

World Cultures Scavenger Hunt.

Be curious. GRAND
RAPIDS
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GRPM Collections Database.



“Culture” is a word that describes the ways of life shared by a group of people. It has to do with how people live and includes things such as music, art, religion language, clothing and more.¹ This scavenger hunt will introduce you to a few of the fascinating customs, beliefs and lifestyles of people from diverse cultures in our communities and around the world.



¹ <https://www.nationalgeographic.org/media/cultural-richness/>



1. Investigate this [Polish silk banner](#) made in Poland around 1900. Find the English translation for the following 2 Polish phrases embroidered on the banner:

a. "Boże Zachowaj, Ojczyzne Nasza"

b. "Krolowo Korony Polskiej, Módl się za nami"

c. **Learn more:** Navigate to [Our Lady of Czestochowska](#) to learn more about its significance in Poland and Catholicism.



2. Explore the [Central American Culture Collection](#).

Artifacts in this collection show just a small sample of the vast diversity of artwork and material culture created in Central America.

- Belize
- Nicaragua
- Guatemala
- Costa Rica
- Honduras
- Panama
- El Salvador



Sketch and/or describe your favorite piece of:

a. Clothing

b. Artwork

Artifact Name: _____

Accession Number: _____

What do you like about this piece? _____

Artifact Name: _____

Accession Number: _____

What do you like about this piece? _____

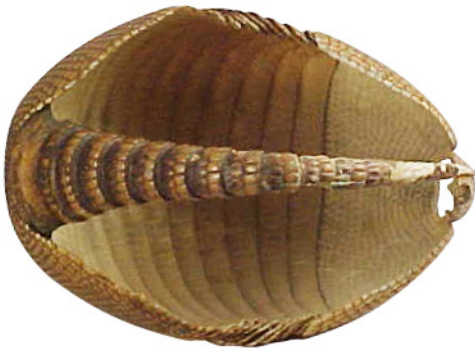
Challenge: Each of these pieces of artwork were made from surprising materials. Can you guess what material each artifact below is made of? Make your guess, then check your answers!



This [Bowl](#) is made from



This [Tray](#) is made from



This [Basket](#) is made from



This [Sieve or Strainer](#) is made from

With parent permission, turn a surprising item from your household or kitchen into a Central American-inspired piece of artwork! Share with us on social media or email your design to info@grpm.org

3. Lake Sturgeon (nm`e) are often represented in Native American art as a culturally significant creature. Check out the handmade [Sturgeon Rattle and Drum with Drumstick](#) displayed in the GRPM's *Grand Fish, Grand River* exhibit.

a. What is the name of the artist who created this rattle, drum and drumstick?

b. Which federally recognized Indian tribe is the artist a member of?

- Little River Band of Ottawa Indians
- Match-E-Be-Nash-She-Wish Band of Pottawatomi Indians
- Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan
- Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians

c. How are Lake Sturgeon involved in modern culture for many tribes living along Michigan's waterways?

- Creation and migration stories
- Art
- Song and Ceremony
- All of the Above

d. **Learn more:** Watch and listen to [a performance from White Thunder drummers](#) in South Bend Indiana in 1992.



4. Religion is an important aspect of culture. Religion describes people's relationship to a system of beliefs and worship. Religion includes things that people regard as holy, sacred, spiritual or divine.

Explore the items below that are significant to a variety of religious groups. **Choose 2 you'd like to learn more about.**

Object 1:

Name: _____

Religious group: _____

Describe 2 interesting things you learned about this object or its religious significance.

Object 2:

Name: _____

Religious group: _____

Describe 2 interesting things you learned about this object or its religious significance.

Empty dotted box for notes on Object 1.

Empty dotted box for notes on Object 2.



Tibetan Lama's Crown
[Identifier: 113860](#)



Tibetan Buddhist Wheel of Life
[Identifier: 141748](#)



Hebrew Bible (Tanakh)
[Identifier: 2004.23.1](#)



Prayer Rug
[Identifier: 2005.31.1](#)



Bishop's Confirmation Miter
[Identifier: 141748](#)



Rama Figurine [Identifier: 121085](#)



Torii [Identifier: 177402](#)



Ganesh Figurine [Identifier: 116859](#)



Yarmulke [Identifier: 2004.53.4](#)



Qu'ran [Identifier: 2005.31.2](#)

