

KOORI KINNECTIONS ABORIGINAL INCURSION



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Today 2N had an Aboriginal incursion in the Cre8 Studio with Charlie, an expert on Aboriginal culture and a fantastic presenter.

We learnt about many things, including Aboriginal foods and plants.

The Lemon Myrtle has a really strong smell when you scrunch it up. You can add it to water to make it sweet. It can be dried and put in a coffee grinder. Native Mint tastes sweet at first and then becomes really sour. The Lilli Pilly has green leaves with pink petals and blue berries. The Balga plant can be used to make weapons such as spears and also baskets to store and carry things. This plant is often referred to as a Black Boy. Charlie said she used to use this term too as a child without realizing it was a bit inappropriate. The Australian Aborigines made canoes out of a tree that was more than a hundred years old.

Charlie showed us an emu egg. We got to hold it! We were surprised that it had a strange bumpy surface. We got to touch some kangaroo and possum skins that were incredibly soft and delicate. These skins are very water proof and can be used as either a raincoat or a water bottle. She said the possum skin was the second warmest skin in the world (polar bear skin is the warmest of all).



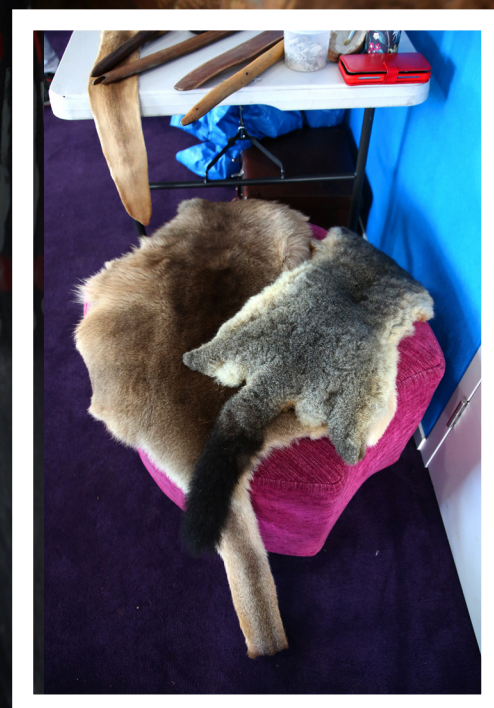


Charlie showed us a carved piece of wood that looked like a baby didgeridoo. It is a kind of musical instrument that makes the same sound as a mummy emu. You can tap the instrument to make a daddy emu follow you.

She held up a large nut which you can use in cooking to make a kind of cheese cake or cookies and cream. The nut falls from a special tree every three years. When this happens, everyone in the village was excited because it meant it was time to have a huge feast. The nut was served with meat.

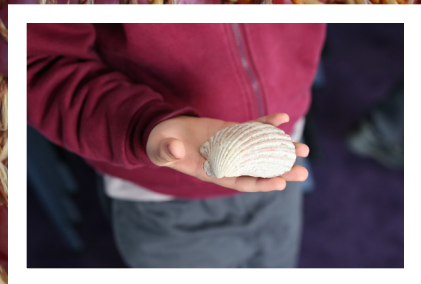
Later we went just outside to make bracelets from some large ornamental grass next to the woodchips. It was quite hard to do.

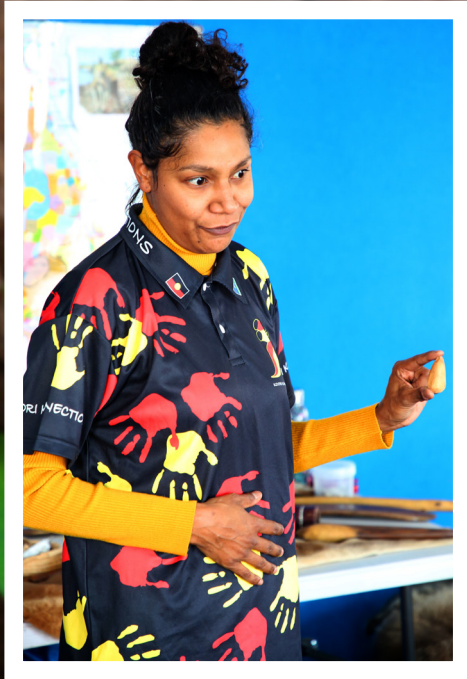
Last of all, we went back inside and ate Aboriginal bread with chocolate. The bread was called damper, and it was really nice.





ABOVE: Damper looks like this before adding water.





ABOVE: The little nut that took the tree three long years to make.



RIGHT: Charlie showed us a boomerang. She said there was a small mistake in the boomerang because the grain of the wood was going the wrong way!

