CULTURE CLOSET: Traditional Attire in the Philippines
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The Ayala Museum is an art and history museum located in the heart of the Makati Central Business District, Philippines.

The museum began as a vision of the artist Fernando Zobel in the 1950s. He dreamed of a museum dedicated to Philippine history. In 1967, a museum of Philippine history and iconography was established. Later, in 1974, 60 hand-carved dioramas showing milestones of Philippine history were completed. This project was led by Carlos Quirino, Ayala Museum’s first director, who was later awarded National Artist for Historical Literature in 1997. To this day, many Filipinos visit the Ayala Museum to enjoy and learn from the dioramas. (Did you know you can also visit the dioramas online via Google Arts & Culture? Simply search “Google Arts and Culture: Ayala Museum” to find out more!)

Apart from the dioramas, scale models of various ships that plied Philippine waters throughout history were also built. From pre-colonial boats, Chinese junks to Spanish galleons, these maritime vessels show a long history of trade, migration, and conquest in our archipelago.

Coming into the 21st century, the Ayala Museum’s collections have grown to include many awe-inspiring artifacts. The exhibition, Gold of Ancestors: Pre-Colonial Treasures in the Philippines, is a testament to the Filipinos’ rich ancestry and inherent craftsmanship. Ayala Museum also features ninth-to-19th-century Asian trade ceramics from the Roberto T. Villanueva Foundation Collection in the exhibition A Millennium of Contact. Also, a must-see is the museum’s collection of indigenous textiles, donated by Mercedes Zobel, in the Art & the Order of Nature in Indigenous Philippine Textiles. There are many more to see inside the Ayala Museum, and while the building is currently under renovation, these collections are made available online.
What is Culture Closet?
This interactive module (recommended for ages 10 to 12) presents the rich and colorful culture of some ethnolinguistic groups in the Philippines through the Ayala Museum’s doll collection. *Culture Closet* introduces young students to these groups and the traditions they have practiced since before the arrival of Spanish colonizers. This activity sheet will help children become more familiar with other regions of the Philippines by teaching them where these groups reside. Lastly, this learning opportunity is made more fun by stimulating your child’s creativity through the various art activities found in this module.

History of the Doll Collection
The Ayala Museum doll collection was featured as one of the inaugural and permanent exhibitions of Ayala Museum when it opened in 1974. The exhibition, entitled *Evolution of Filipino Costumes*, was composed of 69 dolls, each hand-carved by Mar Edjawan of Paete, Laguna. The dolls depicted the traditional attire of various ethnolinguistic groups, as well as the typical fashion during the Spanish era. The materials used for these miniature clothing and ornaments are similar to what the represented groups used. The collection was later de-commissioned and is now kept in storage, only exhibited in part when the occasion arises. Realizing the importance of these dolls as part of the history of Ayala Museum, conservation measures have been undertaken to preserve and prolong the “lives” of these museum objects.

What is an ethnolinguistic group?
An ethnolinguistic group is a category of people who identify with each other based on their shared culture, ancestry, homeland, and language or dialect.

LEARN MORE ABOUT THE AYALA MUSEUM COLLECTION:

Ayala Museum website: [www.ayalamuseum.org](http://www.ayalamuseum.org)
Google Art Project: [https://artsandculture.google.com/partner/ayala-museum](https://artsandculture.google.com/partner/ayala-museum)
EXTENDED PLAY: CURIOSITY PAGE

Let the kids use their creativity. Based on the character and their clothes, allow the kids to imagine the name, age, location, occupation, and possible personality traits of each character. Feel free to share information based on the Parent/Teacher’s Object List or allow them to play using their imagination.

Sample Character Profile:

![Character Profile Diagram]
This is an object information guide for you, Parents/Teachers!

