

## The first Australians

The first people to live in Australia were Aboriginal people. They travelled to Australia many years ago in over land and in boats. Some people think they came through India and Indonesia.

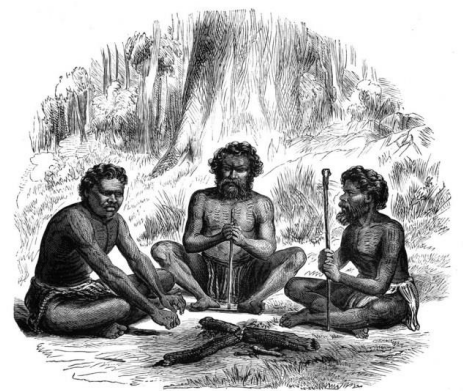
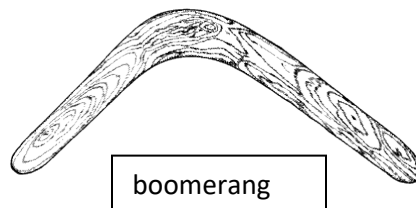
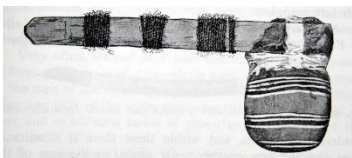


Long before white people came to Australia, there were many different Aboriginal groups living in many parts of Australia. Some groups settled on the islands between Australia and New Guinea. These people have become known as Torres Strait Islander people. Each group had its own language.

Early Australian Aboriginal peoples were hunters and ate the animals they caught. They also gathered native plants to eat. The people who lived along the coast caught and ate fish.

Aboriginal people built shelters from the bush materials around them, like bark, sticks and branches. All Aboriginal people had tools for digging, cutting and for hunting. They made spears and boomerangs to use for hunting. They built canoes from bark. They made nets, baskets and bags from different fibres and from animal skins. They made clothing too, out of animal skins.

Today Aboriginal people live and dress in a modern way. The children go to schools as you do.



Make a picture chart to show early Aboriginal people: 1. Travelling in boats, 2. hunting for food 3. making things. Label each drawing.