

Kids

SIGNALS ACTIVITIES

Let's follow the art track! Lines, patterns, shapes, colours, creatures, and stories. We're exploring Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander artworks in the museum that feature images of wildlife and the natural world.

Winter 2017
June, July, August

Crabs in River by Tom Avery, Senior

Shovel Nose Shark Mask
Kaggasiw Usul by Alick Tipoti

Let's start our journey in Wildlife Photographer of the Year. Here are some things you might find there to colour in.

BADDAGULLI
(Barramundi) BAGU
(Gulnay language, Girringun region, Queensland) by Doris Kinjun

UTTI (stingray)
BAGU (Jirrbal language, Girringun region, Queensland) by Theresa Beeran

A Bagu (body) and Jiman (firesticks) artwork is based on the traditional fire making instruments of the Girringun rainforest Aboriginal people in far north Queensland.
It's inspired by a story about the sky. A mystical spirit, was said to throw firesticks (jiman) across the sky and a trail of fire would follow.



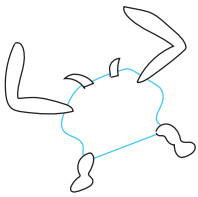
How to draw a Surfing Blue Swimmer Crab

Follow these simple steps to draw a surfer crab

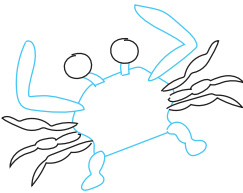
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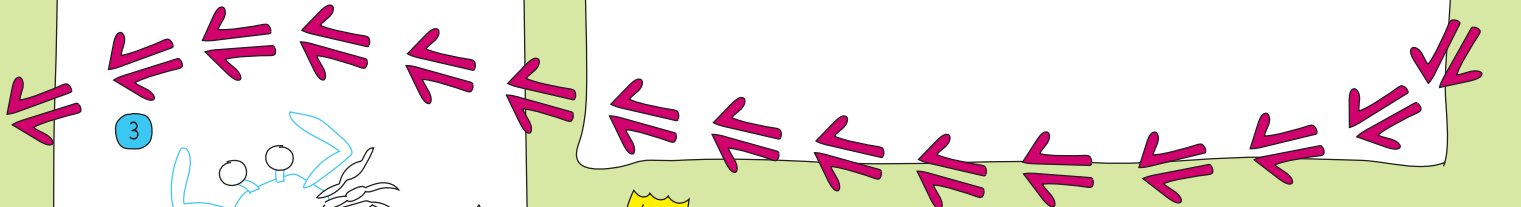


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Yarra - Crab

Blue swimmer crabs, the kind you can see on Tom Avery Senior's surfboard artwork, are hungry scavengers that will eat almost anything - weeds, fish, molluscs, crustaceans or even algae.



Word Match

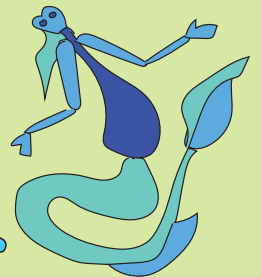
These words are in different Indigenous languages from around Australia. Can you match the words to the place they come from?

WANJEL

(long neck tortoise - Wergaia language, Wimmera, Victoria)

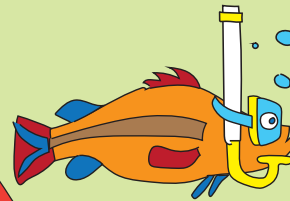
YAWK YAWK

(female water spirit - Kune/Rembarrnga language, northern Arnhem land, Northern Territory)



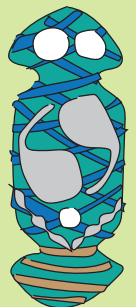
MAGURA

(fish - Dharug language, Sydney, New South Wales)



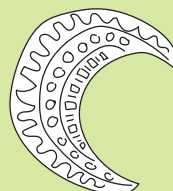
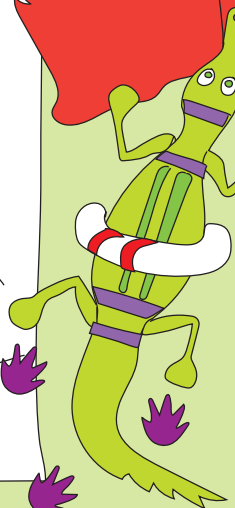
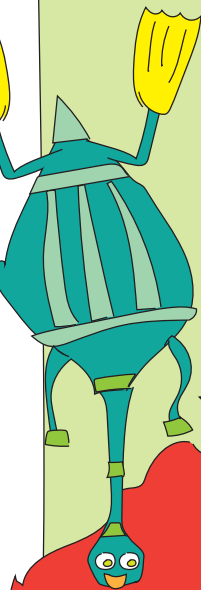
PAMIJINI

