



Google Arts & Culture

Learn Anywhere: Batik

In association with



Yuda Nugradi, Making Batik In Indonesia.

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How to use this lesson plan

This plan takes you on an exciting journey with plenty of links through to amazing online content so no need to print. This lesson plan is suitable for anyone but we recommend it for ages 11 to 14. It's a lot of fun to go on this journey with parents, teachers or your friends, but it is designed so you can explore independently at your own pace. There are different types of questions to answer: can you discover, explore and invent? We think so.

Check in with your parents or teacher if you need to, but you'll need a tablet, computer or smartphone. You can do this *Learn Anywhere* Lesson on almost any device as long as you can get online and use a web browser.

There are 2 Chapters:

Chapter 1 - Batik 60 minutes

Chapter 2 - Extra Discovery 45 minutes

You'll see some helpful signs on the way:



Useful information to guide you through the lesson.



Things you'll need to watch, read, learn and make things with during the lesson.



Digital activity time. Take quizzes and explore.



Estimated time to do a section of this lesson.



Explore online content. Discover videos, stories, or go and look at and zoom around pictures.



Activity time. This is where you get to design, make or write something of your own.

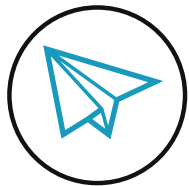


Headphones to listen to videos and audio.



Things you'll need

Things that will help you during this *Learn Anywhere* lesson.



Scrap Paper



Scissors



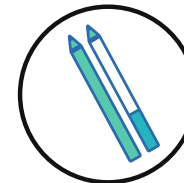
Brush and Paint



Notepad



Tablet or Computer



Pens and Pencils

Welcome to ***Learn Anywhere: Batik***

In this *Learn Anywhere* lesson, you are going to learn all about the stunning living cultural art form of batik. A form of art using waxes and dyes on cotton and silk, practiced for more than 2,000 years by proud artisans, especially in Indonesia. Discover for yourself how the dots and lines are used to create patterns, how waxes are used to hold back - a process known as "resist" - vegetable and chemical dyes. By using waxes, artisans are able to dye in one colour, then boil off the wax protection and dye again in another colour, building beautiful layers of colour and pattern. Investigate the history and importance of batik, and what it tells us about our lives today and the lives of ancient people. You'll create your own batik. Get ready to investigate...

What will you do?

1. Go on an adventure to discover the mysteries and importance of batik. What is it? Who creates it?
2. Hunt for facts and make discoveries that very few people know about this ancient living art form.
3. Discover practical skills and techniques.
4. Create your own designs.
5. Solve puzzles and answer quizzes to learn more about batik.



Kain Panjang 652, 2010, Galeri Batik YBI

What will you learn?

1. Learn about the history of batik.
2. Explore what the art of batik tells us about how stories, myths and beliefs are presented in textiles.
3. Explore what it means for our knowledge of our ancestors and the influence of ancient cultures that can be traced in the patterns.
4. Discover how batik is passed down within families and how its symbols express beliefs and spirituality.
5. Find out about batik's importance in Indonesia's cultural identity.

