GIRRA / WHERE WE ALL MEET is an exhibition of objects made by Lynette Riley and Diane-Riley McNaboe. These objects include Kangaroo-skin cloaks, headdresses and belts, body painting designs and a Possum-skin blanket. These are objects that were made by Aboriginal people for thousands of years until settlement by Europeans put an end to this cultural practice. The objects made for this exhibition use the techniques and knowledge of the past as well as images and materials of the present to profile local Wiradjuri culture.

This education kit explores the exhibition and provides insight into the materials on display and their context. Questions can be answered through reading, looking and talking.

ANIMALS BALUGAN or GIDYIRA

Animals play an important role in Aboriginal Culture. They feature prominently in their stories, art and belief systems. Animals are used as totems (or symbols) to indicate clans (groups of people) and their specific environment. The following activities examine Animals and their representations throughout the exhibition - either through the actual depiction of them or symbols representing their tracks on the ground.

BILADURANG PLATYPUS

A platypus is a mammal, but it lays eggs. There are only two mammals that do this. The echidna is the other. Mammals that lay eggs are called monotremes. The platypus has a leathery bill that looks like a duck's, fur and a tail like a beaver's, webbed feet for swimming and claws for digging. The female lays eggs that are like a reptile's, and when the young hatch, she feeds it with milk from her body.

QUESTIONS:

1) On which Kangaroo Skins can you find reference to the platypus?

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2) On which skins can you find the platypus track?

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3) Describe the Platypus tracks. Why is it so distinctive?

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GUDHA GIDYIRA-GALANG BABY ANIMALS

1) What is a baby platypus called?

2) What is a baby emu called?

3) What is a baby echidna called?

4) What is a baby possum called?

5) What is a baby kangaroo called?

6) What is a baby butterfly called?

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WILAY BRUSHTAIL POSSUM or GINDHAANY RINGTAIL POSSUM

The possum is a very significant animal to the Wiradjuri people around the Dubbo-ga region. It is one of the Dubbo-ga Clan Totem. It provided food and skins for making blankets and cloaks for warmth.

QUESTION:

Where can you find the possum represented in the exhibition and in what different ways is it represented?

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HEADRESSES & BELTS

Headdresses and belts were made by Aboriginal people for Ceremony and dancing. They were usually made specifically for the individual once they had earned it. They were made using native grasses and the feathers of birds.

What three bird's feathers are in this Headdress below?



1.)

2.)

3.)

What bird do these feathers come from? What Aboriginal Nation do they represent?



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What does the pattern in this headdress represent?



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What animal does this headdress come from?



What do you think the white mark on the flat strip of the headdress represents?

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What is the significance of this animal to the Dubbo-ga people?

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This belt was made for particular type of person. Who?



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Name the two different owls whose feathers were used in the owl headdress below?



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Which parts of the owl were the feathers used to make the owl belt?

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BUDYABUDYA-GALANG BUTTERFLIES

Butterflies rely on the sun's energy and only fly during the day. Butterflies can live for one day to several months. Butterflies have a dependency relationship with different species of ants that look after the larvae. If the butterfly's wings do not dry straight when they hatch from the larvae, they can not fly.



QUESTIONS:

1) What species of Butterflies are on the Kangaroo Skin entitled **4 Female Butterflies of NSW?**

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2) One of these species is endangered? Why is this so?

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3) Can you see ants represented in two different ways? What are these?

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4) List where ants are represented on other Kangaroo Skins.

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MURAANY SULPHUR-CRESTED COCKATOO **or**
BILLIR BLACK COCKATOO YELLOW TAIL **or** **YUYANG**
BLACK COCKATOO RED TAIL



A cockatoo is any of the 21 species belonging to the bird family Cacatuidae. Cockatoos are instantly recognisable by their showy crests and curved bills. Their plumage is generally less colourful than that of other parrots, being mainly white, grey, or black, and often with coloured features in the crest, cheeks, or tail. Cockatoos prefer to eat seeds, tubers, corms, fruit, flowers and insects. They often feed in large flocks, particularly when ground-feeding.

QUESTIONS:

Cockatoos are represented inthe exhibition in two ways. List where you find the following:

1) TRACKS MURRUWAY-GALANG

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2) FEATHERS GAWURAA-GALANG

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MURRUWAY-GALANG TRACKS

Find the tracks below in the Kangaroo skins and write the title of the skin?

1) **DINAWAN WARRANHA** EMU STANDING



2) **DHIGIBILA** ECHIDNA



3) **MURAANY YANHANHA** COCKATOO WALKING



4) **BILADURANG** PLATYPUS



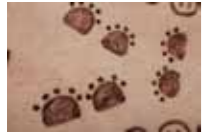
5) **WAMBUWUNY DHARRA** KANGAROO EATING



6) **YUGAY YANHAHHA** DINGO



7) **WAMBAD** WOMBAT



8) **WILAY** POSSUM



WAYAL BADHANG KANGAROO SKIN CLOAKS

QUESTIONS:

1) Why do Aboriginal people wear Kangaroo Skin Cloaks?

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2) Why are Kangaroo Skin Cloaks significant to Aboriginal people?

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DHIGIBILA or GANYI or WANDAYALI ECHIDNA

Echidnas are also monotremes like the platypus, which are mammals that lay eggs. They usually live in forested areas, have hair and spikes on their body and big claws. They live in thick forests and have a long sticky tongue to catch termites and ants.

QUESTIONS:

1) How many babies does an echidna have at any one time?

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2) Where do they hide their babies?

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3) Where does an echidna live?

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4) What does an echidna eat?

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TOTEMS

Traditionally a person would have several types of Totems which links that person to the environment (plants, animals and geographical features) and into their Kinship System (links to other people) and across Aboriginal Nations. These Totems indicate a persons:



NATION A broad geographical area in which they live **WIRADJURI-GU NGURAMBANG** SPECIAL COUNTRY

CLAN GROUP A specific geographical area in which they live **DUBBO-GA-GU NGURAMBANG** or **WELLINGTON-GU NGURAMBANG**

FAMILY Blood lines **MIYAGAN** FAMILY / RELATIONS / KIN

INDIVIDUAL Indicates individual talents, skills and traits **WINHANGNHA-DHI MAYINY** KNOWLEDGE ABOUT A PERSON

QUESTIONS:

1) Can you name the Wiradjuri Nation Totem?

2) Can you name a Clan Totem for Dubbo?

3) Where can you find reference to Totems in the exhibition?

BUGGUR PLANT or VINE or **GURAWIINY MADHAN** FLOWER TREE or **BUGAL** EDIBLE ROOT or GRASS SEEDS or **DHANGAANG** PLANT FOOD or **BURRAGURRA** TUBEROUS PLANT

Name the plants depicted below?