(arm band - Tiwi language, Tiwi Islands, Northern Territory)



BARU

(crocodile - Yolngu language, northern Arnhem Land, Northern Territory)

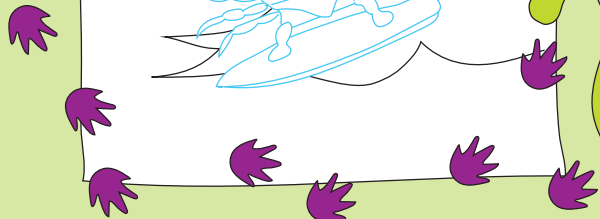


KISAY

(moon - Maluyligal/Kala Lagaw Ya language, Torres Strait Islands)

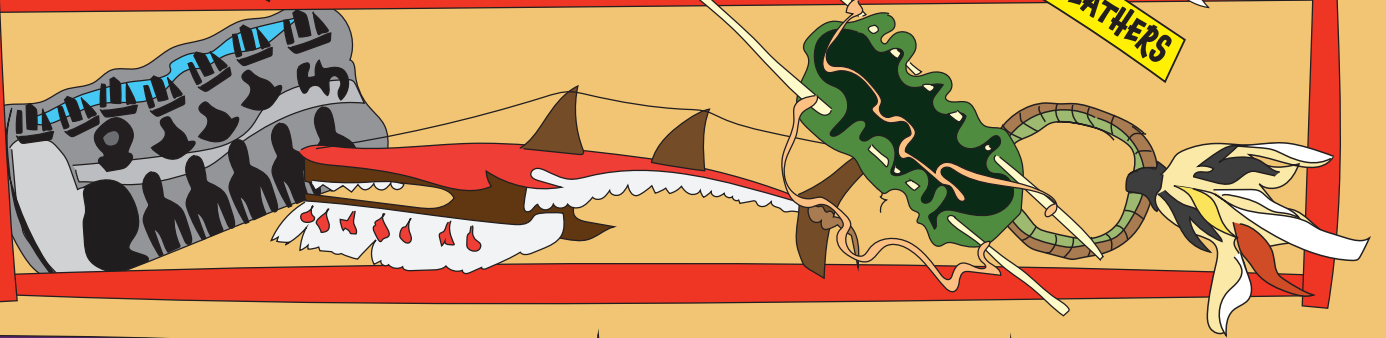
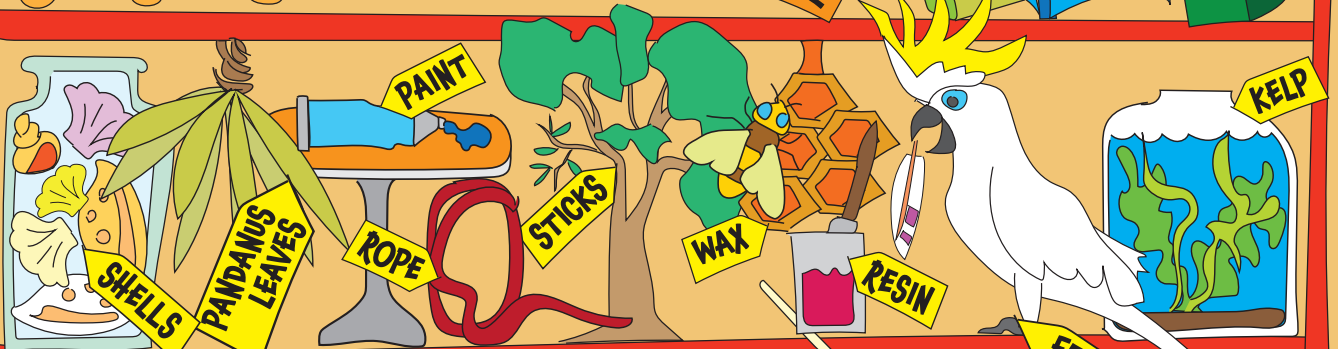
BAGU

(Body - Girringun language, Queensland)