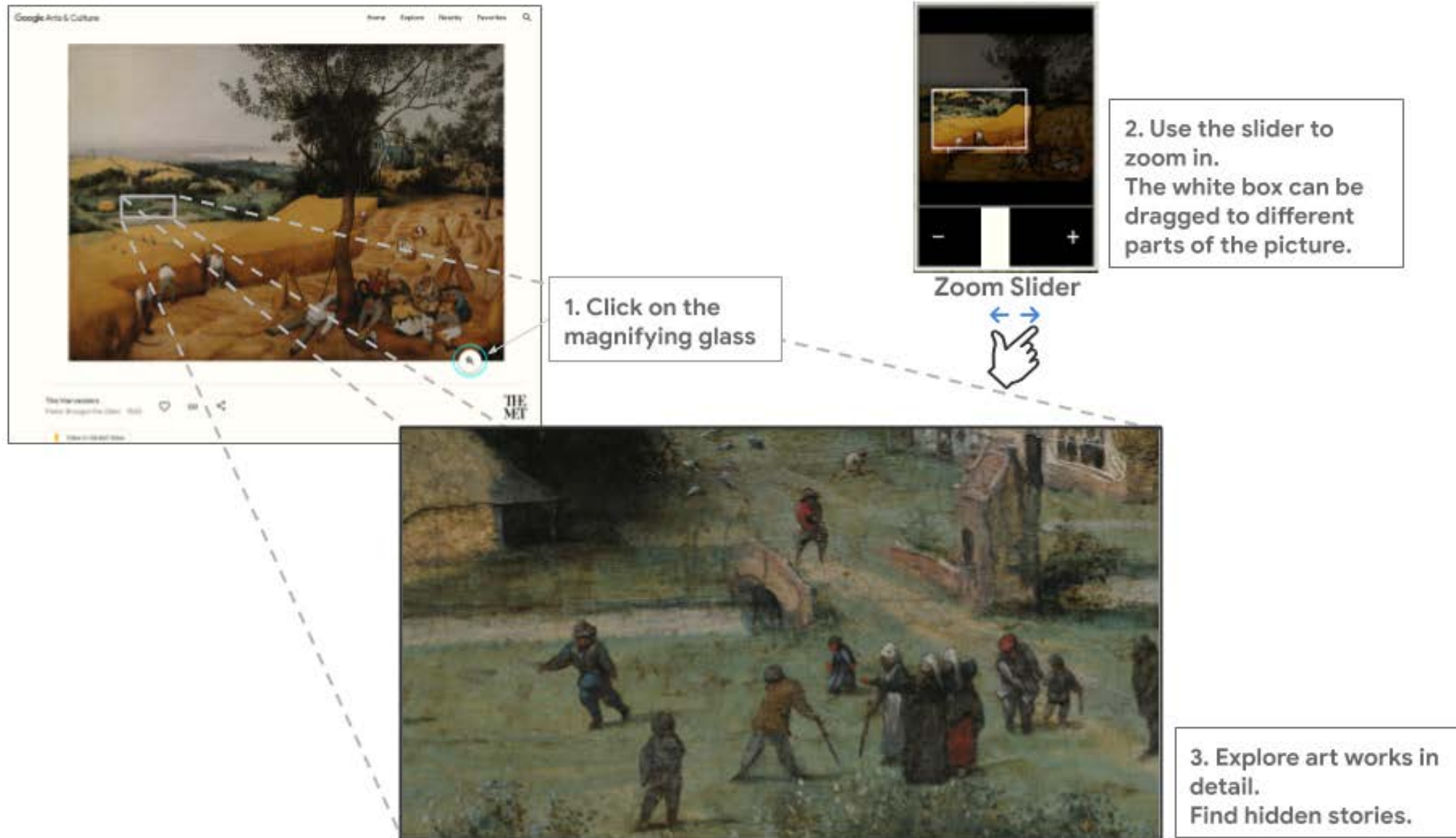
After studying this lesson, you will be able to:

1. Describe and identify the different features of batik including principles and techniques.
2. Understand the importance of batik in Indonesian cultural identity.
3. Create your own batik designs, using art and design techniques.

Vocabulary: ancestors, Bali, batik, chemical, code, dot, fibre, geometric, health, Indonesia, intangible, Java, line, motif, myths, patterns, philosophy, Ramayana, resist, spirituality, story, Sumatra, symbolism, tradition, vegetable dyes, wax, weaving.

There's one more thing to know before you go on your lesson. Google Arts & Culture pictures are big. So big that you can zoom in. Explore. Sometimes right down to the chisel mark.

So you just need to click on a link, then on the Magnifying Glass symbol and zoom in with the Zoom Slider. Drag the white box around and you can explore the picture. You'll find out for yourself. Here's an example of a Google Arts & Culture picture and the zoom slider.





PT.Taman Wisata Candi Borobudur,
Prambanan & Ratu Boko [PERSERO],
"Shinta," a beautiful lady, Indonesia

Chapter 1



What's this chapter about?
Discovering Batik



What will I do?
Explore the history of batik
See batik being created
Explore how batik has evolved
since prehistoric times
Learn about the art techniques used
in batik
Create your own batik design



How long will this chapter take?60
minutes



Kain Panjang Pagi Sore 626, 2000, Galeri Batik YBI

Discover the patterns, symbols, and designs of Indonesia's signature craft: Batik.

Using a white cotton or silk fabric, artisans create beautiful textile art that is celebrated the world over. Taking as long as six months to create a finished piece of Batik, it begins very simply with a thought. Then a dot, a line and time. That way, artisans create a piece of fabric art that expresses their feelings. It becomes a piece of art that people can wear, a statement of personal history. And because the symbols, patterns and designs have hidden meanings, they can tell people where you come from, or even if you're royalty. Created with spiritual and cultural importance, some believe that certain Batik fabrics can ward off evil or heal the sick.

Batik, originating from the Javanese word meaning "drawing dots", uses a wax resist dyeing process, where wax is used to stop colour known as dyes from colouring cotton or silk cloth.

Wax is heated and applied in fine detail and this acts as a barrier to colour. The cloth is dipped in dye and then the wax is boiled off. More wax is added allowing colour to be added where the wax once was. This is known as wax resist, because it is resisting the colour of the dye. In this way, Indonesian crafts people build up layers of colour and patterns. But hidden in the patterns and images themselves are secret codes with hidden meanings.



