

“Aboriginal Bark Painting”



Objective: Students will create an accurate contour line drawing through the production of aboriginal art.

Materials

- Brown Const. paper 12x18
- Sharpie markers and Construction Paper Crayons
- Animal Example pictures
- Red, Black, White and Yellow tempera paint
- new Pencil erasers

Motivation

- Show students examples of Aboriginal bark paintings from Australia. Aboriginal art starts with an animal drawing. Then, artist would draw as if they could see through the animal in X Ray Vision. Then, dots are added.
- The colors that are most often used in Aboriginal art are red, black, yellow and white. Why do you think?

Step 1: Tear Paper

Start with the brown piece of paper. Have student carefully tear away all of the straight edges around the paper, making it look as if it's bark. Try to keep the paper as large as you can, by only tearing small bits off the edges.

Step 2: Drawing

Choose an animal to draw. I give students a visual library of examples of animals. You will only be drawing the contour our outside edges. Try to make it large and as accurate as you can.

Aboriginal artists drew in X Ray Vision style inside of their animals. Imagine what might be inside the animal. You can draw realistic things or use your imagination to draw shapes and designs. Outline both the contour edges and inside details with a black Sharpie marker.

Using construction paper crayons, color the inside details of your animal.

Step 3: Dot Paintings

Now you will paint the contour edges of your animal with four layers of dots. Using the eraser of a pencil, dip it in the paint and make dots all the way around the animal. Repeat with all four colors. Now, choose one of the colors to go around the contour edges of the paper, if you have room.

Tip: Assess this based upon the accuracy of the contour line drawing. Does it look like the animal?