

## WithOnePlanet

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# Investigate

Lesson 5

Teacher notes

Timor's traditional culture

Years

7 to 8

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INQuIRY



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WithOnePlanet

Climate change education  
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# Timor's traditional culture

## Lesson 5: Teacher notes

This document provides the teacher with the details of the lesson.

### At a glance

This lesson introduces students to some aspects of traditional culture in Timor Leste through items of dress, song and the hand weaving of the cloth called tais.

For an assessment guide and key lesson objectives, refer to the Unit outline.

### INQuIRY focus: Investigate

The *Investigate* phase (lessons 3-7) is designed to provide students with hands-on experiences of culture and how we use plants in different cultures. Students explore ideas, collect evidence, discuss their observations and keep records. The *Investigate* phase ensures all students have a shared experience that can be discussed and explained.

In the *Investigate* phase students develop a literacy product to represent their developing understanding. They discuss and identify patterns and relationships within their observations. Students consider the current views and deepen their own understanding.

### Teacher background information

In Timor-Leste, traditional knowledge and rituals are not written down. There are elders in the community called lia nain, 'keepers of the word', who have memorised traditional rituals, poems, songs and other knowledge. This knowledge is passed down from generation to generation, but not written down. Many of the traditional ceremonies carried out are sacred, and only carried out at specific times for specific purposes.

### Equipment

> *Looking at Timor's traditional culture – Student worksheet*

Videos:

> Tebe Dai (Viqueque), < <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pY1BqEKkfWY> >

> Leo on culture and traditions < <https://vimeo.com/72886464> >

> Heru Ini lafu – Weaving life, < <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Mvn4S98uNdk> >

### Lesson steps

#### Activity 1

1. Look at the traditional items of dress in the student workbook.
2. Watch the video: Tebe Dai (Viqueque), < <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pY1BqEKkfWY> >
3. Students answer the questions in the *Looking at Timor's traditional culture – Student worksheet*.

## Activity 2

4. Watch the video of Leo Guterres talking about her culture and traditions: <https://vimeo.com/72886464>
5. Students to answer questions in *Looking at Timor's traditional culture – Student worksheet*.

## Activity 3

6. Discuss East Timor Women's Association (ETWA), and the work they do supporting women in Timor-Leste. You may want to link to their website: <http://www.etwa.org.au>
7. Watch the video produced by ETWA: Heru Ini lafu – Weaving life, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Mvn4S98uNdk>
8. Students answer questions about the video in the *Looking at Timor's traditional culture – Student worksheet*.

## Sources:

Griffith University, Australia in collaboration with Secretaria de Estado da Cultura, Timor Leste – research project *Tatoli Ba Kultura* ('Passing on Culture'), Tebe Dai (Viqueque), [Online Video] 4 May 2011, viewed 3 March 2016, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pY1BqEkkfWY>

WithOneSeed, 2013, *WithOneSeed Stories #4 – Leo Guterres on culture, tradition and life as a widow in Timor Leste*, [Online Video], viewed 3 March 2017, <https://vimeo.com/72886464>

ETWA (East Timorese Women Australia) *Supporting women in Timor Leste*, 2016, [Website], viewed 3 March 2016, <http://www.etwa.org.au/>

ETWA, 2010, *Heru Ini Lafu: Weaving Life*, [Online Video], 2010, viewed 3 March 2017, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Mvn4S98uNdk>