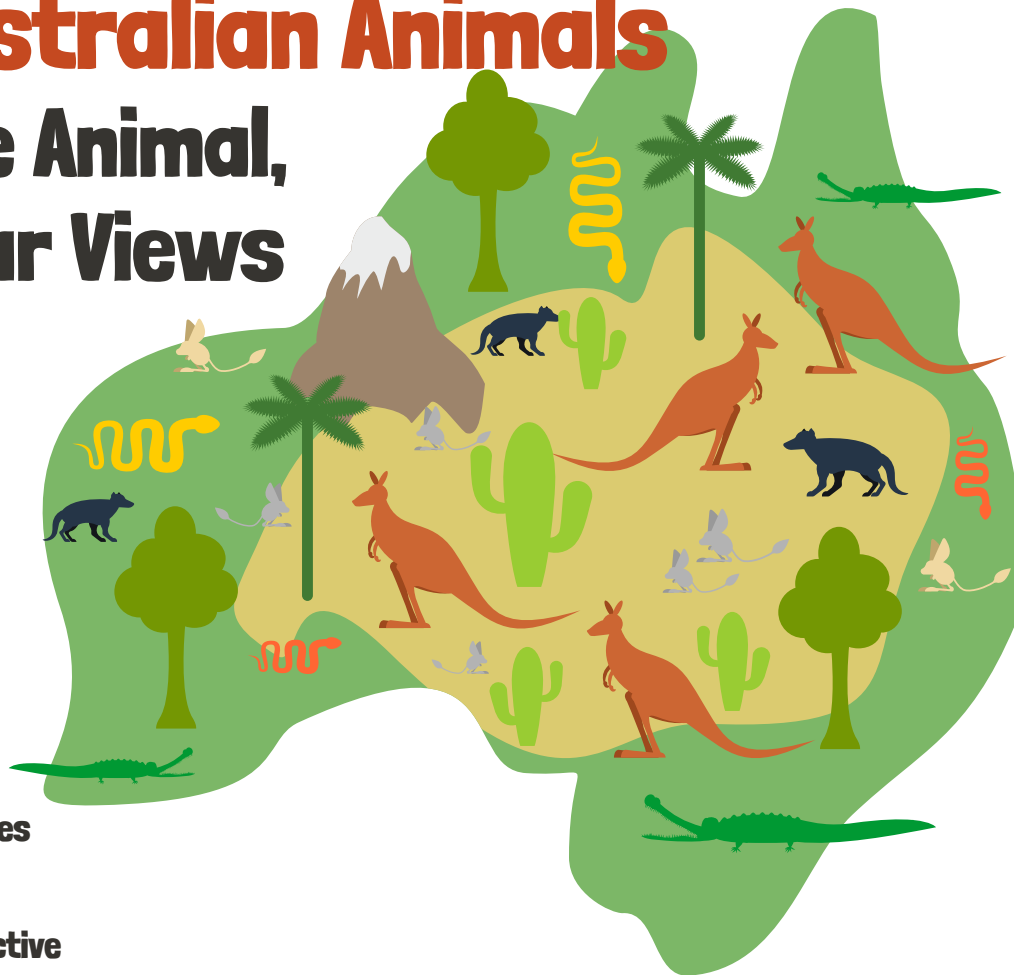


Australian Animals

One Animal, Four Views



Grades

4-6

Objective

Students will explore the Australian animal they researched from four perspectives through this chalk pastels drawing activity.

Why Not Dot Art?

Australian teacher resources indicate that unless educators can work directly with Aboriginal elders and artists, they should limit related activities to presentations and appreciation of Aboriginal culture and traditions.

Adapted from <https://thecolorsofanartroom.wordpress.com/tag/chalk-pastels>
and <https://www.deepspacesparkle.com/to-spray-or-not-to-spray> by

ONE ANIMAL, FOUR VIEWS

Materials

- Pencils for initial sketch
- Chalk pastels
- Four 6x6" or 8x8" pieces of blank drawing paper
- Fixative to adhere pastels
- Black construction paper for backing/frames

What They're Making

Students will draw four images of their animal. One will be a full-size image of the whole animal, while the other three will be close-ups.

Step 1

Students can use the internet to look for close-up images of different parts of their animal. They should focus on images that show the textures and colors of their animal (e.g. eyes, skin, feathers, fins, hooves or claws, beaks). If you have iPads available, students can use these to crop photos of their animal.



Step 2

Students can use pencils to sketch their images. You might also want to give them opportunities to try out chalk pastels if these are a new medium for them.

Step 3

Next, have students start sketching in their images with the chalk pastels. For more detailed instructions for using chalk pastels in your classroom, see information on page 3.



Step 4

Back the four images with large sheets of black construction paper.



DEEP SPACE SPARKLE

SPRAYING CHALK PASTELS

Chalk pastels are one of my favorite products to use in the art room. They allow a child to lay down a lovely layer of color with just their fingers. No paint, brushes or water necessary to create a colorful work of art. And if you're into color-mixing, you can't beat pastels. They are soft, glorious and come in every color imaginable.

My 5 Top Tips for Working with Chalk:

TIP # 1: If you are working with a new set of pastels, go ahead and **break the long sticks in half**. Yes, you heard me right. You don't need perfect, unmarked sticks of chalk to create beautiful art. In fact, the smaller the piece, the easier it is for a small child to work with.

TIP # 2: Use **black paper** instead of the white. For many of my projects that feature chalk pastel, I set out colored paper (black is my favorite) for the background base of the drawing. The dark background allows the vibrancy of the chalk pastel to really pop.

TIP # 3: Draw first with a **black oil pastel** or waxy black crayon. The trick here is to encourage a child (especially one that is 10 and under) to draw large. Larger drawings are far easier to color, especially when you are using chalk. Color right up to the black line and smooth the chalk.

TIP # 4: After drawing with an oil pastel and coloring with chalk, **outline the good drawing lines** with a black oil pastel. This really makes the piece stand out.

TIP # 5: Use **chalk pastel over dry paint** to add highlights, contrast and extra details. There is simple no better way for a child to add layers of interest, contrast and texture to a piece of art than using chalk over dry paint. Hands down my favorite art technique.