You can find out more about the secrets of Batik patterns and symbols, known as motifs, [here](#).



PT.Taman Wisata Candi Borobudur, Prambanan & Ratu Boko [PERSERO],
RAMA AND SHINTA - A love story, Indonesia

Batik designs are comprised of symbols and patterns which have deep meaning to the people of Indonesia and its neighbouring nations. Indonesia is the centre of a vast tradition of storytelling and spiritual beliefs that are clear in the patterns on Batik fabrics.

The Batik artists tell stories in fabric, referring to legends, myths, spirituality and ancient sagas.

Visual storytelling is especially important in Indonesian culture. For example, the epic love story of Ramayana, between the heroic Prince Rama and his loyal wife Sita, was written in its Indonesian version in about 870CE. The great saga has many references to spiritual and emotional journeys. To finding balance. These are truly important elements of Indonesian culture.

When Ramayana is performed, these elements are embodied in the costumes of the actors and dancers. They wear Batik - the design of Batik motifs shows status, love, balance and power.



Click [here](#) to explore a visual storytelling of Rama, a love story, and see its performers in stunning Batik costumes.



You can drop straight into the workshops of Indonesian artisans full of colourful fabric and designs via a video created by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) when Batik was added to UNESCO's Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity list in 2009.



Click [here](#) to watch.



Andre Tegar, Hand of women crafting batik in top side view, Semarang, Central Java/ Indonesia



[Click here](#) to find out more about the way that wonderful Batik cloth is made by craftspeople in Indonesia.



Everlasting Batik

How Batik is made

By [Jakarta Textile Museum](#)



Now let's look at what makes Batik so special as an art form.

Art plays an important role in all human culture, and some art records history, spirituality and culture in a unique way. Because Batik records cultural heritage and spirituality which is often passed down from one generation to the next by demonstration or spoken explanation, it is considered intangible. Meaning something that is difficult to evaluate or understand. That is why Batik has been declared an excellent and important Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity by UNESCO.

How is Batik so well made?

Practice makes perfect, and making Batik takes patience and practice. It is an art that makes people slow down, be careful and be repetitive. Sometimes slowing down and focusing on a simple task can be good for your health, for the way you are feeling and thinking.

Making Batik can help to keep you calm.

Do you see the dots and lines and shapes on this bird?

There are many creative variations you can make just by using simple dots and lines like this.

The motifs used in Batik are ancient, and often passed down through family lines. They use imagery from the things artisans see all around them, like birds, flowers and the ocean.

Look around you, today. What do you see? What might inspire you, if you were a Batik artist?





Click [here](#) to discover the hidden coded symbols in Batik fabrics that were originally designed for Indonesian royalty. Move around the Batik, go full screen, explore and look closely. Can you spot the regular lines and shapes of the 'kawung' motif, and the mythical bird known as the Garuda ?

The Panrang Motif an important pattern and shape in Batik, inspired by the shapes that waves make in the Southern Java Sea, a western part of the Pacific Ocean.



Now a quiz! Click [here](#) to see what you have learned about Batik.



Activity time! Create your own Batik motifs (we suggest on paper or on a tablet) - we will give you some guides to familiar shapes found in Batik.





