

Curriculum Unit  
Title

Textiles Tell the Tales – Weaving the Past into Our Futures

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**KEY LEARNING, ENDURING UNDERSTANDING, ETC.**

Students will develop working knowledge of the close relationship between humans and the role of textiles in agriculture, economics and the environment in both ancient, and current, cultures across the globe. Through hands-on experiences, students will discover the level of creativity and innovation (both individual and collective) attained by those without the benefit of all of our modern technology and instant information access.

**ESSENTIAL QUESTION(S) for the UNIT**

How can we learn about ancient civilizations by studying art and literature?  
What are the environmental and socioeconomic impacts of textile production in ancient and modern societies?  
What skills and materials are needed to create textiles?  
How can we modify our use and creation of textiles to be better stewards of the earth?

**CONCEPT A**

**CONCEPT B**

**CONCEPT C**

Textiles through Art and Literature

Textile Materials and Production

Zero Waste Textile Production

**ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS A**

**ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS B**

**ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS C**

How can we learn about ancient textile inventions and innovations?  
How do textiles represent various cultures around the world, throughout time?

What materials and processes were used to create ancient textiles?  
How has textile production changed and/or remained the same?

What is the need for a Zero Waste Initiative?  
How can we bring Zero Waste practices to our community?

**VOCABULARY A**

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Ancient, civilization, culture, textile, invention, innovation,

Fiber, felt, full, spindle, whorl, distaff, card, draft, spin, loom, weave, epinetron

Reduce, repurpose, impact, environmental, waste

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION/MATERIAL/TEXT/FILM/RESOURCES**

"Making Linen from Flax." <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZeCXLiwWqKw>.  
"Blade Shearing New Zealand Style." [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2h\\_MGKJSyk0](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2h_MGKJSyk0).  
"Handmade: From Sheep to Rug." <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3DvddZZW1HA>.  
"The Truth about Wool" [http://www.chantelrenaephoto.com/thetruthaboutwool/#\\_](http://www.chantelrenaephoto.com/thetruthaboutwool/#_)  
"The average American throws away 82 pounds of clothes every single year." <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dblgF-KSJnY>.  
"Every Thread Matters." <http://goodviews.net:8000/every-thread-matters-huffpost-rise>.