



PRESENTS

KIDSEUM AT HOME

*Creative fun and learning for the entire family,
all from the comfort of home!*

EXPLORING
HIGHLIGHTS

of

BOWERS'
INDONESIAN
COLLECTION



1

READING COMPREHENSION ACTIVITY

AGES

12-15 years old

LEVEL OF DIFFICULTY

Intermediate

DIRECTION

Read the following passage, this will help with answering the following activities.

Helpful tips

- If you have a younger child or your child is having difficulty reading, make sure to read the passage together.
- You can also answer the questions together as you read the passage.
- Try making the activity a game with your children, this will make learning fun and interactive.



Toraja Burial Practices

Just south of the Philippines, there are over 17,000 islands that make up the country of **Indonesia**, which over 300 **ethnic** groups call home. Each group has its own traditions, customs, and distinct culture, however many of them do share **similarities**, regardless of their distance. One very common and important shared belief is that family should stay close and **intact**. This is taught to children at a young age through stories and ceremonies. They are also later encouraged to continue to live near or with their parents even after marriage or becoming financially independent. In effect, a household in Indonesia tends to be **multi-generational**, meaning that grandparents, parents, children, and grandchildren all live together. For the Toraja people, this includes the **deceased** as well.

The Toraja people live in Indonesia's South Sulawesi. The Toraja believe that death is a part of life and we all must accept it as the destination in our journey. Before passing on, living relatives must give a proper send off to aid towards Puya, or the **afterlife**. This is done through a **funeral** ceremony called Rambu Solo, in which every living family member must **sacrifice** a water buffalo. The more water buffalos are sacrificed, the better chances your family member has at making their way to Puya. However, water buffalo are expensive animals, meaning that it often takes families several months or even decades to **scrounge** up enough money for a Rambu Solo to begin. In the meantime, the dead is kept in the family home and cared for. To them, the dead are in a **transitional** phase and must be fed and cared for as if they were only sick. It is believed that the spirit of their loved one is still nearby, therefore they must respect and care for them. The body is preserved using **formalin** and flowers are placed near them to mask the smell.

Once they have the money, the family can begin Rambu Solo to give their family member a proper send off. The body is placed in a large, hand carved Erong or coffin. The design of the **coffin** can have various **symbolic** and **spiritual** meanings such as protection, status and wealth. These coffins also have lids that can be removed easily. These coffins are placed on the family land and are opened only for Ma'nene, or the **corpse** cleaning ritual. Every three years, the bodies are removed from their graves and cleaned for the Ma'nene death ritual. They are given new clothing, new coffins and introduced to new family members. This tradition is very emotional and helps maintain the bond between the living and their **ancestors**. It also makes them realize that one day they will be in the same position. Although we might not want to participate in these ceremonies, it is always important to learn about the traditions and customs of other people

Activity 1

Toraja Burial Practices

Across

3. Toraja corpse cleaning ceremony.
4. The Toraja name for the afterlife.
6. When many members of a family live in the same home.
8. People that live in in Indonesia's South Sulawesi.
10. A disinfectant used to preserve the bodies in transition.

Down

1. Sacrificial animal for a Rambu Solo
2. A Toraja funeral ceremony.
5. People in our family that have come to pass.
7. Country that consists of 17,000 islands.
9. The Toraja name for a coffin.

Activity 2

Draw a line to connect words that have the same or similar meaning.

1. Puya
2. Funeral
3. Intact
4. Multigenerational
5. Deceased
6. Transitional
7. Coffin
8. Ancestor
9. Corpse
10. Ethnic
11. Similarities
12. Sacrifice
13. Scrounge
14. Formalin
15. Spiritual
16. Symbolic
17. Customs
18. Indonesia

Afterlife
Member of a Group
Intergenerational
Antecedent
Ritual Killing
Casket
17,000 Islands in SE. Asia
Complete
Religious
Burial
Commonalities
Cadaver
Figurative
Passing
Dead
Disinfectant
Collect
Tradition

