Main Topic: Technology
Sub Topic: Clothing

- Brainstorm the reasons why people wear clothes, including:
  - clothes for special occasions
  - clothes to suit the seasons

- Use the information gathered to create a Venn diagram comparing the concept of clothing from both an Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal perspective. Discuss the findings.

- In the book *Yamaji Lifestyle and Culture*, the use of animal skins to make clothing is described. Find out about the garments that Aboriginal people in your area made to protect themselves from the weather.

- Read the book *How to Make Bush Sandals*, from Kururrungku Catholic Education Centre at Billiluna. It is from the series *Stories from Kimberley Catholic Schools*.

- If you have someone in your community who knows how to make footwear this way, invite them to share their skills with the students.

- In the information book *Weaving*, there is information about Aboriginal and Islander peoples weaving skirts, hats and sandals.

- Remember to always check *Australian Screen Online* (ASO) for film clips related to the topics being studied.

- Two books from the Aboriginal Technology series, *Fibrecraft* and *Women’s Technology*, contain useful background information about design and manufacture of clothing.

- Using the GECKOS Program, invite a member of the Aboriginal community into your school to discuss what articles of clothing were worn by Aboriginal people in your local area.
  - identify what materials were used
  - investigate how clothing has changed over time

- Using a T chart, compare and contrast the items of clothing worn by Aboriginal people in two different climatic zones and discuss the similarities between the two columns.

- Discuss other methods used to keep warm or to protect from the sun
  - use of animal fat
  - fire
  - shade of trees
  - shelters

- Research contemporary Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander designers, e.g.
  - Ron Gidgup
- Linda Jackson
- Lenore Dembski
- Rebecca Paterson
- Peter Morrissey

- Use the headings
  - Designer
  - Source of inspiration
  - Traditional influences
  - Contemporary influences
  - Materials used
  - Methodology
  - Style

- Find out about local Aboriginal designers and visit if you can to watch the design and printing of fabrics and talk to the artists.
  - Nagula Jarnu (Saltwater Woman) Designs C/- Yawuru Jarnu Aboriginal Corporation, in Broome
  - Warlayirti Arts Centre, in Balgo
  - Nunga Designs, in Derby

- Students undertake the role of a fashion designer collaborating to design an outfit using both contemporary and traditional materials, including head pieces and accessories from a variety of cultures. Display in your library or elsewhere in your school.

- Create an Aboriginal fabric design using calico.

- There is information about Aboriginal fabric painting as well as painting on a variety of other media in the book *Painting*.

- Using Aboriginal designs create a suitable logo for the Australian Olympic Team to wear.

- Write a procedure on how students designed their Aboriginal outfit, fabric or logo.

**Resources**


- *Yamaji lifestyle and culture*. Catholic Education Office WA, Geraldton.


- Bruce, L. *Painting*. Arts and crafts of Indigenous Australia series. Macmillan Education, South Yarra, VIC, 2004