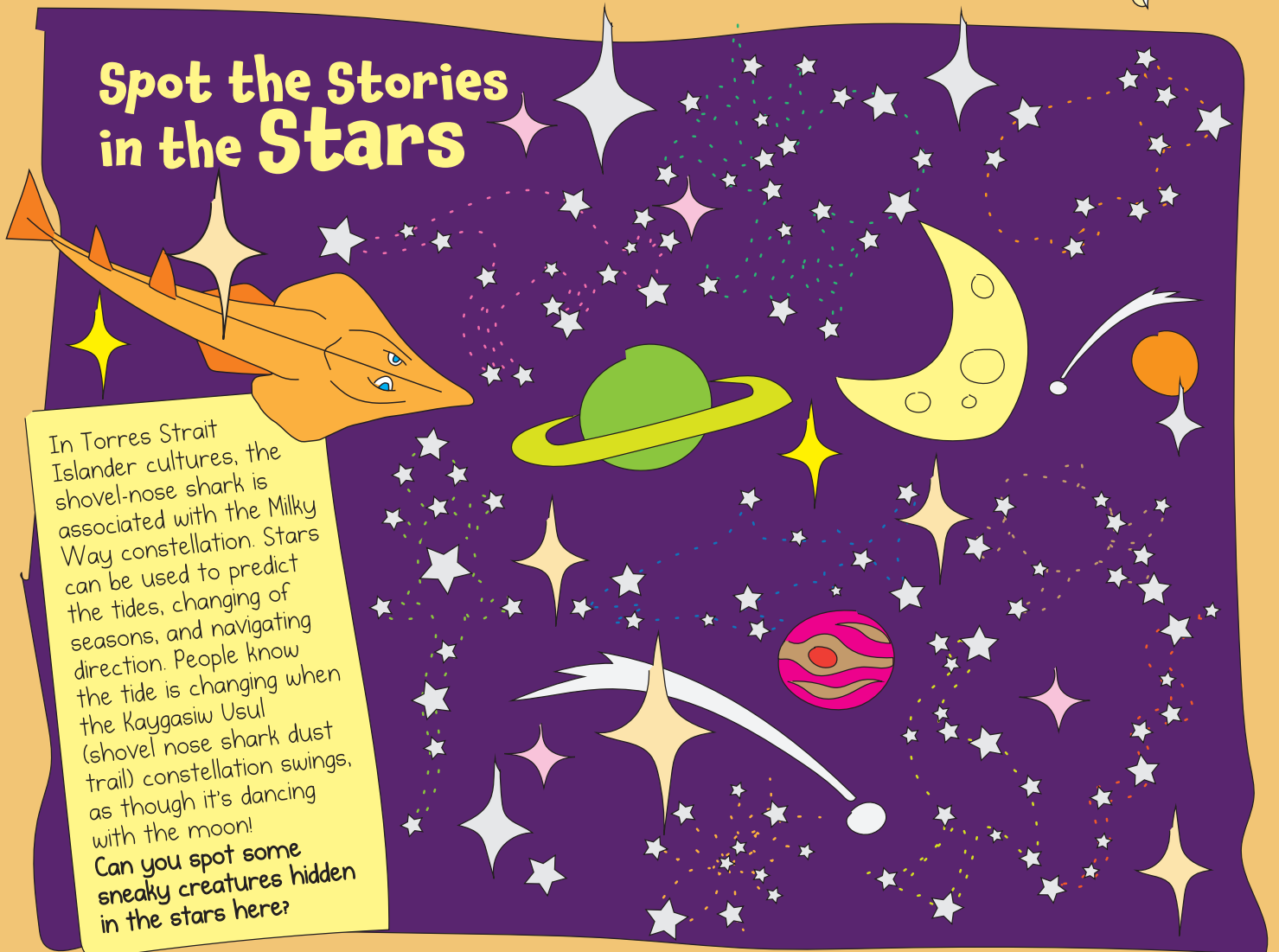
Art Cart

Can you match these artworks on the bottom shelf with the materials they are made from? Draw a line to show which is made of what. What kind of artworks are they?



Spot the Stories in the Stars

In Torres Strait Islander cultures, the shovel-nose shark is associated with the Milky Way constellation. Stars can be used to predict the tides, changing of seasons, and navigating direction. People know the tide is changing when the Kaygasiw Usul (shovel nose shark dust trail) constellation swings, as though it's dancing with the moon! Can you spot some sneaky creatures hidden in the stars here?



Invent your own amazing artwork inspired by the natural world

What materials is your artwork made of?

Imagine you are designing your own animal artwork. Draw or write about it here.

My artwork's title is

What would your artwork look like? Draw a design for it.

What colours would you use? Why?

How big is your artwork? Does it have moving parts? Does it hang from the ceiling? Stand on the floor? Go on a wall? Or on a screen?

What amazing story does your artwork tell?

What makes your artwork fun?

Share your creations with us

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