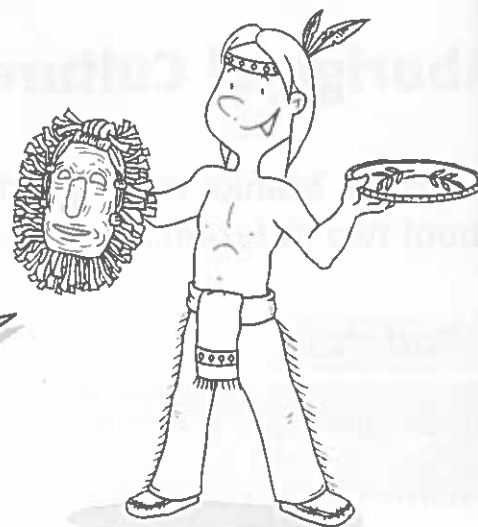


Aboriginal Arts

Aboriginal artifacts could be divided into two kinds: the secular and the sacred. Secular artifacts were items used in day-to-day life, like tools and clothing. Sacred artifacts, on the other hand, were connected to special ceremonies or rituals, like medicine bundles and totem poles. Below are some examples of Aboriginal arts.



Dreamcatchers

The Ojibway Chippewa tribe is believed to be the first people to make dreamcatchers. Dreamcatchers were a few inches in diameter with a feather hanging from the webbing. They were made as charms to guard sleeping children from nightmares. The dreamcatcher would catch one's dreams, with the "bad dreams" trapped in the dreamcatcher's webbing and disappearing with the morning sun.

Art Prints and Carvings

Aboriginal peoples on the Northwest Coast, where there were abundant resources from both the sea and forest, had a unique artistic style reflected in their carvings and paintings of bears, whales, eagles, salmon, and wolves.

Totem Poles

Aboriginals of the Northwest Coast also carved on tall cedar poles. Each pole told a real-life or mythical story. Sometimes the figures carved on the poles also told a family's history, representing the family's "coat of arms".

Inuit Sculptures

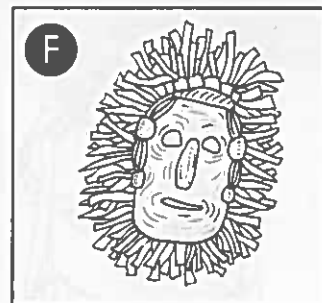
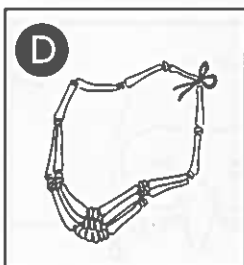
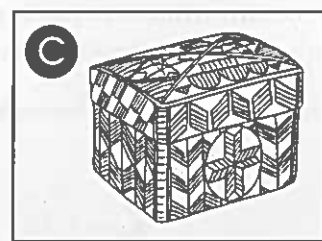
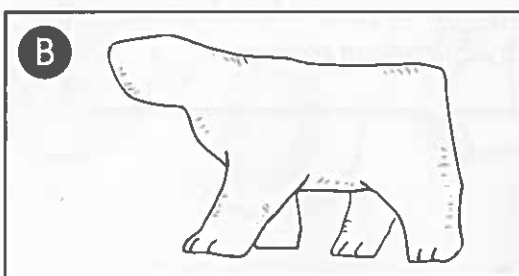
Without trees in the Arctic, Inuit artists used materials found on land or from the sea along the coasts. Stone was the most common material. Animal bone and ivory were also used to make sculptures.

Aboriginal Arts

Aboriginal peoples made many works of art with resources from their environment. Later, they also made art with the things that they traded with the Europeans.



Match the resources with the works of art.