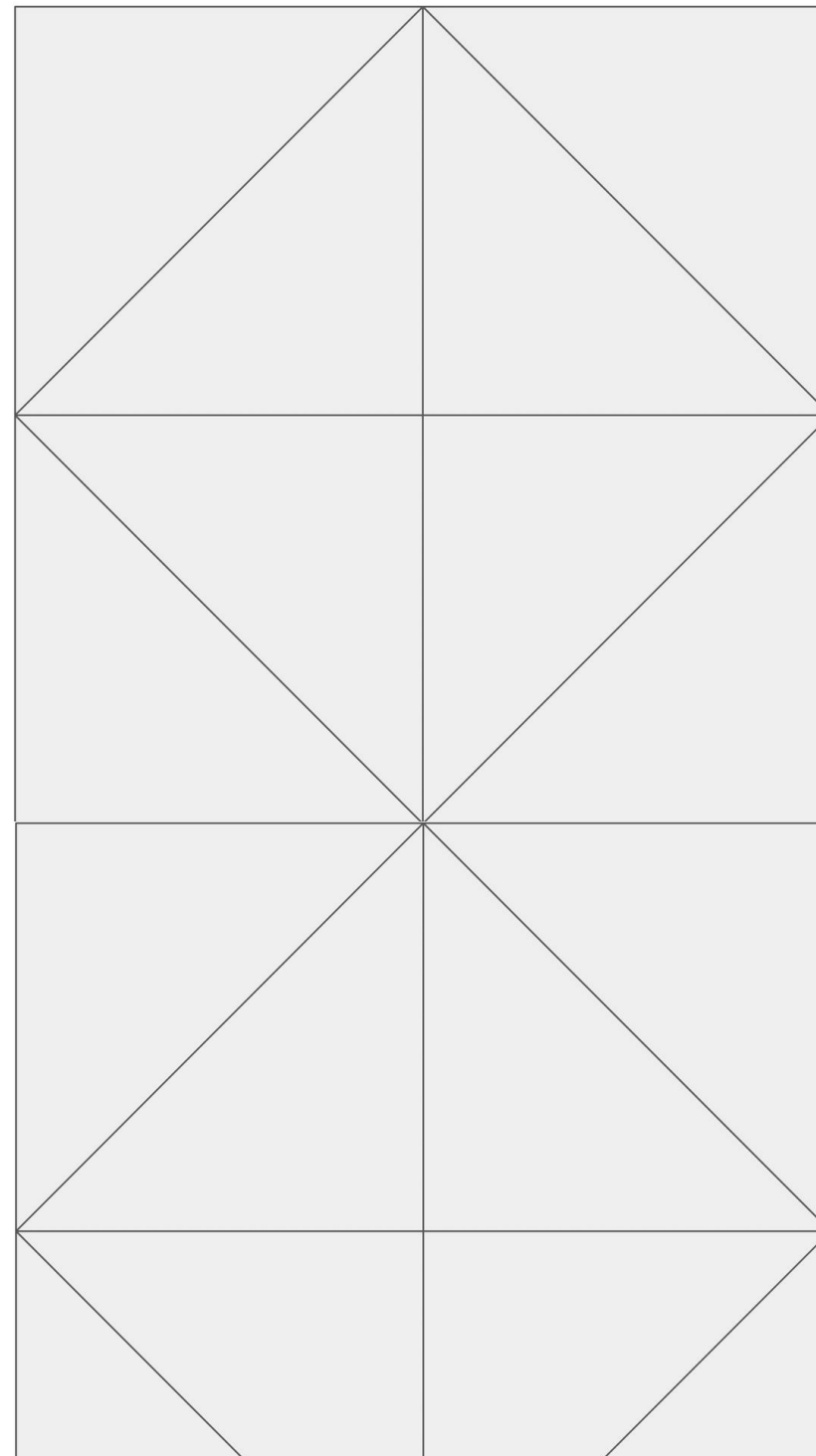
Batik Tambal is a patchwork of sections of Batik with different motifs.

It originates in Central Java, where it is believed that Batik Tambal has spiritual powers to heal.

The word Tambal means to patch or repair something.

Once an intricate Batik Tambla is created, it is thought to ward off evil.

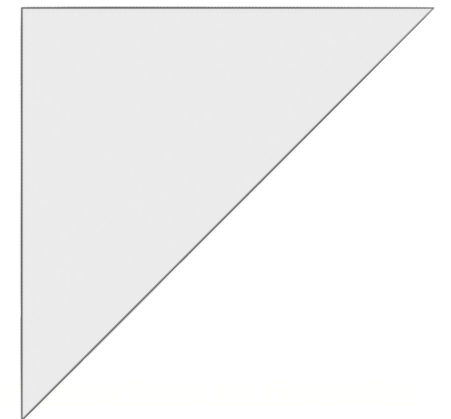
The Batik Tambal is often be laid over a person when they are sick, as it is believed that the Tambal will repair them.



Use scrap paper to draw triangles, like the ones you see here, or print them out if you have a printer. Copy and fill in as many triangle sections as you want, with different patterns or motifs to your liking.

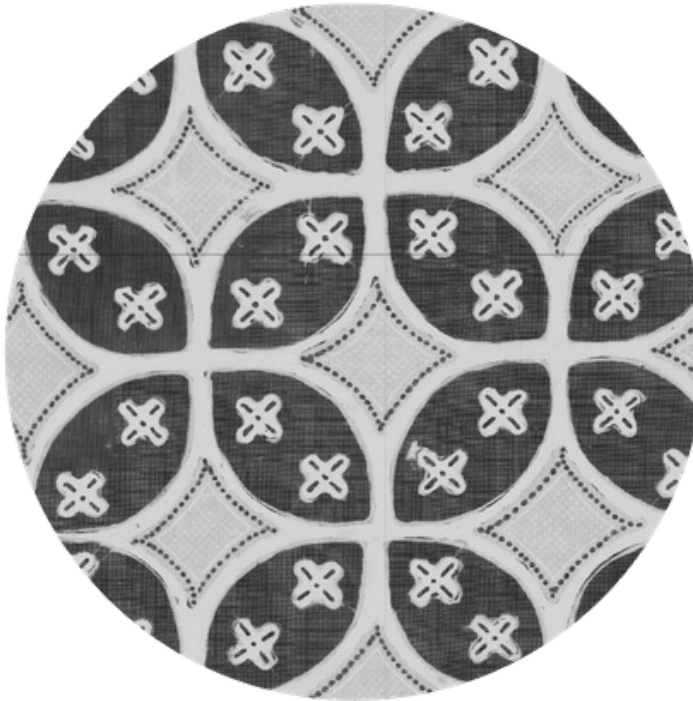
You can ask your friends and parents to fill in triangles too.

