



Workshops On Demand

LA TROBE
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Digital Education Resource | 2020

PARENTS + TEACHERS

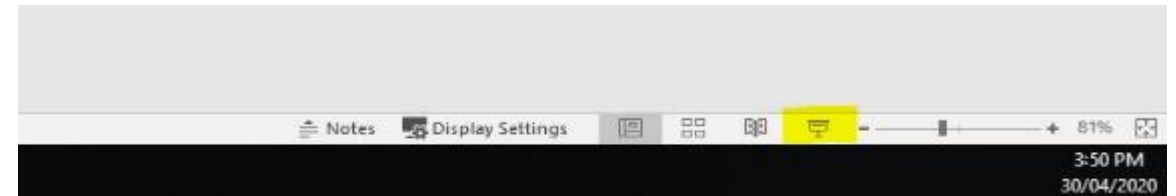
- Use the PowerPoint in 'Presenter' view by clicking the Slide Show menu and checking the 'Use Presenter View' box as shown:



- Then click 'From Beginning' (on the far left)
- This will enable you to see the slides and the notes
- The notes will help you expand on some of the ideas in the presentation
- Click the [links](#) for extended information available online
- Pause at the 'Challenge', 'Discuss' and 'Explore' slides to allow your students/children to chat and create

STUDENTS:

- Use the PowerPoint in 'Slide Show' mode by clicking the button at the bottom right of your screen as shown:



- Work your way through the slides at your own pace (click to move to the next slide)
- Click the [links](#) for extended information available online
- Have a go at each 'Collaboration Challenge' and consider the ideas on the 'Discuss' and 'Explore' slides



Interwoven

Weaving Together

La Trobe Art Institute Education Program Digital Resource

Interwoven

In 2019, La Trobe Art Institute presented *Interwoven*, a project with contemporary weaving at its heart. The project brought people from different generations and cultural backgrounds together to share their skills and stories.

The project featured work by:

- Aunty Marilynne Nicholls
- Regina Pilawuk Wilson
- Ilka White and
- Members of the Multicultural Arts Victoria's Bendigo Emerge Cultural Hub group.

Interwoven was opened by Aunty Marilynne and the Dja Dja Warrung community, who created a special "Welcome To Country" ceremony to open the exhibition and welcome visitors.



Interwoven celebrated the power of weaving to bring people together.

Practiced in many cultures, weaving is often undertaken as a group activity.

Sometimes weaving work is functional: used to make baskets and nets to catch and carry food, mats to sleep on, building materials or clothing.

Often weavings are created as artwork.

Weaving is something we can do to ***care for and connect with each other.*** If alone, we can also use weaving and other crafts ***to nurture ourselves.***

Let's explore:

Interwoven was no ordinary exhibition. While we did show some finished *products* by our Master Weavers, the project was just as much about exploring the weaving *process*.

Each of the exhibiting weavers also facilitated workshops and demonstrated their techniques.

Let's take a closer look at the work of the Master Weavers...



Aunty Marilynne Nicholls (Swan Hill region)

Aunty Marilynne is from the Swan Hill region on the Murray River. She learnt to weave from her mother and grandmother who taught her where to find and how to harvest the native grasses that she uses for weaving mats and baskets.

[Discover more here](#)





Image: *Sedge Basket*, Letty Nicholls (Painting in background by Regina Pilawuk Wilson).
Video: Dja Dja Wurrung dancers perform at the opening of *Interwoven*, as Aunty Maryline looks on.



Ilka White (Central Victoria)

Ilka White is best known for her weaving with materials dyed from plants. Ilka makes coloured dyes from boiling leaves, flowers or bark from eucalyptus trees, weeds and other plants. She often uses a loom for her weaving or creates beautiful rugs from strips of recycled fabric by hand.



[Discover more here](#)



Images: Ilka White teaching workshop participants to weave using a table loom; Ilka White, *Grasses Sash* (2012-13). Hand woven twill cloth of silk, wool, viscose & linen yarns.



Regina Pilawuk Wilson (Peppimenarti N.T)

Regina Pilawuk Wilson, a Ngan'gikurrungurr woman, is from the Daly River region, Northern Territory.

Regina says, "...The pinbin vine (bush vine) grows near the river and is stripped into fibres that are woven into the net. The syaw is used to catch fish, prawn and other edible creatures in the creeks and rivers."

[Discover more here](#)



Regina Pilawuk Wilson, Syaw (Fish net), Synthetic polymer paint on canvas and Walipan (Fishing net), Livistonia Humilis (Sand Palm).



Images: Regina Pilawuk Wilson, Syaw (Fish net), Synthetic polymer paint on canvas ; Regina demonstrates her technique to participants during *Interwoven*.



MAV Emerge Cultural Hub (Bendigo)

Bendigo Emerge Cultural Hub facilitated by Multicultural Arts Victoria is a network of artists and cultural leaders from refugee, First People's and diverse cultural backgrounds in Bendigo. Members of Emerge created artwork for *Interwoven* and gave workshops and demonstrations sharing their skills.

[Discover more here](#)





Image: Paw Kyi Pai, Shirt

Video: Weavers from the local Karen community demonstrated their technique during *Interwoven*.

Weaving = Warp + Weft

- Weaving combines the strong, straight vertical threads, called the *warp*, and the flexible horizontal threads that create the pattern, called the *weft*.
- Without the *structure* of the warp, the fabric would fall apart and without the *flexibility* and changing pattern created by the weft, the fabric would be plain and uninteresting.
- Both the *warp* and the *weft* are needed to create a strong, beautiful fabric.
- An art gallery is like this too. The architecture or building is like the warp, and the art and people are like the weft, constantly changing.
- What other things can you think of that need both *structure* and *flexibility*?

Weaving Challenge:





You can weave with different materials like paper, leaves, bark, wool, strips of material - what else can you try?



To weave together the kind of community that we want to live and feel safe in, we must learn about and respect each other's culture, ideas, perspectives, values and traditions.

***Interwoven* featured traditional weaving by Paw Kyi Pai from the Bendigo Karen community. Around 2,500 Karen people now live in Bendigo.**

You may like to watch the following short video made by the Karen Organisation of Bendigo with the City of Greater Bendigo Council to help people understand more about their story.





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