BRITISH COUNCIL

Woven Networks

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Study guide

For the virtual exhibition

"From land to loom, from fibre to form: The Woven Networks research projects" (Grades 11 and 12)

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I.   **Pre-activities**
The primary resource for this study guide is the virtual exhibition "From land to loom, from fibre to form: Woven Networks research projects

A. Browse the introduction to the project through <u>this link:</u>
The overview of the virtual exhibition project describes it as" among several **advocacy** materials of the Woven Networks **initiative**. It draws from the research grantees' **engagement** with their partner communities and international **collaborators**. It reiterates the three themes of the Woven Networks projects."

1. We noted some interesting words. You may want to look them up: *advocacy, initiative, engagement, and collaborators.* Can you think of words on your local language/s (Tagalog and other regional languages) which carry similar meanings?

Key words	English meaning	Local words
advocacy		
initiative		
engagement		
collaborators		

2. Browse the images in the virtual exhibition. What three main impressions about them would you have? Are there people in the photographs who are your age? What are they doing?

II.   Main activities

A. Choose three images from the virtual exhibition that speak powerfully to you. Please choose your favourite photograph and briefly describe it. Who is in the photo? What activity or event is depicted in the photo?

B. Are you able to identify the locations of the photos? If you have a map of the Philippine archipelago, can you look up these places? You may also refer to the Philippine Administrative map with the West Philippine Sea.

Did you know that The National Mapping Resource and Information Authority of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) have different maps on its site? Which among these maps have you seen for the first time?

C. Why are forests important? Name three household objects that directly reference forests and the living things in them. For example, I work on a wooden desk made from repurposed wood. I also know that certain minerals are inside the body of my laptop.

We are only slowly surfacing from the COVID-19 pandemic. Did you know that there are links between forests and diseases like the COVID-19 virus? Listen to this BBC podcast Forest Fear to learn more.

D. What numerical figures are cited in the virtual exhibition? Can you mention at least two? Which of these figures relate to forest cover in the Philippines?

What are the most critical forest landscapes in the Philippines? Why do we use the word 'critical' to describe them? Visit the <u>Forest Foundation Philippines</u> site to know more.

E. Review the three images you chose earlier (refer to A in this section). Try to imagine life for someone who depends on the forest for a living. How do you think members of these communities make a living?

III. A deeper foray into the exhibition

This section will require that you browse the virtual exhibition intently and cross-reference related content like the reports from the researchers and materials on the Woven Networks initiative.

A. What question were poses by the researchers about forests and the communities that depend on them? Mention at least three.

B. What approaches did the researchers, and their partner communities propose to address these challenges? Mention two that address livelihoods and another that focuses on sustainable forest management practices.

C. How can you contribute to these advocacies for the forest and forest-linked livelihoods? Are there practices in your daily live you can adapt to contribute to this cause?

How is sustainability articulated in the approaches? Learn more about <u>sustainable landscapes</u> and <u>sustainable livelihoods</u> from the Forest Foundation.

How can individuals and institutions partner with organisations to move these advocacies forward? You can check <u>different modes of partnerships</u> with the Forest Foundation.

IV. Allowing objects to speak

A. The virtual exhibition cites related materials as the National Museum exhibition *Entwined Spheres: Mats and Baskets as Containers and Costumes* exhibition. Two woven baskets are featured in the virtual exhibition. Browse the exhibition site to know more. These woven objects embody the complex and encompassing networks of symbolic systems that bind indigenous communities in the Philippines. They show how ethnolinguistic communities share ties across weaving practices and they how continuously strive to safeguard their cultural identities.

B. Choose one object from the <u>ethnology collection of the National Museum of the Philippines.</u> Which among them did you find most interesting? What aspect of the object, whether form or function, did you find intriguing?

C. Do you know that we all contribute to the alarming deterioration of our planet? Watch the video <u>Fast Fashion-Dumped in the Desert</u> to learn more. Can you check the tag of the clothing articles you are wearing now? Where are they made? Are these places near or far from where you live? Does the label say the materials used in fabrication? Would you know who made these clothes?

Browse related sources on the subject of fashion and its consequences: <u>Fast Fashion/Slow Art, a virtual exhibition</u> by the Bowdoin College Museum of Art Fast <u>Fashion: The Dark Side of Fashion</u> at the <u>Museum Europäischer Kuturen</u>, this exhibition <u>travelled to the Philippines</u> and was on view at the Bulwagan ng Dangal at the University of the Philippines Diliman.

V.   Post-activities

A. Visit the <u>National Museum of Natural History</u> to know more about forests.

B. Are there stories about forest that your grandparents, parents, or elders in your community often share? Why do you think these stories are relevant to continue to be told?