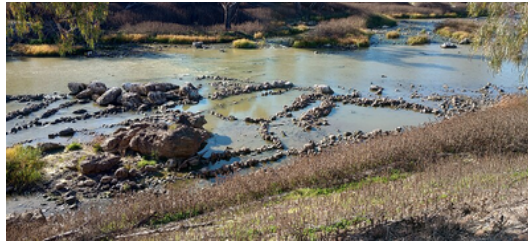


Ancient Technologies, Modern Designs

For thousands of years, First Nations Australians have been developing tools and technologies from materials found in their environment. Their deep respect for the land allows them to find solutions that are sustainable.

The yuki was an invention that allowed the Ngarrindjeri to fish in deeper water and travel further. Some other First Nations river technologies include the Budj Bim eel traps, Brewarrina fish traps and the Kalwa raft.




Brewarrina fish traps



Budj Bim eel traps

Research the yuki and one of the other First Nations river technologies and fill in the table.

	Yuki	Choose one: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Budj Bim eel traps • Brewarrina fish traps • Kalwa raft 
Which First Nations group is it used by?		
Materials What is it made of?		
Components What different parts does it have?		
Process How is it made?		
Needs/ Opportunities How does it meet a need or an opportunity?		
Sustainability How has it been created in a sustainable way?		



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How could these First Nations technologies inspire us today? Use any aspect of one of the First Nations river technologies (the yuki, Budj Bim eel traps, Brewarrina fish traps or the Kalwa raft) as inspiration for a tool or technology that could be used to improve our use of waterways in Australia. Use the boxes below to create a design brief.

Brainstorm

Pick one idea and develop it. Sketch and annotate.

What materials will you use?

Is it a sustainable solution? Could you improve it?

Watch https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_gc8xFwVWpY to learn how one team of researchers have used First Nations fish weirs to develop more sustainable fishing practices in the Koeye River in British Columbia.

