

# Paint the Waterways

Water is an essential part of Ngarrindjeri culture and life. The waterways are the lifeblood of their land: the Murray Mouth, the Coorong and the Lower Lakes. The health and wellbeing of the people is deeply connected to that of the waterways.



The Coorong

## Materials:



- watercolour paints
- art paper
- paintbrushes
- optional: other paints or materials to experiment with

1. Look at the images of the Coorong and the Murray River, the ancestral lands of the Ngarrindjeri people. What do you notice? What colours do you see? What can you tell about the land?
2. Paint a picture inspired by these waterways.
3. Extension: watch <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Yw8t72gWmwo> and have a go at painting reflections in water.
4. What other kinds of materials could you use to represent water? If you have time, create a water-themed artwork using different materials.



The Murray River

## Research



First Nations Australian artists have their own ways of representing waterways and the plants and animals in them. Explore some examples of First Nations water-themed artwork online.

- What colours, symbols, patterns and shapes are used?
- How do you think connection to Country is shown?



Aboriginal rock art depicting fish



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