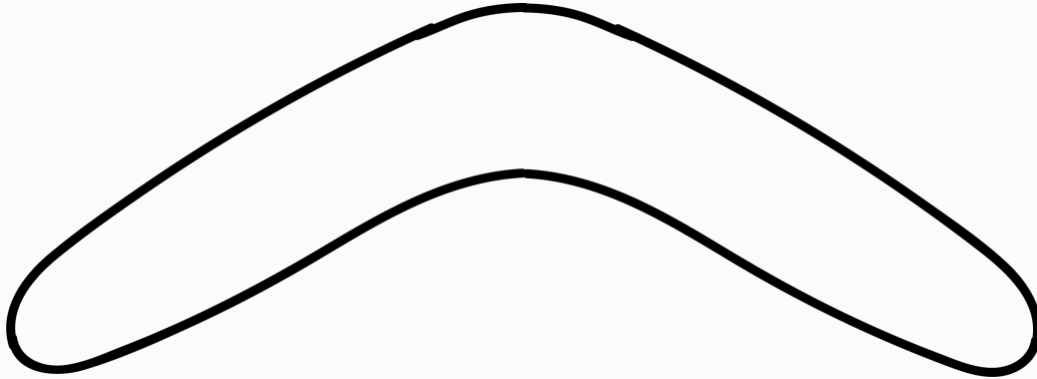


Boomerang

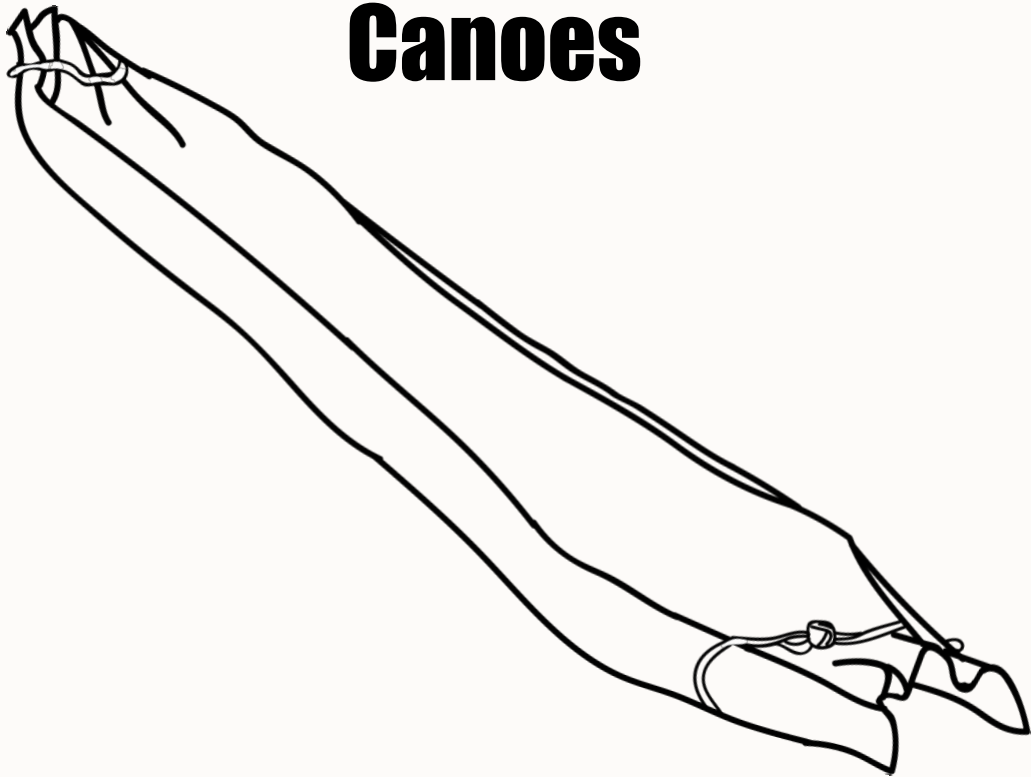


The boomerang is easily recognisable by its shape as it is curved and is a “V” shape. It is made from Mulga wood and designs can be painted or incised into the Boomerang, or the surface may be smoothed.

