

WADAWURRUNG WAY SYMBOL STORIES



The Wadawurrung are the traditional owners of the land east of Aireys Inlet on the Surf Coast, to the Bellarine, to Geelong and Ballarat, and to the Werribee River. They have been living on this land for thousands of years.

Wadawurrung people have used words and symbols, or picture shapes, to tell stories about what goes on in their life, in their family, and the environment around them. They did not use a pen and paper, but perhaps drew with a stick in the sand or with different colours of ochre.

The GORCC Education team would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge the traditional owners of the lands we work and teach on from Point Impossible, Torquay to Painkalac Creek, Aireys Inlet. We would like to acknowledge the Wadawurrung people as the traditional custodians of these lands and pay our respect to all Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander peoples; elders, past, present and emerging. We thank them for their continuing care for country and giving us what we have today. Nyatne (thank-you).

SYMBOL STORY ACTIVITY:

- Draw or print out the Wadawurrung symbol cards on the following pages.
- Cut these out & make your own story using two or more symbols.
- Show your symbol story to someone else and tell them the story
- Use the Symbol Template sheet to make your own symbols and add these to make a new story with the Wadawurrung symbol cards.



Waterhole

Wadawurrung Symbols



Walking



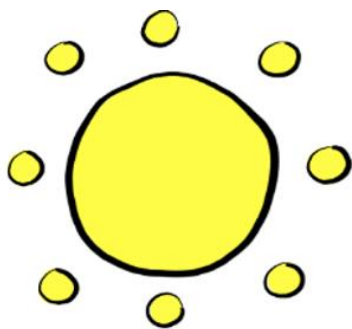
Kangaroo



Boomerang



Two people sitting



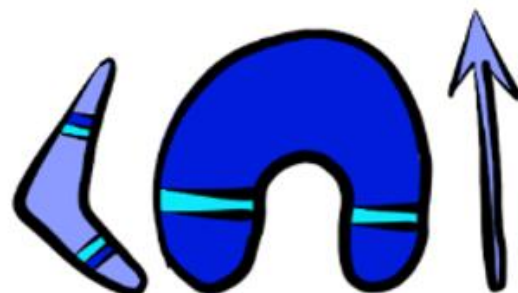
Sun/Stars



Waterhole



Woman



Man

Symbol Template



Online Resources

Language & Culture of the Surfcoast

Wathaurung Aboriginal Corporation:Wadawurrung
<https://www.wadawurrung.org.au/>

Wadawurrung Language App:VACL
<https://www.vaclang.org.au/projects/wathawurrung-ipad-app.html>

Djillong website
<http://www.djillong.net.au/wathaurong-country.html>

Keeping Aboriginal languages alive (DELWP)
<https://www2.delwp.vic.gov.au/media-centre/home/keeping-aboriginal-languages-alive>

Maggolee
<http://www.maggolee.org.au/local-government-areas-view-by-list/surf-coast/>

Teachers Notes & Curriculum Links

This resource has been designed to cater for students from Foundation through to Level 4. See below suggested extension activities and Victorian Curriculum Links.

Extension activity ideas

- Investigate the country your school is built on and compare language
- Draw Wadawurrung symbols you think could be used to tell stories about plants and animals on the Surf Coast
- Make up some stories about nature or your home, and then draw the symbols you like to represent the parts of the story
- Find out about the Wadawurrung people or the indigenous tribe of your local area: What did they do each day? Where did they live? What did they eat? How are they part of the land? How did they tell stories?

VICTORIAN CURRICULUM LINKS

Foundation – Level 2

Victorian Aboriginal Languages: Understanding	Elaborations
<p><i>Language awareness</i></p> <p>Recognise that the language is part of the broader regional and national language diversity (VCLVU147)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> recognising that there are many different Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander languages in Australia, for example, by viewing Language maps of their region, their state and the whole of Australia identifying neighbouring Indigenous languages of their region
<p><i>Systems of language</i></p> <p>Recognise there are many ways of communicating messages in Aboriginal languages (VCLVU143).</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> understanding that there are different ways of telling a story, such as respected community members yarning, through song, dance, music and associated visual design and spectacle, and through painting (body, bark, rock, sand)
Geography: Geographical knowledge	Elaborations
<p><i>Places and our connections to them</i></p> <p>Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Country/Place on which the school is located and why Country/Place is important to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, and the ways in which they maintain special connections to particular Country/Place (VCGGK066)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> identifying and using the name of the local Aboriginal/Torres Strait Islander Language Group describing the connections of the local Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander peoples with the land, sea, sky and animals of their Country/Place

Level 3 & 4

History: Historical knowledge	Elaborations
<p><i>Community, remembrance and celebrations</i></p> <p>The significance of Country and Place to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples who belong to a local area (VCHHK072)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> identifying the language groups of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples who belong to the local area and explaining the relationship between language, country, place and spirituality