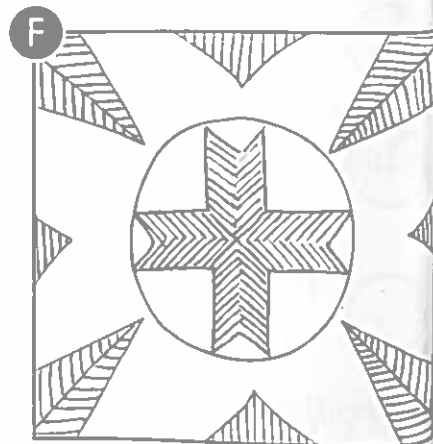
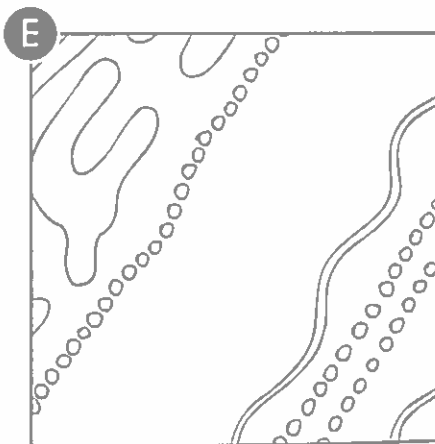
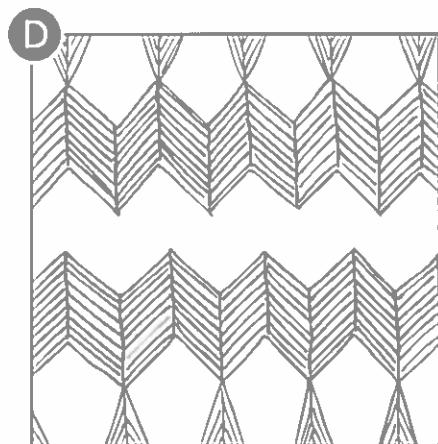
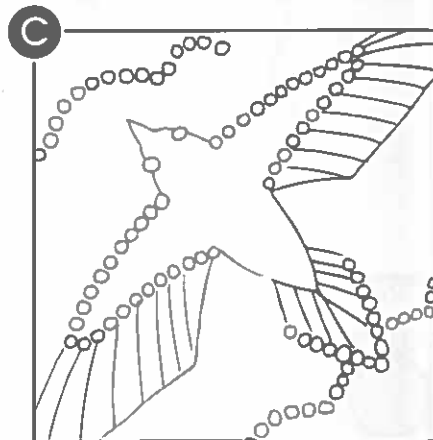
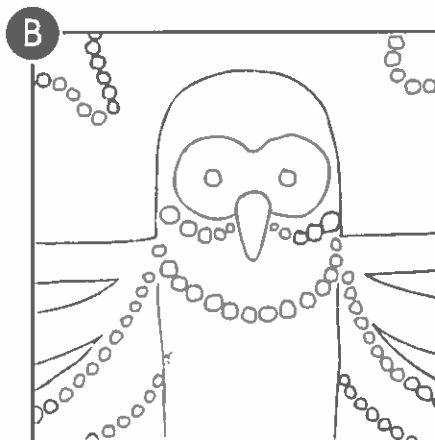
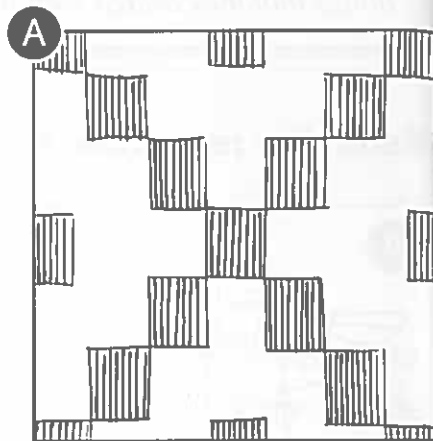
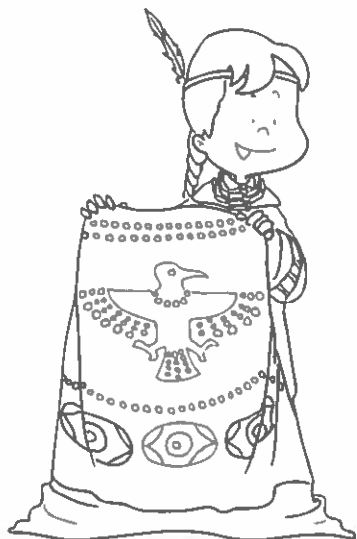


- ☐ Aboriginal peoples of the Northwest Coast lived in forests of tall and straight cedar trees.
- ☐ Aboriginals of the Plateau traded salmon for dentalium shells.
- ☐ Aboriginals of the Eastern Woodlands used birch for many useful items, often making them decorative, too.
- ☐ People of the Eastern Woodlands also used the inedible parts of the corn plant for their art.
- ☐ Inuit of the Arctic used the ivory tusks of sea animals.
- ☐ Porcupine provided quills for Mi'kmaq embroidery.

Aboriginal Arts

Read what Julie says about button blankets of the Northwest Coast. Then colour the designs that are button blankets.

Button blankets were ceremonial robes worn by many Aboriginal peoples of the Northwest Coast in the 19th century. Totem symbols like the raven in this design would often be made of mother-of-pearl shell buttons, which were brought over by European traders.



Aboriginal Arts

Then

Find pictures of two different kinds of Aboriginal artwork. Paste them below and explain why you find them interesting.

Here are some examples to get you thinking!

