BLOKES FOR STUDENTS

Red—Yellow—Blue: Colors in Art by Vry, Silke. New York: Prestel, 2011. QC 495.5 V79
Using well-known images ranging from cave paintings to modern artworks, this book teaches children about colors.

Clear instructions and step-by-step pictures demonstrate the dyeing process.

A number and color book reminding us that it just takes one to make everyone count.

Describes different uses for textiles, which can be worn, knitted from metal or wire, or sculpted.

This first-person narrative, illustrated with richly detailed photographs, chronicles the process of creating silk.

Discusses what textiles are and what they are made of, including weaving, embroidery, tie-dye, batik, block printing, patchwork, and applique.

Highlights familiar objects and creatures that come in all the colors of the rainbow.

Introduces young readers to the processes involved in producing the materials used in clothing and turning them into such garments as cotton jeans and a silk dress.

Book to help children learn and practice basic weaving processes. Projects include a ikat dyed belt.

RESOURCES FOR EDUCATORS

Books & Resource Guides

5000 Years of Textiles by Harris, Jennifer. Washington, DC: Smithsonian Books, 2010. NK 8806 H27
A wealth of illustrations drawn from major collections all over the world includes costumes, period interiors, archival photographs, and a vast range of fabrics.

Classroom chemistry guide with a section on indigo.

Arts and travel author explores colors throughout the world. Includes a chapter on indigo.

Exhibition catalogue for a private collection of textiles and objects from cultures throughout the world, arranged geographically, with social and historical commentary.

For anyone who wants their children to understand and love the art of Africa, Asia, Oceania and the Americas, this guide has questions and answers about thirty amazing objects.

Examines indigo dyeing techniques across the world.

This comprehensive study examines indigo from all angles.

A historical survey and practical application of indigo, filled with recipes, tips, suggestions, and projects.

Teacher’s guide and single issue of a magazine for kids about indigo.


Showcases an eclectic selection of textiles from countries and regions of the world renowned for their textile and design heritage. Includes textiles from the Balkans, Middle East, Asia, Central and South America, and Africa.

Media (CDs/Videos/Posters)


A documentary that weaves together stories of indigo’s cultural roots, its history, and its importance in global trade. 79 min. DVD format.


Outlines the importance of indigo from its manufacture to the pivotal role it has played in the history of textiles and trade. Also contains footage of the dye vat process in several unique village contexts. 90 min. DVD format.

Outreach Activities

Art of Identity, Expression, and Adornment: Africa Outreach Suitcase.

This suitcase introduces students to art belonging to many different cultures across the African continent. Students will examine how objects can reveal a person’s status, personality, and customs while relating these objects to their own lives and experiences. Includes an indigo-dyed adire cloth.


Discusses how the history of the Philippines can be used as a tool to teach concepts of trade, geography, immigration, and cultural heritage. The suitcase suggests engaging activities from Philippine objects such as textiles, musical instruments, games, baskets, and folk music and dance CDs, along with images from SAM’s collection.

Online Resources

Collections by the Seattle Art Museum.
www.seattleartmuseum.org/collections

Learn about the works of art in SAM’s online collection.

Mood Indigo: Textiles From Around the World by the Seattle Art Museum.
www.seattleartmuseum.org/indigo

Website for the exhibition with links to media and exhibition information.

Ricketts Indigo.
www.rickettsindigo.com

Website for the contemporary artist featured in the exhibition.

Colors by Radiolab.
www.radiolab.org/story/211119-colors/

Podcasts from the popular science show that explore color.

Get Blue at Home: Do It Yourself Indigo by Hand/Eye Magazine.
http://handeyemagazine.com/content/get-blue-home-do-it-yourself-indigo

Step-by-step instructions on how to dye with indigo at home, from master dyer Michele Wipplinger, founder of Seattle’s Earthhues.

Indigo by the Auckland Museum.
www.aucklandmuseum.com/collections-research/collections/topics/indigo

Overview of indigo with links to objects in the Auckland Museum’s collection.

IndiGrowing Blue by Rowland Ricketts and Indiana University.
http://indigrowingblue.com

Partnership project around the transplanting, harvesting, and processing of indigo. Site includes information on how to plan and harvest indigo.

Textiles by the Victoria & Albert Museum.
www.vam.ac.uk/page/t/textiles/

Website for the V&A’s extensive textile collection.