Collect and arrange the triangles onto a piece of paper to make a Batik Tambal collage.



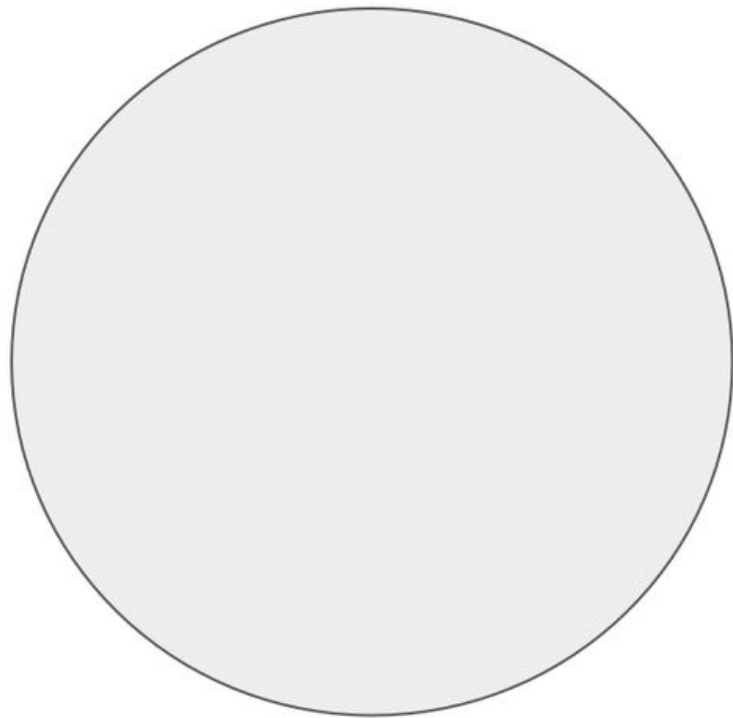
As you saw earlier, some Batik symbols like these [Kawung Motifs](#) were once reserved only for Javanese Royalty. Each motif and pattern has its own meaning. In Javanese philosophy the symmetry of the Kawung motif, for example, comes from the shape of a fruit of a palm tree, called Enau, that grows on the island of Java. This tree (*Arenga pinata*) has strong roots in the ground. The tree sap creates a good sweetener. The leaves make a good roof for houses, and the fruits are good for health. Indonesian's like to use every part of the palm tree.

This Batik is made of geometrical shapes drawn in a mathematically balanced, way. The Javanese philosophy values balance in life. The hope is also the batik wearer would lead a life like Enau tree: each action brings good and balance to the world.

