



EduTrend Contents

W4C · MULTICULTURAL ARTS · MIDDLE SCHOOL

Batik and Resist Art

Explore Indonesian batik with a safe resist method

Ages 11–14

Level: Intermediate

60 minutes

Individual · up to 30

Activity 03

Inside: activity at a glance · step-by-step session plan · facilitator notes · 3 student worksheets · assessment checklist

ACTIVITY 03 · AT A GLANCE

Batik and Resist Art

Students learn how batik is made by drawing hot wax onto cloth with a tool called a canting, then dyeing it. They explore motifs and meanings, and create a batik-inspired design with a safe classroom resist such as wax crayon or glue, then apply dye or paint.

Learning outcomes

By the end of the session students can:

- explain the wax-resist process of batik;
- describe batik's cultural significance in Indonesia;
- design with motifs using line and repetition;
- produce a resist artwork with a safe method.

KEY WORDS

batik · wax resist · canting · dye · motif · Indonesia · Java · intangible cultural heritage

CURRICULUM LINKS

Art and design: textiles and resist techniques. Geography: Indonesia. Science: how resists block dye.

1

DISCOVER

Meet the tradition

2

LISTEN

Hear its people and meanings

3

EXPLORE

Try the technique

4

CREATE

Make your response

5

REFLECT

Respect and connect

6

SHARE

Present with credit

Materials (per student)

- Cotton fabric squares or thick paper
- Wax crayons, or washable PVA glue in fine-nozzle bottles as a resist
- Fabric dye or watered-down paint, brushes, gloves
- Images of batik from reputable sources
- Worksheets 1, 2 and 3

Before the session

- Test your resist and dye combination.
- Prepare images and a short explanation of batik.
- Cover tables; prepare aprons and gloves.
- Make an example.

SAFETY

Use a safe resist; hot wax is not used in this activity. Wear aprons and gloves for dye; wash spills promptly.

ACTIVITY 03 • SESSION PLAN

Step by step

Remind students that the resist lines will stay the colour of the cloth: design in reverse, thinking about the lines, not the fill.

Time	What happens	Say or ask
0–10 min Hook	Show batik cloths and a short explanation of how they are made.	<i>“How could lines stay white when the cloth is dyed?”</i>
10–20 min Learn	Explain canting, wax, dye layers and the cultural importance of batik.	<i>“Why might patterns have meanings?”</i>
20–30 min Design	Sketch a design with a central motif and a border.	<i>“Which lines will resist the dye?”</i>
30–50 min Make	Apply resist, let it set, then paint or dye.	<i>“Is the resist line continuous?”</i>
50–60 min Reveal	Remove glue or reveal crayon lines; gallery walk.	<i>“How does your work credit its inspiration?”</i>

CHALLENGE CARD (print or copy onto the board)

Create a batik-inspired artwork with a planned central motif and border, using a safe resist, and write a short label crediting the tradition.

ACTIVITY 03 · FACILITATOR NOTES

The culture and craft in brief

Batik is a technique of wax-resist dyeing. Makers draw patterns with hot wax, often using a small spouted tool called a canting, or stamp wax with a copper block called a cap. The waxed areas resist the dye, and repeated waxing and dyeing builds up layers of colour.

Batik has a long history in Indonesia, especially on the island of Java, where motifs can signal region, occasion or status. In 2009 UNESCO inscribed Indonesian batik on its Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity. Resist dyeing is also practised in many other cultures.

Common ideas to listen for

- “Batik is printed.” Traditional batik is drawn or stamped in wax, then dyed.
- “Any design is batik.” Batik refers to the resist process and its traditions.
- “Resist lines need gaps.” Gaps let dye leak in.

Adapting the activity

Support

Use a simple template motif and wax crayon on paper.

Stretch

Plan two dye layers, resisting some areas after the first colour.

WORKSHEET 1

How batik is made

Name: _____

Class: _____ Date: _____

Order and describe the steps.

Steps

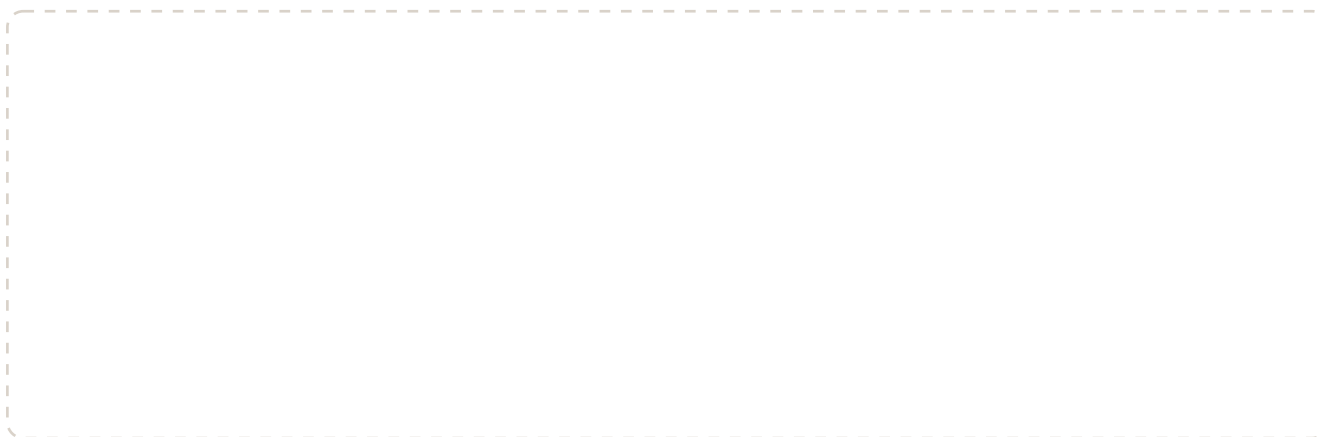
Step	What happens
1	
2	
3	
4	
5	

WORKSHEET 2

Design plan

Plan your motif and border.

Design



Draw your design. Shade areas that will take the dye.

WORKSHEET 3

Label and reflection

Credit the tradition.

My artwork label

What I learned about batik

FOR THE TEACHER

Assessment checklist

Use during the session. One sheet covers up to eight students; copy as needed.

Student	Explains the process	Designs with motifs	Credits the tradition

Suggested codes: W = working towards · E = expected · G = greater depth

ABOUT THIS ACTIVITY

Batik and Resist Art is a sample activity from the EduTrend Contents W4C Multicultural Arts programme (middle school, level: intermediate). Every activity in the programme follows the same format: a practical challenge, a clear session plan, facilitator notes and ready-to-print worksheets, so that teachers, club leaders and parents can run it without extra preparation.

Full 15-, 20- and 32-week programmes are available from EduStore at edutrend.org.

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