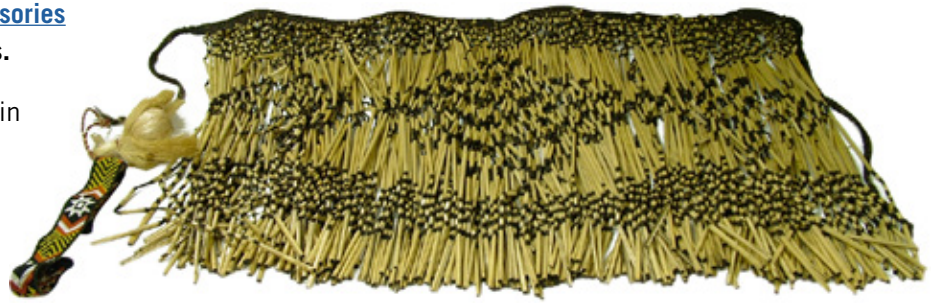


Creche [Identifier: E2006.1.25a-b](#)

5. Learn about these [Traditional Clothes and Accessories](#) worn by Māori women during ceremonial dances.

a. This skirt and headband are called piu piu in the Māori language. **The sound the piu piu makes acts as a substitute for what instrument?**

- Xylophone
- Drums
- Flute
- Tambourine



b. How is a poi ball used? _____

Do: Choose a dance style that interests you, from the Argentine tango to Irish stepdance, and learn a new routine. Show off some of your favorite moves to friends and family!

6. Explore the objects in the [Virtual Discovery Kit: Foodways](#) program. Take a deep dive into the culture of kitchens and answer the questions below.

a. [Stirring Sticks](#), also called chocolate frothers or molinillos, have been used to blend chocolate drinks since the 1500s.

The Aztecs, Mayans and Olmecs were the first known peoples to make chocolate drinks by frothing crushed cacao seeds with water. **What foods did they add to their chocolate drinks to sweeten the bitter taste?**



True or False: Originally, chocolate beverages were drunk mostly by poor, lower class people in ancient civilizations.

Do: Make hot chocolate and add different flavors from around the kitchen, such as cinnamon, maple syrup, peppermint sticks and more. Rank your favorites from best to worst.



Create your own blue and white tile decoration inspired by the tiles in the Collection:

b. [Delft tiles](#) are made of fired ceramic and are decorated with hand-painted blue images.

Where did Delft Tiles originate?

In which century were they first created?

7. Language is a key aspect of culture. Use the [“Parlez-vous français?” handkerchief](#) to translate the following English words into French. (Note: In the Digital Collections record, click on the photograph or the magnifying glass icon to zoom in and out.)

Heart _____

Star _____

Owl _____

Blue _____

Dog _____

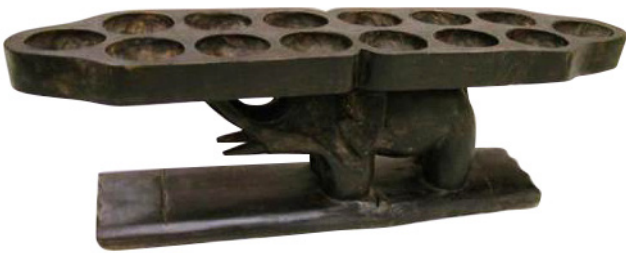
Challenge: Which word on this handkerchief is spelled the exact same in French and English?

“To speak a language is to take on a world, a culture.” 20th century philosopher Frantz Fanon.



Do: Pick ten of your favorite items pictured on this handkerchief and learn how to spell them in French. Then explore how to spell the same ten in another language of your choosing, such as German, Italian, or Spanish.

8. Check out examples of beloved toys and games from different cultures and time periods in the [Investigate: Toys & Games](#) program record.



In which country was the game Oware invented?

True or False: This specific wooden game board sits on top of a carved elephant.

According to legend, how did a man and woman playing oware bring the game to an end?



In which country was the game Ma Chong invented?

True or False: Ma Chong is a game played by two players.

The 3 suits in this game are bamboo, dots, and characters. What are the Chinese names for these 3 suits?

Do: What is your family’s favorite game to play together? Schedule a family game night to play together!

9. Look through the [Musical Instruments Culture Collection](#). Identify the country of origin for each instrument pictured below.

Answer Bank:

- Indonesia
- Jamaica
- Japan
- Kenya
- Nigeria
- United States



Country: _____



Country: _____



Country: _____



Country: _____

10. Read the sentimental story of this [Decorated Gourd](#) from Sudan?

a. How is this bowl used in Sudanese ceremonies?

b. Every artifact has a unique story to share about the people who created and used it. **Who owned this gourd and why was it important to them?**



Do: Create your own welcome mat! Include shapes and symbols to represent what's important to you and your family. Sketch it out below. Then, use materials found at home, such as construction paper, magazine photos, string and yarn to bring your drawing to life.

