

Let's Go Down Under!

Mack and I recently traveled to Australia, which is also called “Down Under” because it’s on the bottom half of the globe and looks like it’s below most of the other countries of the world. It’s an awesome country and home to some animals that don’t live in the wild anywhere else in the world, like the platypus, kangaroo, echidna and koala. Cool!

People from all over the world have moved to Australia, so there’s a lot of diversity in the people. Almost a quarter of the people who live there were born in other countries, but the first people to live there were the Aboriginals. They probably traveled from Asia and learned to live in the harsh conditions of the outback (that’s the part of the country that’s really hot and dry).

Today, Mack and I want to share with you a cool piece of Aboriginal history — Aboriginal dot art!



Fun Facts

- 🌐 **Australia is the only country in the world that covers an entire continent! It’s also one of the largest countries on Earth.**
- 🌐 **More than one-third of Australia is desert. Sounds hot!**
- 🌐 **Some of the deadliest species on the entire planet live in Australia. There are 36 different species of poisonous funnel-web spiders, and 20 types of venomous snakes!**

Pray for Australia

There are 231 languages spoken in Australia, and more than half of them don’t have any part of the Bible yet. You can pray that the Bible would be translated for everyone who still needs it, so that everyone in Australia can understand about God’s love in their own language!

Aboriginal dot art

Aboriginal dot art is really beautiful, and it can get very complicated with different patterns and sizes used. Originally they only used red, yellow, black and white colors, but today more and more colors are

used to create bright, beautiful paintings. Let’s try making an aboriginal dot painting ourselves!

Supplies

- ✓ Printed animal templates
- ✓ Cotton swabs
- ✓ Acrylic paint
- ✓ Paper plates

Here’s how you do it.

- ✓ Print the animal templates.
- ✓ On a paper plate, squeeze some paint (4 to 6 colors is good, or you can mix a couple of colors to make new colors!).
- ✓ Use cotton swabs to fill in an animal template with dots. Create cool designs and patterns!
- ✓ Once you’re done, let the painting dry completely. Then hang it on the fridge, an art wall or somewhere you can admire your aboriginal dot art!