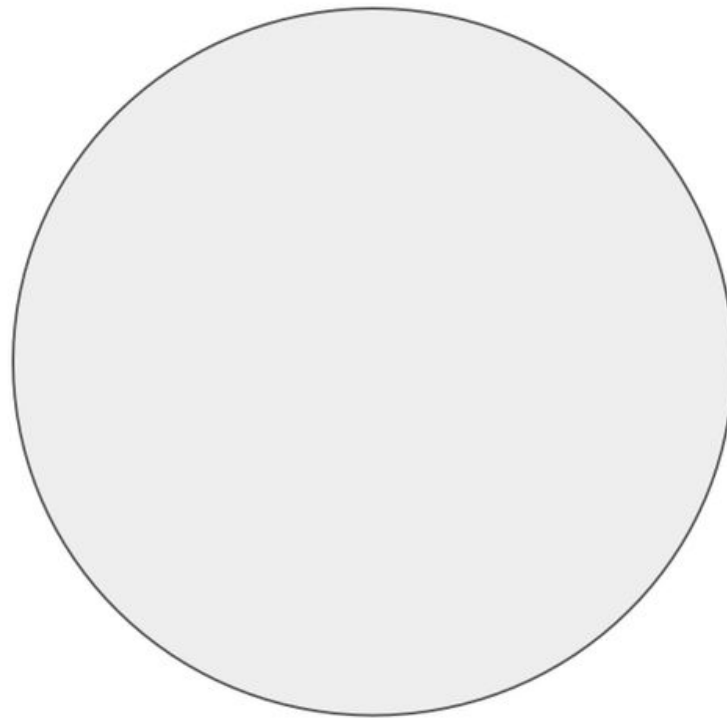




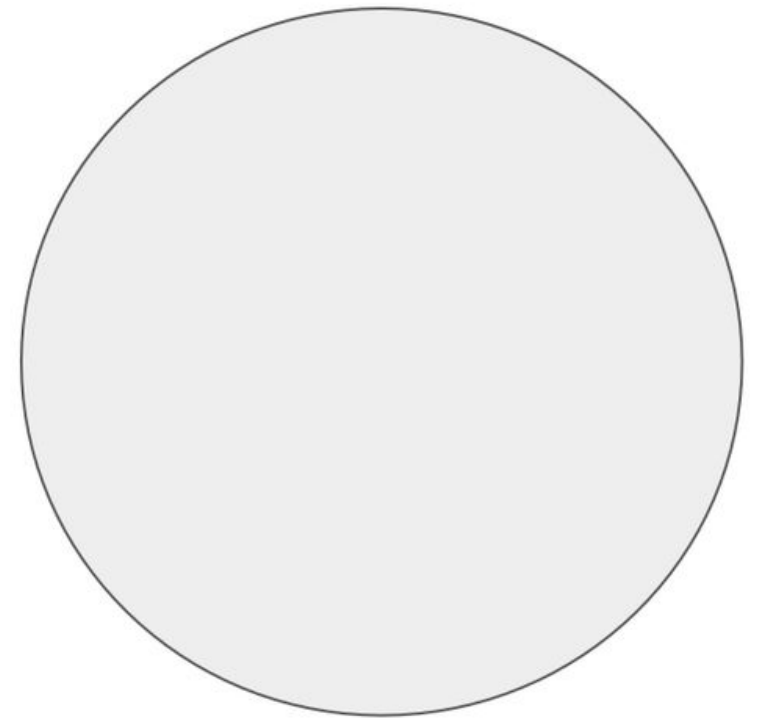
Now choose a type of plant or fruit that you like the most.
Sketch your own Batik motif from its shape and colour in your design.



Photo/cut out picture of
your chosen inspiration



Design a motif based on
your inspiration



Colour your motif

Questions for Chapter 1

Let's finish the chapter with some questions. When you **Discover**, you are comprehending and remembering. When you **Explore**, you are really able to understand it and think it through. When you **Invent**, you are able to comprehend, understand, remember, analyse and do something cool with your new knowledge.

Discover:

What are the two basic elements of batik?

Explore:

How does the 'wax resist' technique work?

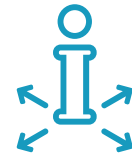
Invent:

What would your batik motif be and why? Explain what excites you about your chosen motif. How would you use it? Would it be an item of clothing, or something else?





Chapter 2



What's this chapter about?
Extra Discovery



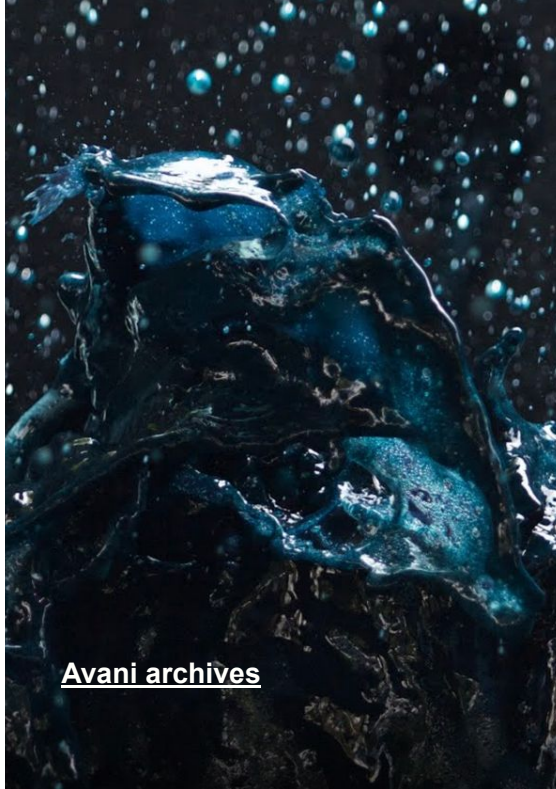
What will I do?
Explore further the dyes and techniques used
Discover modern innovations in batik
Understand the influence of batik on other artforms