Key Vocabulary

<p>Indonesia An island country south of Indochina and the Philippines. “I would like to visit Indonesia someday.”</p>	<p>Ethnic Of or related to a large group of people who share a distinctive culture, language, or religion, or who are of the same race or national heritage. “What ethnic groups exist?”</p>	<p>Similarities The state or quality of being similar; resemblance; in common. “The two tribes had a lot of similarities.”</p>
<p>Intact Remaining complete, whole, or undamaged; not changed or impaired. “People in Indonesia like to keep their families intact.”</p>	<p>Multigenerational Intergenerational; involving or occurring between persons of different generations. “Families in Indonesia tend to be multigenerational.”</p>	<p>Deceased No longer alive; dead. “Family members care for their deceased.”</p>
<p>Afterlife Life after death; the Toraja call the afterlife Puya. “When someone dies they are able to go to the afterlife.”</p>	<p>Funeral A ceremony for a dead person, sometimes including burial or cremation. “They will be holding a funeral for their deceased grandmother.”</p>	<p>Sacrifice To make an offering of; give up out of devotion, as atonement or adoration. During Rambu Solo this involves the killing of a living thing. “We must each sacrifice a water buffalo for her funeral.”</p>

Key Vocabulary Continued

<p>Coffin A rectangular box or vessel in which a dead person is placed for burial; casket. “We were able to buy an expensive coffin with our savings.”</p>	<p>Symbolic Of, relating to, or represented by a symbol; figurative. “The water buffalo is very symbolic during funerals.”</p>	<p>Spiritual Of or pertaining to a church or religious affair. “She has always been very spiritual.”</p>
<p>Corpse A dead body, especially of a human being; cadaver. “They use flowers to keep the corpse from smelling.”</p>	<p>Ancestor A person for whom one is descended, especially of several generations ago; antecedent. “We care for our ancestors even in death.”</p>	<p>Customs An accepted or traditional practice, either or an individual or a social group. “Every family has different customs.”</p>
<p>Scrounge To seek out and gather; collect. “We must scrounge our money to pay for the funeral.”</p>	<p>Transitional Passing through a change or phase. “Before the funeral, the dead are in a transitional phase.”</p>	<p>Formalin A colorless solution of formaldehyde in water, used to disinfect and preserve biological specimens. “We will preserve the body using formalin until the funeral.”</p>

Sources:

Bowers Museum. Toraja Coffin. Toraja Coffin - EasyBlog. Accessed July 1, 2020. Heppel, M., & Maxwell, Robyn (1990). Borneo and Beyond: Tribal Arts of Indonesia, East Malaysia and Madagascar. (pp. 13-29). Singapore: Bareo Gallery. de Jonge, N & van Dijk, T. (2012). Forgotten Islands of Indonesia: The Art & Culture of the Southeast Moluccas (Periplus Art & Culture Guides). (pp. 48-67). Hong Kong: Periplus Editions.
Post Magazine. Living with Corpses: How Indonesia's Toraja people deal with their Dead. <https://www.scmp.com/magazines/post-magazine/long-reads/article/2115027/living-corpses-how-indonesias-toraja-people-deal>. Accessed June 31, 2020.
Cultura Colectiva. The Ma'nene Death Ritual: An Indonesian Tradition. <https://culturacolectiva.com/history/manene-death-ritual-indonesia>. Accessed July 1, 2020.

Answer Key

Toraja Burial Practices

Across

- Toraja corpse cleaning ceremony.
- The Toraja name for the afterlife.
- When many members of a family live in the same home.
- People that live in Indonesia's South Sulawesi.
- A disinfectant used to preserve the bodies in transition.

Down

- Sacrificial animal for a Rambu Solo
- A Toraja funeral ceremony.
- People in our family that have come to pass.
- Country that consists of 17,000 islands.
- The Toraja name for a coffin.

Word Match:

Draw a line to connect words that have the same or similar meaning.

<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Puya Funeral Intact Multigenerational Deceased Transitional Coffin Ancestor Corpse Ethnic Similarities Sacrifice Scrounge Formalin Spiritual Symbolic Customs Indonesia 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Afterlife Member of a Group Intergenerational Antecedent Ritual Killing Casket 17,000 Islands in SE. Asia Complete Religious Burial Commonalities Cadaver Figurative Passing Dead Disinfectant Collect Tradition
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2

IKAT TEXTILES

AGES

5-8 years

LEVEL OF DIFFICULTY

Beginner

DESCRIPTION

For this project you will be making an inspired Sumbanese Ikat textile using unconventional materials.

MATERIALS

Straws / Cardboard	Clear Tape	Acrylic Paint
Masking Tape	Scissors	Sharpie
Paper	Pencil	Brush / Water Tub / Napkin

Materials with an (*) are optional, use only if available.