**PARENT/TEACHER’S OBJECT LIST**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>OBJECT NO.</th>
<th>TITLE</th>
<th>DESCRIPTION</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Isneg Couple</td>
<td>1974 Wood, cloth, hair, metal, and yarn Evolution of Filipino Costumes Series Carved by Mar Edjawan Ayala Museum Collection The Isneg are also known as the Apayao which refers to their province and the river that runs through it and into Cagayan. The Apayao River is the only navigable river of the Cordilleras. Thus, the Isneg are the only natural boat builders and sailors among the indigenous peoples of the north. The favored color of dress among the Isneg is blue. Both men and women wear predominantly dark to greyish blue attire.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Ikalahan Couple</td>
<td>1974 Wood, cloth, hair, and metal Evolution of Filipino Costumes Series Carved by Mar Edjawan Ayala Museum Collection Living in the mid-mountain forests or <em>kalahan</em> of the Caraballo Mountain Range, the Ikalahan are indigenous peoples hailing from western Nueva Vizcaya and south western Ifugao where they are known as Kalanguya. They are peace-loving people that turn to a council of elders to settle all disputes peacefully. They are also known for their traditional farming method that they have preserved until now. Traditional Ikalahan attire is made of hand-woven fabrics in striped or plaid patterns for men’s G-strings and broad stripes for women’s wraparound skirts.</td>
</tr>
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| 3. | **Mansaka Couple**  
1974  
Wood, cloth, hair, and beads  

Evolution of Filipino Costumes Series  
Carved by Mar Edjawan  

Ayala Museum Collection  

The Mansaka are a Lumad or non-Muslim indigenous group that live in the provinces of Davao del Norte and Davao de Oro (formerly Compostela Valley). The Mansaka have a very distinct fashion sense. The elaborate stitching on the shoulders of their blouse called *panahiyan*, composed of straight lines, diamonds, circles, and squares are common symbolic motifs of their attires. Mansaka women have a penchant for straight lines as displayed in their prominently straight hair bangs. |
| 4. | **T’boli Couple**  
1974  
Wood, hair, abaca cloth, beads, and metal  

Evolution of Filipino Costumes Series  
Carved by Mar Edjawan  

Ayala Museum Collection  

The T’boli are a Lumad (non-Muslim) group inhabiting the areas of South Cotabato surrounding the three lakes: Sebu, Seloton, and Lahit. They are well-known weavers of the abaca fabric known as *t’nalak* and many of their rituals and taboos are anchored on *mewel* (weaving). Some designs used in their ikat weaves are only being used by specific clans and for important ceremonial textiles. |
HELLO! WE ARE THE ISNEG FROM APAYAO PROVINCE IN LUCON!

The Isneg prefer to use the color blue in their garments.

Their blouses are usually long-sleeved and embroidered.

Can be long skirt or shorts

Their garments usually have colorful edges.

WE LIVE BY THE RIVER AND ARE EXPERT BOATBUILDERS AND SAILORS!

DID YOU KNOW?

Indigenous people use natural dyes to color their textiles.

One of the popular pigments is blue. This pigment comes from the indigo plant (Indigofera tinctoria).

The indigo plant was also an export crop during the Spanish colonial period.
GOOD DAY! WE ARE THE IKALAHAN FROM WESTERN NUEVA VIZCAYA! WE ARE ALSO KNOWN AS KALANGUYA IN SOUTHWESTERN IFIGAO.

WE LIVE IN THE MID-MOUNTAIN FOREST, AND WE ARE PEACE-LOVING PEOPLE!

G-string of males are usually long and have plaid or striped designs.

Women wear cotton blouses.

Women wear wraparound skirts with broad stripes.

Ikalahan garments are usually hand-woven.

**DID YOU KNOW?**

The Philippines was an exporter of cotton during the Spanish colonial period. At the time, we were known to produce high-quality cotton that was made into fine textiles.
Hello! We are the Mansaka of Davao Del Norte and Davao De Oro!

This is called the panahiyán, a design found on the shoulders of the blouse. Common designs include straight lines, diamonds, squares and circles!

Women usually wear their hair with straight bangs.

The Mansaka love to use straight lines which can be seen in their distinct hair style and clothes.

They adorn themselves with glass trade beads that symbolise wealth and power.

The Mansaka wear bright colors and stitched patterns.

Did you know?