How long will this chapter take?
45 minutes

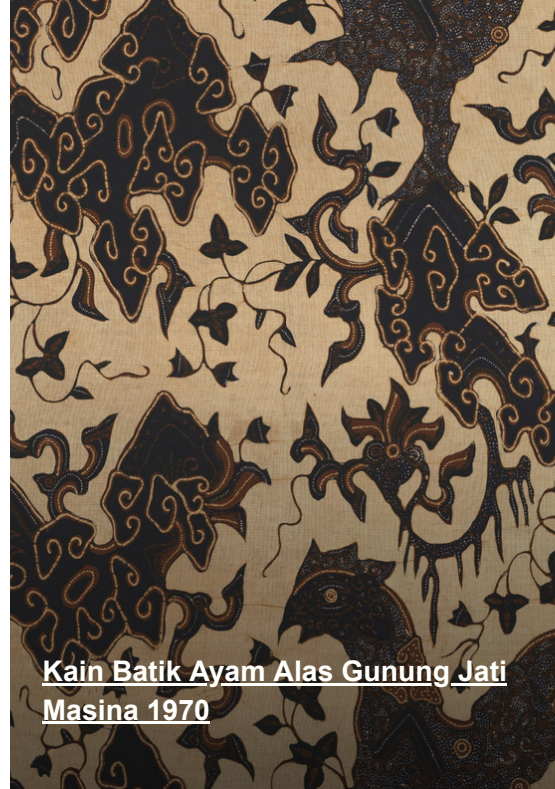


Find out about some of the tools and innovations that help modern Batik artisans create their work and take Batik into the 21st Century.



[Avani archives](#)

[Click here](#) to discover dyes, that can colour cotton and silk.



[Kain Batik Ayam Alas Gunung Jati Masina 1970](#)

[Click here](#) discover textiles, such as cotton.



[Buddhi Batiks' look at Buckingham Palace, Commonwealth Fashion Council](#)

[Click here](#) to discover new innovations around Batik and design.



Word Search

Find words hidden on the grid,
read horizontally, up and down
and diagonally.

Central Java

Geringsing

Abaca fiber

Weaving

Songket

Tritik

Ikat

Indigo

Batik

Bali ✓

Z	A	D	B	D	I	N	B	K	X	S	C	P	U	V
B	N	C	A	B	A	C	A	F	I	B	E	R	M	L
A	Z	M	E	V	Z	Z	E	C	Y	T	R	K	E	B
L	D	P	U	N	O	N	L	P	P	W	L	N	K	A
I	T	G	B	Q	T	T	I	V	E	M	O	R	K	R
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J	Z	I	K	A	C	B	K	T	P	C	V	E	O	K
Q	D	N	R	I	V	Z	K	J	X	J	V	A	H	E
Y	P	G	T	I	D	E	H	Y	A	T	M	O	M	T
H	C	G	G	E	R	I	N	G	S	I	N	G	Y	D
Z	I	S	A	J	Q	S	X	A	Z	C	U	I	V	E

