

Rock Paintings





Reading Recovery level: 17

Word count: 239

Text type: narrative

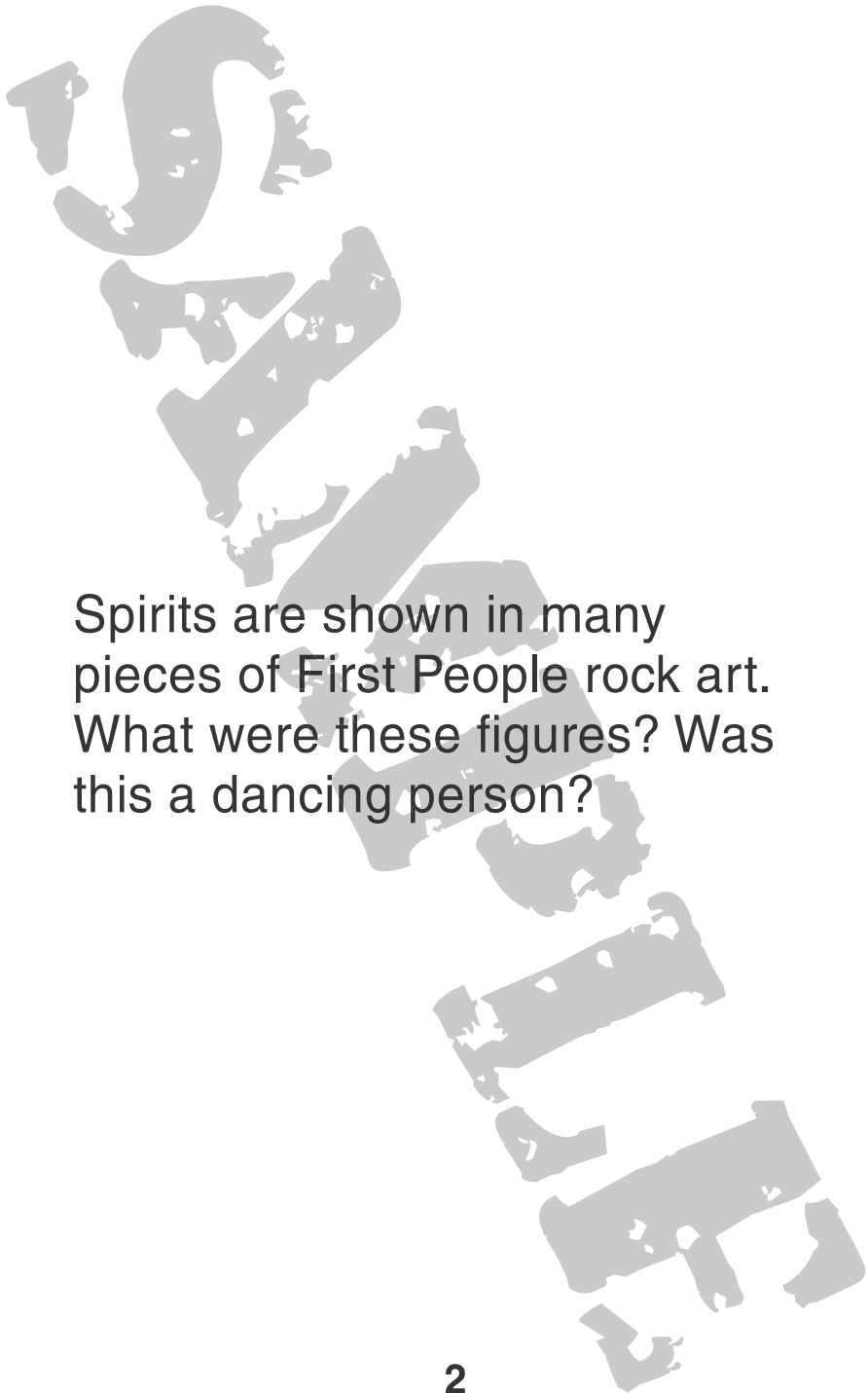
Content: non-fiction

ACARA reference: Rock art of the First People can be seen as part of cultural awareness. Cross-curriculum priority is given to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Histories and Culture. This can be discussed as an integrated unit of work in craft and art classes. The cultural aspects of rock art is the expression of their beliefs and their context. ACARA however, state clearly the Early Years' focus is literacy not knowledge or content.