Background

Sumba is Indonesia's southern-most island that lies Northwest of Australia. This island is home to the Sumbanese people. These people are best known for their **textiles** called **Ikat**.

These are made by **dyeing** threads in a specific way and later **weaving** these threads together. When woven, the final images are revealed, usually displaying **symbols** or animals, **patterns**, and popular **icons**. The wearer of these textiles is also specific and changes the name of the piece. If worn by a man as a hip or shoulder piece they are called **Hinggi**. If worn by a woman, it is called a **Sarong**.

These items were traditionally made to be exchanged during **ceremonies**. If someone made an ikat, they would trade with someone else. In modern times, they have become very popular and many people have begun to purchase them. Because of this, the Sumba people have **incorporated** images and icons from other countries or **sources**. This has changed the quality of the work, though the work remains very beautiful to own and wear.

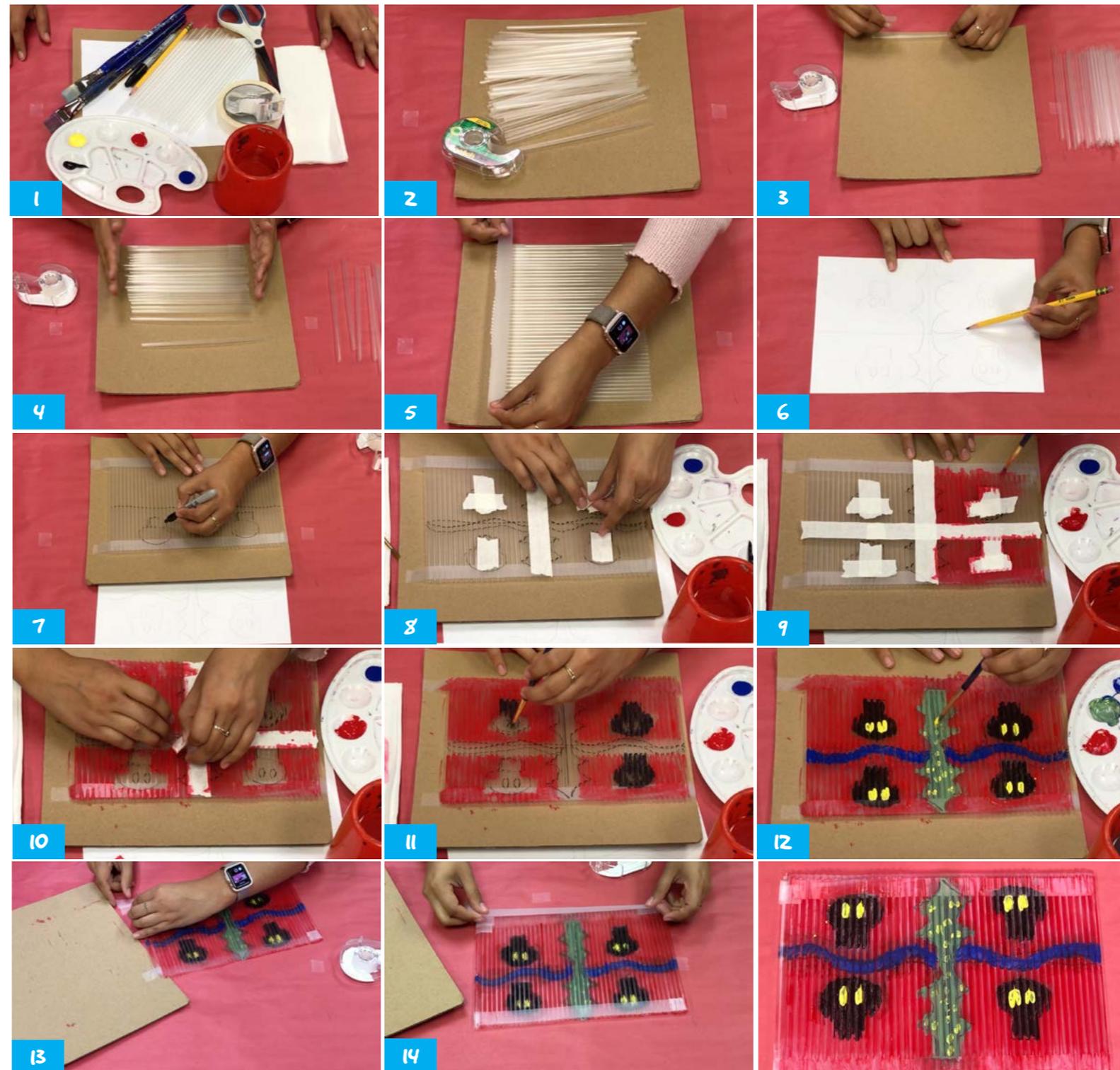
Fun Facts

- Hinggi and Sarong textiles are meant to be worn, unlike other Indonesian textiles that are usually **decorative**.
- Hinggi were traditionally only worn by men to wear during weddings, funerals, or other ceremonies.
- The quality, colors, and design of a Hinggi reveals the wealth and importance of the wearer.
- These textiles were only worn by the wealthy; however, the poor could own them if they received them as a gift.
- Sumbanese textiles differ from other woven textiles because threads are bundled and dyed. Once dyed the threads are arranged in order and then woven. This process is very long and requires **precision** to create the final design correctly.
- The symbols of the textiles varied over time due to outside influences and demand.
- Their dyes are made using natural products, such as: Strobilanthes Cusia (indigo), Ceriops Tagal (brown), Indian Mulberry (red), Mud (black), and Jackfruit (yellow).



Procedure

1. Place a straw parallel to the edge of your cardboard and tape it down.
2. Place the rest of the straws next to the one you just set down.
3. Taking a long piece of tape, attach all the other straws to the cardboard along the top and bottom.
4. Putting pencil to paper, sketch a design using your own symbols or those from the Sumbanese people.
5. When done, use a sharpie and copy your design onto the straws.
6. Using pieces of masking tape, cover sections that you want to be unpainted.
7. Take a brush and paint your pattern and sections as desired.
8. Clean up and leave it to dry for 20 minutes.



Key Vocabulary