Boomerangs are a multifunctional object made by the Indigenous people. It is most commonly associated by its functional ability to “come back” to the thrower, once it has been thrown.

Boomerangs are mostly used in hunting prey, due to its ability to return once thrown. It can also be used for musical purposes, being clapped together to create a *rhythm/beat* like that of clap sticks. Further purposes include, warfare, rituals, and digging.

Canoes

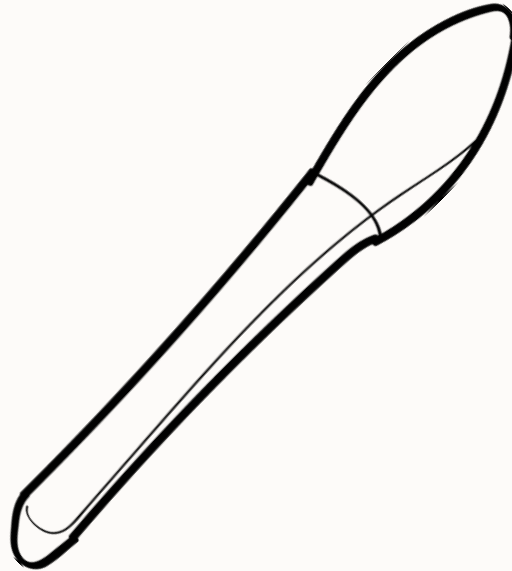


Canoes were a means of transportation along rivers in their native area. Rivers were a means of navigation, so the local people would be able to travel by water through their land.

In the early days, Canoes were fragile, and made out of tree bark and were often disregarded after its use and left to rot. However, canoes were made of wood in later days.

Through the use of canoes, the Aboriginal people had a supply of fish readily available and provided a plentiful food source for tribes surrounding water sources.

Clubs



Clubs are a wooden (Mulga) object that can vary in its shape and size, mostly depending on its intended use.

They can either be hardened by fire, or have a sharp edge set into the handle of Quartz, fastened to the object by Spinifex resin.

Their many served uses include ceremonious purposes, a tool for digging, battle weapons, and can also be used to decorate other weapons because of their hard and sharp surface.

Message Stick



The message stick was carved in certain ways to enable the carrier to remember and pass on messages and information between tribal groups. Carriers had to be multilingual to be able to translate the message from one language to another effectively.

The message stick, just like its name, was a wooden stick-like object that was able to be carved and inscribed a message into it for the translation of important information between tribes.

Message sticks allowed for communication between tribes of Indigenous people. Language barriers proved as an obstacle for communication as the language was spoken, and there was no written language; through the message stick, the information (whether complex, long or simple) carried was remembered and then was able to be given to another tribe.

Nets, bags and baskets

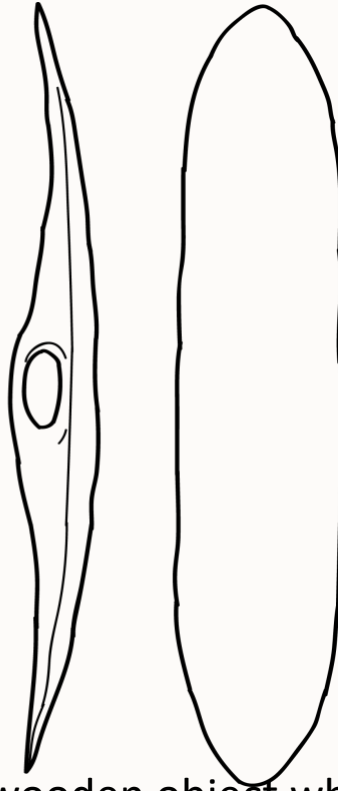


Nets, bags and baskets are all vessels that can be used for transportation, carrying and hunting. It is knitted to form a shape that allows for its use of carrying, to hunting to be performed.

