

Ways of Seeing: Australian and Oceanic Art Outreach Suitcase

"I found the suitcase to be very informative and instructional. I learned a lot and it was a great tool to teach with."
—Art Camp Instructor



ABOUT THE SUITCASE

Used as a lens to illuminate the unique worldviews from this region, this Outreach Suitcase and accompanying Educator Resource Guide present works of art from this diverse area. Items in this suitcase are contemporary works of art made by living artists (unless otherwise noted) intended to help students more closely examine features of Aboriginal Australian and Oceanic art and culture. Using these objects, students have the opportunity to discuss the cultural teachings of indigenous peoples from areas such as Australia, Papua New Guinea, and New Zealand.

Book this suitcase online at www.seattleartmuseum.org/programs-and-learning/schools-and-educators/teacher-resource-center/suitcases.

LOOKING QUESTIONS

Encourage your students to look closely at the objects in the suitcase and images from SAM's Collection with questions like:

- How do you become part of a culture?
- Can you name some of the Australian and Oceanic cultures and communities in the world?
- How are Oceanic and Euro-American cultures different? How are they the same?

WHAT'S IN THE AUSTRALIAN AND OCEANIC ART OUTREACH SUITCASE?

Educator Resource Guide

- A list of relevant objects in the suitcase
- A list of images that relate to these objects
- Looking prompts
- Background information on the objects
- Questions to consider
- Activity ideas
- Related resources and glossary
- Washington State, Common Core, and National Arts Core Education Standards

Objects in the Suitcase (Pictured on Front)

- Shell necklace
- Woven pig
- Guardian Manaia pendant
- Fish hook pendant
- Tabua (whale tooth)
- Tahiti travel poster
- Ancestor mask
- Contemporary painting from the Utopia Region
- Ireeyakweer (Wild Onion) Dreaming, Carmen Jones Apetyarr, painting
- Tapa cloth
- Poster, books, maps, and music CD

Supplemental Images from SAM's Collection (on CD and 11 X 17" Prints)

Theme: Environment

- [Male figure: Moai kavakava](#), Gift of Katherine White and the Boeing Company, 81.17.1422, Photo: Paul Macapia
- [Garraparra](#), 2001, Nawurapu Wunungmurra, Partial and promised gift of Margaret Levi and Robert Kaplan, in honor of the 75th Anniversary of the Seattle Art Museum, 2005.151, © Nawurapu Wunungmurra, Photo: Susan A. Cole

Theme: Cultural Heritage

- [House Mask](#), Gift of Katherine White and the Boeing Company, 81.17.1469
- [Yam mask](#), Gift of Katherine White and the Boeing Company, 81.17.1492, Photo: Paul Macapia

Theme: The Universe

- [Leaves](#), 2002, Gloria Tamerr Petyarr, Promised gift of Margaret Levi and Robert Kaplan in honor of Bagley and Virginia Wright, and in honor of the 75th Anniversary of the Seattle Art Museum, 2012.21, © Gloria Tamerr Petyarr, Photo: Paul Macapia

Theme: The Contemporary World

- [Three Dreamings: Fire, Mulga Seed and Emu](#), 1993, Rosie Nangala Fleming, Gift of Margaret Levi and Robert Kaplan, 2000.156, © Rosie Nangala Fleming, Photo: iocolor Seattle

SAMPLE ACTIVITY: TAPA CLOTH PAINTING AND CLOTHING

- Create your own tapa cloth (Object 10) painting. Cut a brown paper bag apart and using one side as your canvas cloth, create pattern designs similar to the tapa cloth featured in the suitcase. You can use brown and black paint or introduce color. This activity could also be executed using construction paper to cut designs and patterns to glue to the bag.
 - Extension: Different materials have been used by people to create clothing. The tapa has had many purposes, one of which was clothing. This form of clothing proved to be difficult for the people of Papua New Guinea to maintain and use. Clothing typically was worn and made out of necessity, but still incorporated pattern and design. Have your students research current trends in clothing and fashion. A good resource for this is the website for the Museum at the Fashion Institute of Technology in New York City (online at <http://fitnyc.edu/3662.asp>). Have them focus on one item and present their findings to the class.

SAMPLE ACTIVITY: FOUND OBJECT MASKS

- Oceanic art is often made from items found in their own environment. Searching your immediate environment and anything between school and home, gather found materials such as paper, plastics, etc. and create a mask from those materials (like Object 7). Next, decide what the mask is used for and then follow up by writing a story about its uses and origins. As a class, present these stories to one another while displaying the work for the whole class to see!