<p>Sumba Island of south-central Indonesia. “She was born and raised in Sumba.”</p>	<p>Textile A woven or knitted fabric. “She learned to make textiles from a young age.”</p>	<p>Ikat A craft in which one tie-dyes and weaves yarn to create a large and complex designed fabric. “She purchased a Sumbanese Ikat during her trip.”</p>
<p>Dye A liquid used to impart color, as to fabrics, or the substance, usually a powder, from which the liquid is made. “We will be dyeing the threads before weaving them.”</p>	<p>Weave To make fabric, baskets or the like by passing threads or strips over and under each other; interlace. “Today we will be learning how to weave.”</p>	<p>Symbol Something that represents something else, especially a material sign or object that stands for a complex or abstract concept. “A heart is a symbol for love.”</p>
<p>Pattern A regular or formal design, especially one used to decorate something. “She made a pattern by repeating dots and dashes on her weaving.”</p>	<p>Icon An image, representation, or symbol. “They preferred to use icons like skulls and reptiles.”</p>	<p>Hinggi Large blankets decorated with warp ikats and are usually worn by men on the hip or shoulder. “He was given a hinggi during a ceremony.”</p>

Key Vocabulary Continued

<p>Sarong A garment consisting of a long piece of cloth worn wrapped round the body and tucked at the waist or under the armpits, traditionally worn in Southeast Asia. “She wore a sarong that was beautifully decorated with beads.”</p>	<p>Ceremony A set of formalities, customs, or rites performed to give honor or validation, or this set of acts taken as an event. “They hold a gifting ceremony every year in Sumba.”</p>	<p>Incorporate To include or blend into a larger thing that already exists. “They like to incorporate new symbols they see on travelers.”</p>
<p>Source The origin or cause of something. “Their source of inspiration varies from ancient to modern.”</p>	<p>Decorative Adding to visual attractiveness; ornamental; non-functional. “His hinggi was made to be decorative and was not wearable.”</p>	<p>Precise Accurate; exact. “To make an ikat you must be precise in weaving the threads.”</p>

Source:

Bowers Museum. I Came, I Saw Ikat: Sumbanese Hinggi. <https://www.bowers.org/index.php/collection/collection-blog/i-came-i-saw-ikat-sumbanese-hinggi> Accessed July 3, 2020.

Murray, T., Prior, C., & Reynolds, S. (2015). C-14 dating of Dayak Art = Datation de l'art = Dayak au C 14. (pp. 32-36). Hong Kong: CA Design.

de Jonge, N & van Dijk, T. (2012). Forgotten Islands of Indonesia: The Art & Culture of the Southeast Moluccas (Periplus Art & Culture Guides). (pp. 125-139). Hong Kong: Periplus Editions.