They were made out of bush string, cordyline and knotted grass. Nets, bags and baskets were fibre-work that could be knitted tightly or loosely depending on what the baskets and bags would be used for, whether it be used as a trapping mechanism, or a carrying vessel. For example, some bags were knitted tightly to allow the person to transport honey or liquids!

Nets baskets and bags allowed for easy transportation of food, sifting of small objects, and trapping mechanisms for prey. Looped nets were able to capture larger animals such as kangaroos, or smaller animals such as ducks, increasing the availability of food for the tribe.

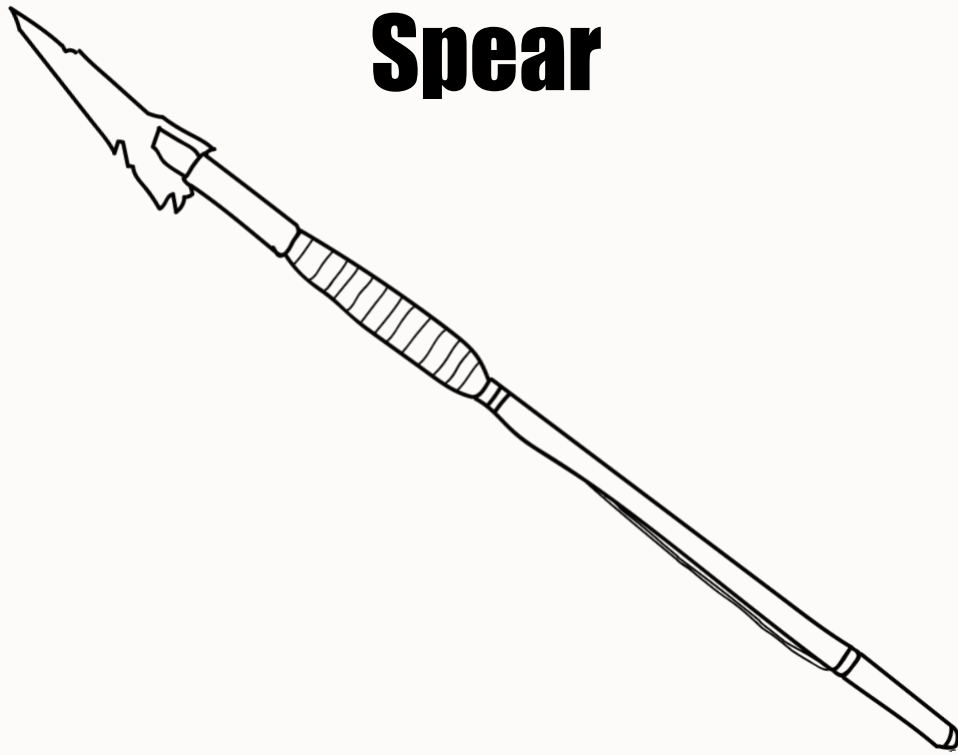
Shields



Shields are a broad wooden object which is primarily used for protection in battle, but also has a purpose in Ceremonial practices.

The shield is made from wood and can be easily crafted with simple tools. The shields appearance varies amongst tribes, some shields being smooth, others have grooves, and patterns can be seen on some shields although the art differs depending on values surrounding in the tribe.