The Mansaka have a traditional way of cooking called liorot that they only use for special occasions.

Root crops, meat, and spices are cooked inside a bamboo tube over an open fire.
Hi there! We are the T’boli from South Cotabato. We live around three lakes: Sebu, Seoloton, and Laht!

Only men wear clothes of abaca. There are some designs that can be used only by a specific group or during ceremonies.

Abaca cloth is made from woven and dyed hemp fibers.

Weaving is a very important tradition to us! We are also called "Dream Weavers" because the designs of our textiles come from our dreams!

The slaong kinibang is a bamboo hat wrapped in cotton fabric and displays traditional T’boli colors of red, white, and black. It has zigzag patterns and glass bead works.

Accessories made of beads, horse hair, and metalwork

Cotton blouses with embroidered decorations are called k’gal nisif.

DID YOU KNOW?

Abaca comes from the bark of a kind of banana plant that is native to the Philippines.

It can be made into ropes, specialty papers, furniture, handicrafts and many more!
INSTRUCTIONS

Print, color and cut out your doll and the clothes!

Now, your doll is ready to get dressed.

Simply paste the clothes on to your doll.

After cutting out the parts, you can now put some glue along the curly line.

Do not fold! Paste the left side of your doll’s stand to the right side to make a circle.

Great job!

DON’T FORGET TO TAG US!

Ayala Museum
@AyalaMuseum

Ayala Museum
Step 1. **Color** the clothes of your doll.
Step 2. **Cut out** your doll and its colored clothes!
Step 3. **Paste** the skirt on first!
Step 4. **Put some glue** on the wavy line on your doll's stand.
Step 5. **Paste** the other end of the stand on the wavy line to make a circle!
Step 1. Color the clothes of your doll.
Step 2. Cut out your doll and its colored clothes!
Step 3. Paste the g-string on first!
Step 4. Put some glue on the wavy line on your doll’s stand.
Step 5. Paste the other end of the stand on the wavy line to make a circle!
Step 1. **Color** the clothes of your doll.
Step 2. **Cut out** your doll and its colored clothes!
Step 3. **Paste** the skirt on first!
Step 4. **Put some glue** on the wavy line on your doll’s stand.
Step 5. **Paste** the other end of the stand on the wavy line to make a circle!
Ikalahan

Step 1. **Color** the clothes of your doll.
Step 2. **Cut out** your doll and its colored clothes!
Step 3. **Paste** the g-string on first!
Step 4. **Put some glue** on the wavy line on your doll's stand.
Step 5. **Paste** the other end of the stand on the wavy line to make a circle!
Step 1. **Color** the clothes of your doll.
Step 2. **Cut out** your doll and its colored clothes!
Step 3. **Paste** the skirt on first!
Step 4. **Put some glue** on the wavy line on your doll’s stand.
Step 5. **Paste** the other end of the stand on the wavy line to make a circle!
Step 1. **Color** the clothes of your doll.
Step 2. **Cut out** your doll and its colored clothes!
Step 3. **Paste** the pants on first!
Step 4. **Put some glue** on the wavy line on your doll’s stand.
Step 5. **Paste** the other end of the stand on the wavy line to make a circle!
Step 1. **Color** the clothes of your doll.
Step 2. **Cut out** your doll and its colored clothes!
Step 3. **Paste** the blouse on first!
Step 4. **Put some glue** on the wavy line on your doll's stand.
Step 5. **Paste** the other end of the stand on the wavy line to make a circle!
Step 1. Color the clothes of your doll.
Step 2. Cut out your doll and its colored clothes!
Step 3. Paste the pants on first!
Step 4. Put some glue on the wavy line on your doll's stand.
Step 5. Paste the other end of the stand on the wavy line to make a circle!
Character Profile

Draw your character here

Hello!
My name is

Don’t forget to fill-out your ID!

Identification Card

Name: 
Age: 
I live in: 

PHOTO

Signature

Write more about me...

Occupation:

Write down your Personality Traits:

☐ ☐
☐ ☐
☐ ☐
☐ ☐
REFERENCES and ACKNOWLEDGMENTS


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