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English test

KEY STAGE

2

LEVELS

3–5

Spelling Test
Boomerangs

Teacher's version

2011

Boomerangs

Boomerangs are amazing! What seems to be a simple bit of wood can be thrown away from you and then come right back and land in your hand.

A boomerang is actually a wooden tool used for many different purposes. The Australian Aboriginal people have used boomerangs for many thousands of years: as weapons for hunting and against enemies in battle, as musical instruments and as toys. Some tribal boomerangs are inscribed or painted with designs which are significant to their owners.



The dimensions of boomerangs depend on where they come from and their function. Most boomerangs seen today are typically for tourists or used in contests. An international competition is held every other year.

The technique for throwing a boomerang has five parts:

The grip: the easiest way to grip the boomerang is between your thumb and first finger.

The throw: always throw your boomerang overarm. When thrown correctly, it will fly in a circle.

The throwing angle: the boomerang should be nearly vertical when thrown. Holding the boomerang flat will cause it to fly in dangerous swoops and dives.

Make an adjustment for wind: the breeze will help to bring it back with greater precision.

The catch: use both of your hands in a clapping motion.

Only attempt to catch the boomerang while it is slowly hovering towards you and is below shoulder height.