The Met Museum. Man's Shoulder or Hip Cloth (Hinggi) <https://www.metmuseum.org/art/collection/search/742554>. Accessed July 7, 2020.

3

SOAP CARVINGS

AGES

13 -16 years old

LEVEL OF DIFFICULTY

Intermediate/Advanced

DESCRIPTION

For this project, you will be able to learn to carve a figure out of soap utilizing tools and materials found in your home.

MATERIALS

Bar of Soap	Clay Tools*	Butter Knife / Spoon
Paper Clip	Pencil	Brush
Water	Tray*	Paper / Scissors

Materials with an () are optional, use only if available*

MUSIC

Now we have music that relates our lessons!

Check out the **Spotify Playlist:**

<https://open.spotify.com/playlist/2zfxXPJ5809BsE7xpNgiG2?si=NGkVqBTTTxGrfKZ7IWT82Q>

Background

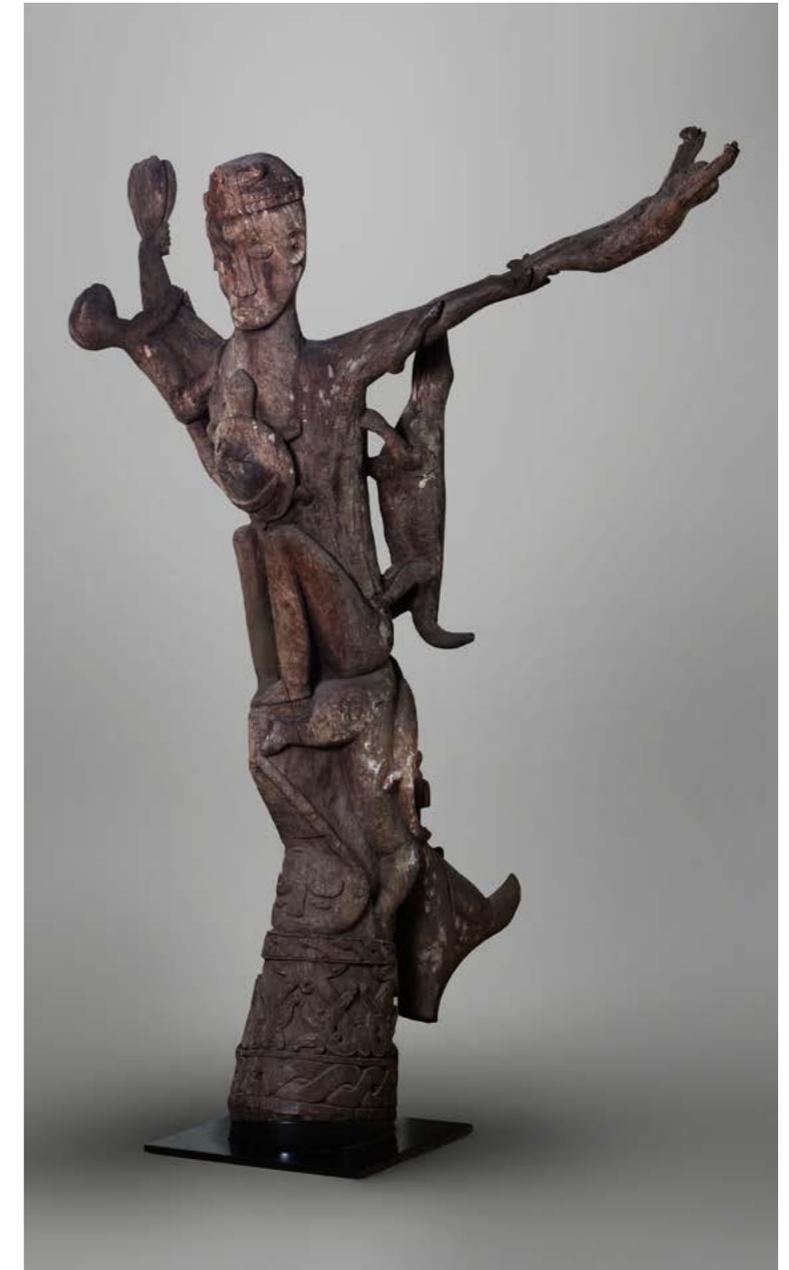
Hampatong translates into **statue** or figure. The purpose of a Hampatong may vary since they were used for multiple reasons. These figures were typically carved using a single piece of **ironwood**. This type of wood is very hard and resistant to insect infestations. Ironwood trees grow very slowly and make for highly durable **timbers**. In addition to these advantages, the **Dayak** people use this type of tree because they believe they provide protection from dangerous beasts. However, due to **logging**, this type of tree has begun to **dwindle**, and since it takes very long to mature, they might eventually become extinct.