Spear

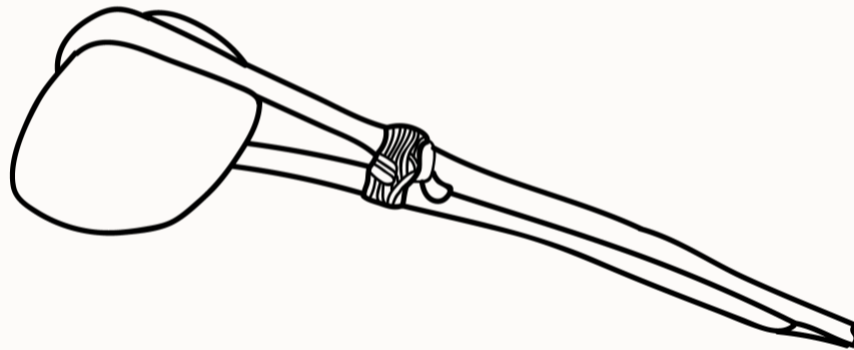


Aboriginal people used spears as weapons for both hunting and fighting. Aboriginal people used spears on a daily basis to hunt and defend. Evidence of this is documented across Australia, and historians are still unearthing Aboriginal artefacts such as the spear to this day.

Spears are an aboriginal weapon made of wood, and a Tecoma Vine (wrapped around the spear head for attachment to spear shaft).

The spear made hunting less challenging, as hunting larger and faster prey became easier with the hunting spear.

Stone Axe



The Axe was a stone tool commonly used, pre-European arrival. It was mostly used for the creation of other tools and weapons due to its function and ability. Due to European arrival, many stone axes were traded for metal axes.

Axes were made of stones and rocks specifically igneous or metamorphic rock, with one edge sharpened. The stone was held in place by a piece of malleable wood wrapped around the stone head. The stone was secured to the wooden handle with plant resin, having twine securing the two wooden sticks in place (holding up the axe head).

The Stone Axe's tail allowed for the user to powerfully swing the axe while in use. The Axe had many uses, chopping, hunting, making holes (or notches) in trees, making other tools and as a weapon.

Stone fish Traps

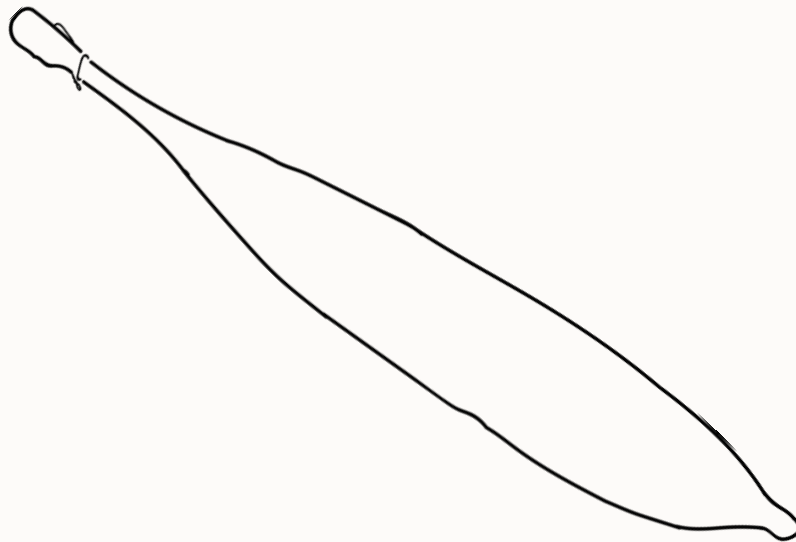


Stone Fish Traps were a complex and sophisticated design that encompassed canal systems, that were then attached to weirs and ponds.

The canals and traps were made of stones collected from the river, gathered and used to form elaborate stone fish traps. It forms a canal system that captures fish, enabling the hunter to collect from the system. Some fish traps are thought to be up to 40,000 years old, among some of the oldest human-made structures in the world!

This system allowed for fish to swim into the Fish Trap from the weirs and ponds, allowing for the hunter to easily spot the fish and capture it. The elaborate manner of the stone fish traps allows for the hunter to therefore simply capture the fish, once trapping it in the canal system.

Woomera (Spear Thrower)



The Woomera's main purpose is to aid a hunter in launching a spear, however it was used in multiple ways.

For example, the Woomera could also be used for: making a fire, mixing ochre, deflecting spears and also had ceremonial purposes.

The Woomera was created from Mulga wood. The position the spear was attached allowed for the spear to be thrown with more force, aiding the thrower with accuracy and power when hitting a target.