

Exploring Local Artisans

Objective

- (i) To be aware about local crafts.
- (ii) To appreciate the skills of the craft person.

Background

Pottery, woodcarving, glass painting, metal work, weaving, colouring (*Addakam*), bathic work, kalankari, cane work, making toys are some of the examples of crafts which require specific skills. A craft is a skilled trade. India has a wide variety of traditional crafts. A large number of persons are engaged in various crafts. In our State Pochampally is famous for



handloom saris and kalankari work. Nirmal is famous for painting and making toys. Kondapally, Bidri work, Terrakota is famous for toys and metal work. Many craft persons run their lives totally depend on handicrafts only.

Methodology

1. With the help of elders and teachers identify some crafts that are popular in your city or village.
2. Select anyone of the crafts that interests you and locate a craftsperson skilled in that particular craft.
3. Collect the following information about the craft by asking craft person questions such as:
 - (a) How did he or she learn the craft?
 - (b) How long has he or she been practising the craft?



(c) Write the step by step processes involved in making the finished items. If you have a camera, take photographs of the entire process.

(d) Collect information about the tools and the materials used for the craft.

To collect more information about the craft you can look for learning material in the school library, internet and crafts museum also.

Conclusion

Prepare a brief report preferably along with paintings , diagrams or photographs.

Handicrafts are suitable for environment. The equipments, methods and the productions which are used in making handicrafts do not pollute the environment. We use earthen pots if they break they will be easily degradable in the soil. Let's save our handicrafts and handicrafts productions. Saving handicrafts is saving our cultures and traditions and it makes the environment pollution free.

Follow-up

1. You are selected and observed the handicraft which you are interested in. Make your own handicraft and display in your school project day.
2. Try to find out whether the families involved in that craft are now going for other occupations. If so, why?
3. What are your suggestions to the craft persons to continue or improve their methods of marketing.