The figures that are carved into these ironwood pieces vary in symbols, imagery, and size. They usually tend to be human forms in varying **stances** or poses. Some might even have animals carved on them or other designs. Most of the figures represented ancestors or **deities**. These were meant to keep evil spirits away and protect the family from harm. Gods and goddesses were meant to bless a home by bringing wealth, good fortune, and **fertility**. Animals including large cats, snakes, and other large reptiles were also carved with this same intent. Their features were often mixed to produce a **ferocious** beast. Hampatongs were often placed around the entrance of a home or surrounding the burial site of past family members.

The artifact featured here is on view at the Bowers Museum. Many of these figures remain with the Dayak people, but others have **eroded** over time.

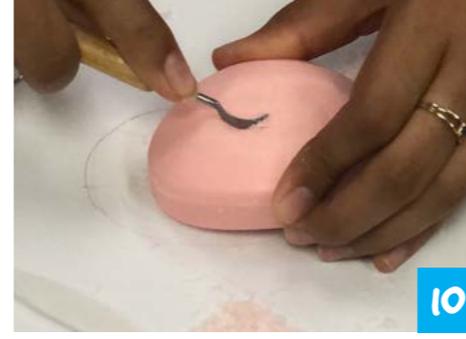
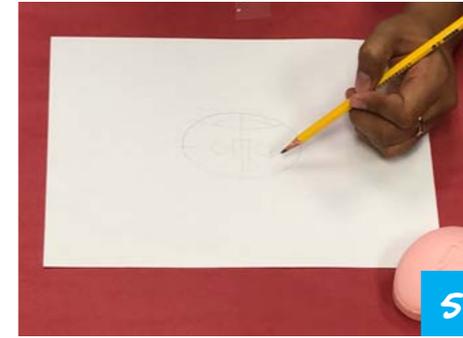
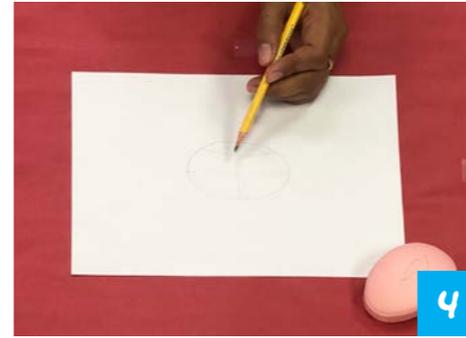
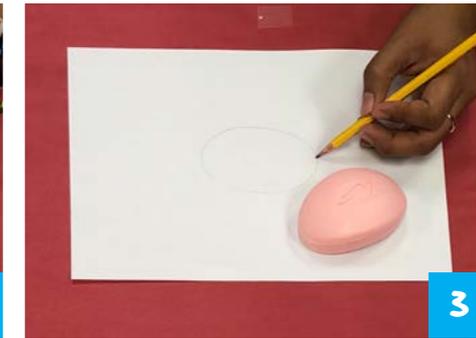
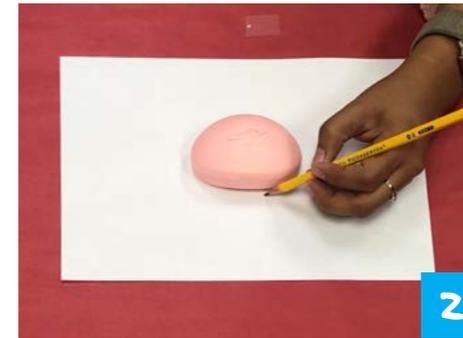
HELPFUL TIPS

- Since this project is for older children, if your younger children would like to participate please make sure to have a parent or older sibling to help.
- Use a tray or large bowl, this will help collect the soap shavings and make it easier to clean up.
- Clay tools are recommended but not necessary.
- Begin by carving gradually, this will eventually create depth in your figure.



