

PEOPLE PLACES & POSSESSIONS

DUBBO STORIES

ARTIFACT ANALYSIS RECORD

Draw a picture of the artefact / s here:

What is it?

Describe it.

Record its size, texture and colour.

Is there any decoration? What are the shapes / patterns / figures in the decoration?

From what material was it made?

How was it made?

by hand?

using tools or machinery?

If there are decorations, how were they applied?

What was the process of making the artefact?

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Where was it made?

Where does it come from?
Where was it found?
Where was the artefact used? eg in a home,
business, school etc

When was it made or used?

Does it have an identifiable date on it?
Have others of its type been assigned a date
by experts?
Is the date unknown? If so, why might it not
be possible to tell what the date is?

Who made it? Who used it?

Was it made / used by more than one
person?
Was it made / used by a female or male?
How do you know?
To which class of society did the producer /
user of the artefact belong?
eg upper / middle / lower / working class

Why was the artefact made?

What was its use?
Was it for everyday, practical use?
Was it used as decoration? Was it precious?
Was it an item for trade or a symbol of
status?
Did it have a number of uses and meanings?

You be the Historian

Analysing artefacts: A study of material culture

Instruction sheet

Select an object from those presented in the ERC (these may have been selected by your teacher or the WPCC Education Officer)

Follow the steps below to conduct your analysis.

Step 1:

Observation:

Use your five senses to record as many observations as you can about your artefact. Include size, shape, colour, sound, markings, decorations, materials, smell, condition, and texture. Record these details along with detailed and accurate sketch of your item at the top of your record sheet. (Alternatively photograph the item and upload to the computer for printing).

Step 2:

Analysis

Use the information from your observations and the additional information provided in the WPCC online museum catalogue to complete the questions on your record sheet. (Go to WPCC Collections, click on museum, and conduct a simple search for your object).

Step 3:

Further research

Use **Trove**, **MRL** and **Google** to search for additional information and associated documents connected to your object. Add this information to your record sheet.

Step 4:

Interpretation

Come up with 5 conclusions about your object which have been deduced from your observations and research and present these to the class.