Teacher notes: The First Peoples of Australia left a continent of art works. This is a cultural storehouse of their beliefs and perspectives on the world. Art was not for recreation but as an expression of beliefs and culture. The symbols and totems had meaning and the paintings gave support to their life. To experience their perspective children could paint a diorama and add symbols and line art to express their view of their own world.

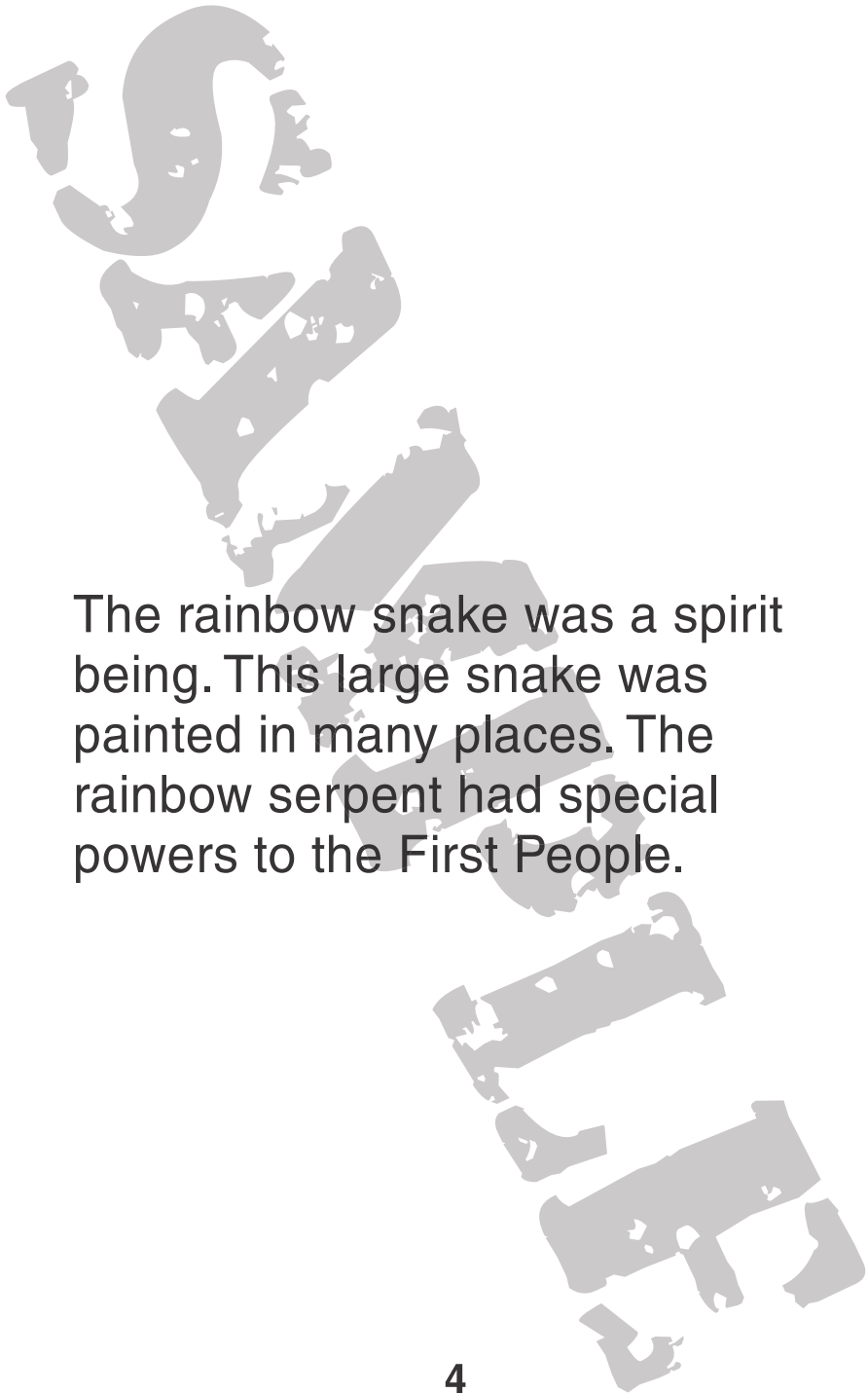
Difficult words: spirit, figures, dancing, person, rainbow, being, figures, totems, ochre, paintings, Bradshaws, treasure, X-Ray, ochre, special, swapped, tribes, painting, stories, people.





Spirits are shown in many pieces of First People rock art. What were these figures? Was this a dancing person?





The rainbow snake was a spirit being. This large snake was painted in many places. The rainbow serpent had special powers to the First People.