Procedure

1. Trace the bar of soap using pencil on paper.
2. Sketch the face of an animal inside the soap outline you just made.
3. Cut out any excess pieces using the scissors.
4. Copy your sketch onto the surface of the bar.
5. Take a butter knife and cut off any excess pieces on the bar. Please ask for assistance from an adult if you are not comfortable using a butter knife.
6. Use a spoon, clay tools or a paperclip to carve and further refine your soap carving.
7. Use a brush to remove any soap shavings.
8. Smooth out your bar using water.



Key Vocabulary

<p>Hampatong Effigy; statue; figure. “We have a hampatong near our ancestors' coffin.”</p>	<p>Statue A piece of art that is carved, molded, or assembled in three dimensions, often in the form of a human or animal. “The statue was very large and heavy.”</p>	<p>Ironwood Any of a number of trees that produce very hard timber. “They made their statues using ironwood.”</p>
<p>Timber Trees that are suitable as a source of wood for construction. “They cut down trees that were perfect for timber.”</p>	<p>Dayak A member of a group of indigenous peoples inhabiting parts of Borneo, including the Iban (or Sea Dayak) of the north, the Land Dayak of the southwest and the Punana. “The Dayak people travel to different islands in Indonesia.”</p>	<p>Logging The work or business of felling trees, trimming and cutting them into logs, and transporting these to a sawmill. “Logging has caused many trees and animals to become extinct.”</p>
<p>Dwindle To become or cause to become gradually smaller or less until almost nothing remains; diminish; shrink. “The Ironwood trees are starting to dwindle due to logging.”</p>	<p>Stance The physical position of the body, especially while standing. “The statue was carved in a menacing stance.”</p>	<p>Deity Someone or something worshipped as a god. “They carved a statue of their favorite deity.”</p>
<p>Fertile Producing or capable of producing offspring, as an animal, plant, egg, seed, or the like. “That deity is known to make the women and lands fertile.”</p>	<p>Ferocious Extremely intense, strong, or violent. “That statue featured a ferocious beast.”</p>	<p>Erode To slowly wear away, eat into, or destroy by the action of friction, or as if by friction. “Wooden statues erode over time and due to the elements.”</p>

Source:

Bowers Museum. Hampatong, Dayak People, Indonesia. <https://www.bowers.org/index.php/collection/collection-blog/hampatong-dayak-people-indonesia>. Accessed June 30, 2020.

Bowers Museum. Saint Patrick's Day Snake Parade. <https://www.bowers.org/index.php/collection/collection-blog/saint-patrick-s-day-snake-parade>. Accessed July 2, 2020.

Murray, T., Prior, C., & Reynolds, S. (2015). C-14 dating of Dayak Art = Datation de l'art Dayak au C 14. (pp. 75-175). Hong Kong: CA Design.

Heppel, M., & Maxwell, Robyn (1990). Borneo and Beyond: Tribal Arts of Indonesia, East Malaysia and Madagascar. (pp. 39-63). Singapore: Bareo Gallery.

Irawan, B. Ironwood and its varieties in Jambi, Indonesia. Ironwood (*Eusideroxylon zwageri* Teijsm. & Binn.) and its varieties in Jambi, Indonesia. Accessed July 3, 2020.

State and National Standards

Reading Comprehension Activity

California Content Standards:

HSS-K.6

Students understand that history relates to events, people, and places of other times.

RH.6-8.10

By the end of grade 8, read and comprehend history/social studies texts in the grades 6–8 text complexity band independently and proficiently.

Ikat Textiles

State Content Standards:

HSS-K.6

Students understand that history relates to events, people, and places of other times.

SL.2.2

Recount or describe key ideas or details from a text read aloud or information presented orally or through other media.

Visual and Performing Art Standards.

VA.K.2.1

Use lines, shapes/forms, and colors to make patterns.

VA.K.2.2

Demonstrate beginning skill in the use of tools and processes, such as the use of scissors, glue, and paper in creating a three-dimensional construction.

Soap Carvings

State Content Standards:

HSS-K.6

Students understand that history relates to events, people, and places of other times.

RH.6-8.10

By the end of grade 8, read and comprehend history/social studies texts in the grades 6–8 text complexity band independently and proficiently.

Visual and Performing Arts Standards:

VA.8.2.4

Design and create an expressive figurative sculpture.

VA.8.2.6

Design and create both additive and subtractive sculptures.

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