

Pre-lesson preparation, materials and equipment

The LEARN ABOUT WOOL online resource library, combined with the suggested resources listed below will give you ample background information to carry out this lesson and answer a range of questions posed by students.

Useful resources:

LEARN ABOUT WOOL factsheet

- [Different types of wool fabrics](#)

Videos

- [Wool processing](#)
- [Lost and found: the journey from farm to fashion](#)
- [The innovator](#)

Useful links

- [The Woolmark Learning Centre Wool Appreciation Course](#)
- [Lots of lovely things for kids to make with wool](#)

Useful book

- *Stitch and string lab for kids: 46 creative projects to sew, embroider, weave, wrap and tie*, written by Cassie Stephens

Materials and equipment

- LEARN ABOUT WOOL kit fibre, yarn and fabric samples
- Sufficient yarn samples for class
- Scissors
- Cardboard rolls
- Masking tape
- Wooden popsicle sticks (4 per student)
- Cardboard
- Wool top
- Small containers for water
- Dishwashing detergent
- Coloured pencils
- Paper for accordion book

Lesson objective

To allow students to

- consolidate their learning and understanding of wool processing
- to develop their understanding of the link between the features of wool products and the processes of how they were made
- further explore wool processing techniques
- to refine their wool manipulation skills.

Students will have the opportunity to:

- refine and extend their wool manipulation skills by further investigating their chosen method to create a 'woolly wonder'
- share their work with others.

Lesson focus

This lesson forms the basis of a culminating performance for this unit of work and allows students to further develop their wool manipulation skills using their preferred technique(s). It also encourages students to identify the properties of wool garments, depending on the production process they have undergone. Each student can record the stages of their creative process in an accordion book to complete this lesson.

Setting the context

Students will now have an appreciation of the different processes used to produce everyday textiles. This lesson will allow students to further explore techniques they have learned by creating a 'woolly wonder' item by using one or more of the techniques studied (spinning, felting, knitting or weaving) and sharing their creation with the class.

Introduction

Introduce the lesson by asking the students to identify the different ways raw wool can be changed into a processed wool article. What are some of the key features of each of the processes studied in this unit? Correct any misconceptions before you explain that in this lesson students will be given the opportunity to further develop their skills in one or more of their preferred wool processing techniques (spinning, felting, knitting and weaving) covered in this unit to produce a 'woolly wonder' which can be used as a decoration for their bedroom OR as a toy for their pet.

This process will be recorded in an accordion book.

Body of lesson

1. Using their chosen process, ask students to draw a labelled diagram of what they would like to create and which technique(s) they will be using to create it on the front page of their accordion book.
2. Assign materials to each student, as required.
3. Allow sufficient time to complete construction of the woolly wonder.
4. Ask students to document the process of the construction as a set of sequenced steps in the accordion book.
5. Display student's creations with their accordion book in the classroom.
6. Discuss the range of creations with the class and the challenges they faced as they completed their construction. If time permits, students can present their woolly wonder to the class and explain the process(es) they used to create it, using their accordion book as a prompt.

Conclusion

Show students the video [The innovator](#). As they watch it, encourage them to think about the different types of clothing shown in each scene. Can they identify which garment is knitted, woven or felted based on the activity being undertaken when the garment is being worn? Ask them to think about how each garment has been produced and how this has influenced the function of the garment (e.g. a knitted garment can be used for sports activities because it is stretchy and comfortable, a felted garment can be worn in cold weather due to its ability to insulate the wearer).

Encourage students to explain some of the properties of felted, woven and knitted wool products seen in the video and how these properties influence the way we use wool in a range of everyday products. Discuss how we can change wool's shape and form when undergoing a variety of processes such as spinning, felting, knitting and weaving. Allow students time to reflect on their learning and understanding of the properties of processed wool and how these can be incorporated into the clothes they wear.

Extension activity

There are many online wool craft activities suitable for Year 1 students which can be easily accessed. An example is [Lots of lovely things for kids to make with wool](#). Pinterest is another source of extension activities for students who are keen to explore other methods of wool manipulation and processing, if time permits.

Links to the Australian Curriculum:

- Everyday materials can be physically changed in a variety of ways ([ACSSU018](#))
- Science involves observing, asking questions about, and describing changes in, objects and events ([ACSHE021](#))
- Participate in guided investigations to explore and answer questions ([ACSI025](#))
- Represent and communicate observations and ideas in a variety of ways ([ACSI029](#))
- Use materials, components, tools, equipment and techniques to safely make designed solutions ([ACTDEP007](#))
- Explore the characteristics and properties of materials and components that are used to produce designed solutions ([ACTDEK004](#))
- Generate, develop and record design ideas through describing, drawing and modelling ([ACTDEP006](#))
- Sequence steps for making designed solutions and working collaboratively ([ACTDEP009](#))
- Use and experiment with different materials, techniques, technologies and processes to make artworks ([ACAVAM107](#))