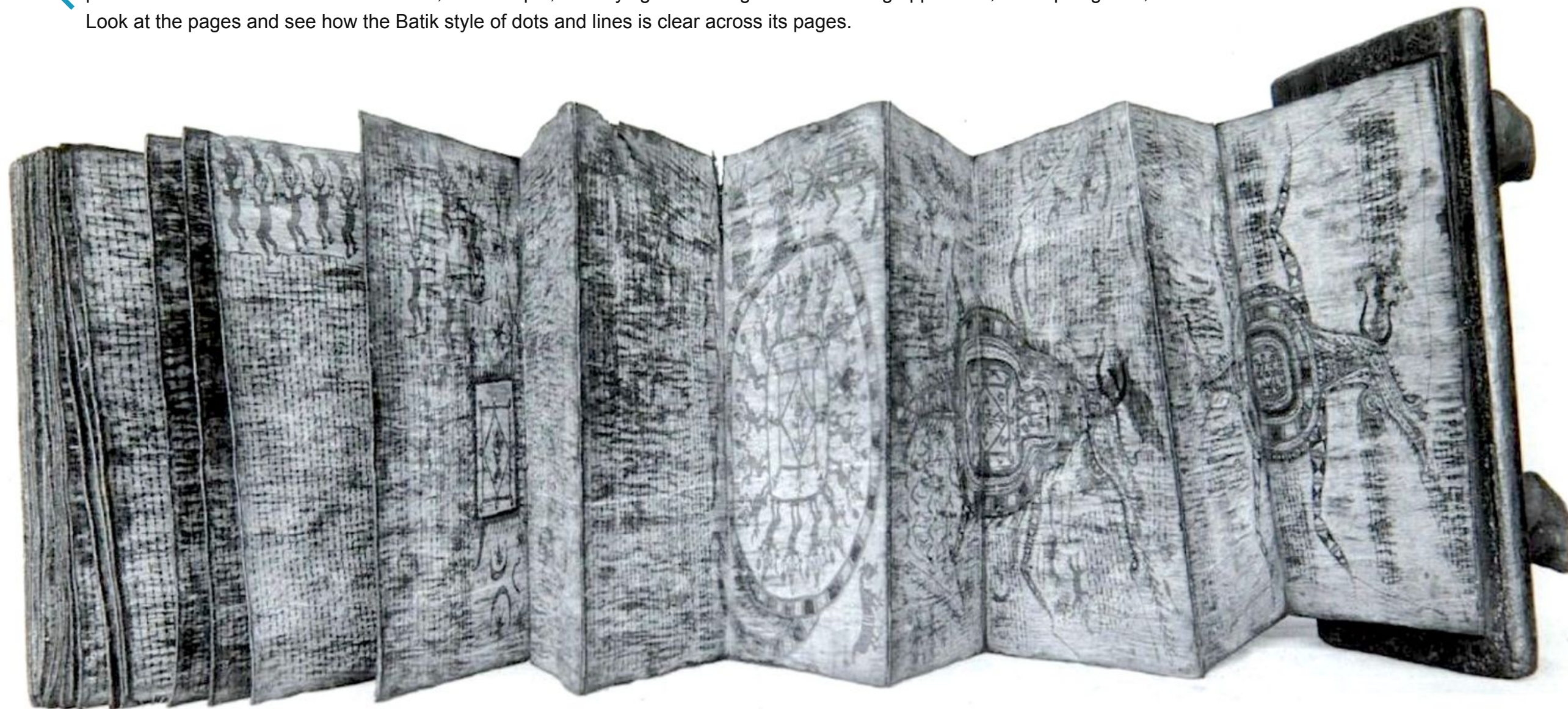


The influence of Batik beyond textiles and fabric can be seen across many art forms, including paintings. A project giving 220 artists, from the 80 islands that make up Indonesia, a small 10x12 cm canvas to create an imaginative representation of the islands produced fascinating results. The canvases show not only the vitality of modern Indonesian art, but also the major influence Batik has on their paintings. [Click here](#) to explore them and look for shapes inspired by nature, the use of dots and lines across all of the paintings.





To finish our exploration of the influences of Batik and the spiritual history it captures in its designs, [click here](#) to visit one of the most treasured old books in the world. The Pustaha, an ancient book used by Batak priests in northern Sumatra, Indonesia. It was collected in the 1850s but may be a lot older than that. The wisdom of nine generations of magician-priests is stored within these pages. The book contains descriptions of all kinds of spells and incantations needed by the datu, as the Batak priests are called. There are formulas for, for example, destroying other villages or eliminating opponents, for inspiring love, and stories about the creation of the world. Look at the pages and see how the Batik style of dots and lines is clear across its pages.



Questions for Chapter 2

Time for some questions. Here's a reminder of how it works. When you **Discover**, you are comprehending and remembering. When you **Explore**, you are really able to understand it and think it through. When you **Invent**, you are able to comprehend, understand, remember, analyse and do something cool with your new knowledge.

Discover:

What is the name of the book from the 1850's that shows inspirations for batik making?

Explore:

Give some examples of other crafts that you are familiar with.

Invent:

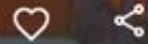
What story would you tell with batik? Write 200 words and then illustrate it with batik design.



Congratulations. You have proven yourself an inventive student of Batik. To continue your journey into the culture of Indonesia, [click here.](#)

Wonders of Indonesia

A showcase of Indonesia's finest cultural treasures. From ancient monuments to contemporary art, be inspired by the wonders of this incredible country.



Answers to all the questions

Chapter 1

Discover: What are the two basic elements of batik?

Answer: the dot and line

Explore: How does the technique of wax resist work?

Answer: Wax is heated and applied in fine detail and this acts as a barrier to colour. The cloth is dipped in dye and then the wax is boiled off. More wax is added allowing colour to be added where the wax once was. This is known as wax resist, because it is resisting the colour of the dye.

Invent: What would your batik motif be and why?

Answers may vary but can include understanding the purpose of batik and refer to techniques used by batik artisans.

Chapter 2

Discover: What is the name of the book from 1850's that shows inspirations for batik making?

Answer: The Pustaha

Explore: Give some examples of other crafts that you are familiar with.

Answers can vary but could include embroidery, quilting, patchwork, ceramics, etc.

Invent: What story would you tell with batik? Write 200 words and then illustrate it with batik design.

Answers may vary but could describe a quest and illustrate with dots and lines technique.