

Marie Baron’s Estate Inventory

In 1748 Marie Catherine Baron’s possessions, also referred to as her estate, were inventoried and appraised after her death. The following translation is not complete but includes those household items and items of clothing that were legible.

Household Items:	
14 napkins	20 livres
4 linen table cloths	20 livres
3 window curtains of brown linen	5 livres
2 chests and 1 valise, well bound and closed with a lock	40 livres
2 caskets closed with locks and covered with red copper	20 livres
3 calico window curtains	24 livres
1 bed furnished with a straw mattress, a pillow, a bolster, a calico bedspread, a feather bed, a green wool blanket	120 livres
1 cot	40 livres
1 large framed mirror	70 livres
1 small cupboard with 6 wine bottles	15 livres
1 old chest closed with a lock	5 livres
2 silver goblets	25 livres
2 crystal goblets	2 livres
1 armchair	12 livres
1 square table with drawers	25 livres
20 plates, 1 large dish, 1 small dish, 1 pot	85 livres
12 iron forks and dinner knives, 5 spoons, 1 little pewter basin	18 livres
6 crockery plates	3 livres
1 small copper cauldron	3 livres
1 medium-sized frying pan, 1 grill, 1 fork to draw food from the pot . .	15 livres
2 medium-sized pans	20 livres
1 small cauldron	3 livres
1 old wardrobe	20 livres
1 frying pan	7 livres
1 small framed mirror	6 livres

Clothing:	
1 capot jacket and breeches	60 livres
(a capot: a man’s knee-length hooded jacket, belted at the waist with a sash)	
1 capot of cadiz and 1 black jacket	40 livres

2 jackets of cholet, 1 capot of limbourg	25 livres
1 capot of cadiz adorned with silver lace and 1 waistcoat of red camelot adorned with silver lace and silver buttons	60 livres
1 purse and 1 hat of half beaver	20 livres
1 wool belt, 1 pair of gloves	4 livres
3 pairs of breeches, one of cotton, one of basin, one of cadiz	15 livres
4 shirts (chemises)	40 livres
2 shirts (chemises) of Beaufort linen	20 livres
1 dressing gown, 1 taffeta petticoat, 1 cotton dress, 1 calico dress . . .	220 livres
1 pair of silver buckles	15 livres
2 old pairs of slippers	5 livres

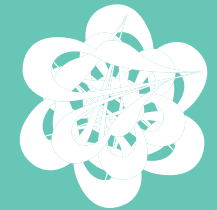
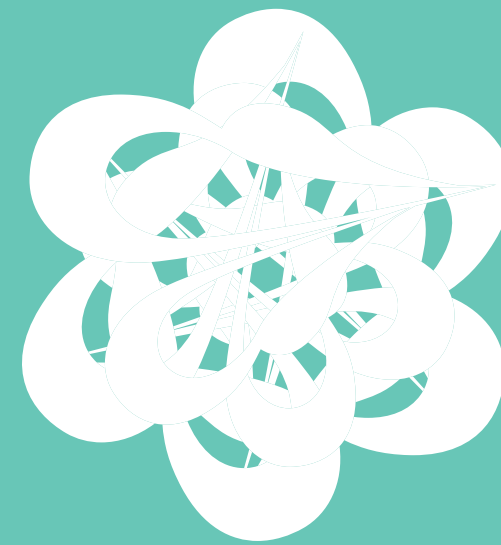
Other:	
1 hunting knife, 1 silver pistol	30 livres
1 bullet mold	20 livres
400 hundred pounds of lead	100 livres
4 oxen	400 livres
4 cows	300 livres
2 mares, 2 colts	220 livres
40 fowl (chickens), large and small	40 livres
1 family of slaves (a man, a woman and 2 baby boys)	2,000 livres



Hands and Hearts Activities C

Japanese Kokeshi Doll

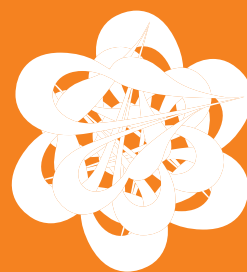
Dolls are a very important part of Japanese culture. One ancient Japanese holiday is Girl's Day, which falls on March 3. On Girl's Day, special foods are served and special decorations are put out, but the most important activity is making fancy displays of many dolls.



These dolls are meant to be looked at, so they are not cuddly dolls to play or sleep with. The dolls are often passed down from generation to generation and may be very valuable. One kind of Japanese doll is a Kokeshi doll. These are small wooden dolls with simple bodies. You can make boy or girl Kokeshi dolls, or one of each.

Materials Needed

- The two wooden doll forms from your kit
- Your liner and flat brushes from your kit
- The black, white, red, blue, and yellow acrylic paint from your kit
- The plastic paint pallet from your kit
- Your own paint clothes and newspaper or paper to protect your work surface
- Your own scrap paper for practice



Instructions:

1. You will be using acrylic paint which is not washable, so protect your work surface and wear paint clothes.
2. Pour a little of each color of paint into separate wells of your paint pallet.
3. You will need to decide if you are making girl dolls, boy dolls, or one of each. No matter what gender of dolls you are making, you will need to start by painting the faces. Use your liner brush for this. Do not put too much paint on the brush – in fact, use the smallest possible amount. Too much paint will make big blotches. If you are nervous about blotches, you can paint some practice faces on some scrap paper. Paint tiny black eyes and a red smile. Girls might want to mix some of the white and a tiny bit of red in an empty well of the pallet for light pink cheeks. If you mess up the face, please do not worry! Just turn the doll around and paint a face on the other side. When you paint the hair, you can paint right over the mistake face and no one will ever know.
4. Now paint the hair. Use black paint, and be VERY careful to only use a tiny bit of paint on the brush.
 - A. For a girl, you might want to paint tiny wisps of hair that curl toward the face at the nape of the neck, and then paint the rest of the hair solid black. If you want to make a ponytail or other hair going down the doll's back don't do it yet. You can go back and paint that hair after the doll's clothes are painted on.
 - B. For a boy, you can paint bangs and shorter hair. Many Japanese warriors had very short hair in front and long ponytails in back, and you can try that.

5. Let your doll sit a few minutes so the paint can dry. This won't take long, and while you wait you can plan the clothes. You could even paint some practice clothes on paper if you like. Both boys and girls wore robes called kimonos. Select a color for the first robe and paint it by painting all around the body with a "V" neck in the front. A flat brush will be better than the liner for this. You can hold the head while you paint the robe. If you want, once the robe dries a bit, you can add details using your liner.

A. You could paint a thin stripe of a different color to outline the robe. You may want to add small flowers or stripes and a belt for the girl doll. For the boy doll you could add a belt with a dagger or sword hanging from it for a warrior doll. (Mix white paint with a teeny tiny bit of black paint to make grey for weapons.)

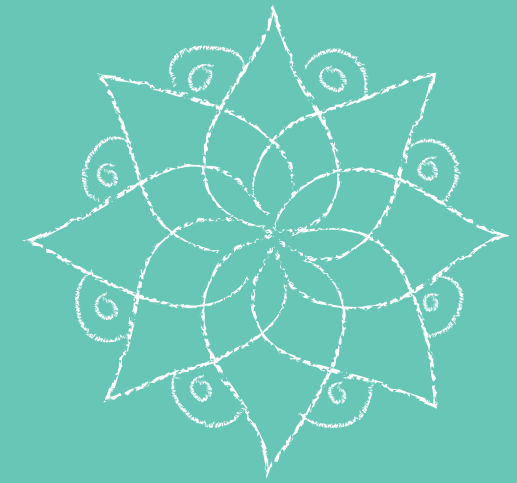
B. You can add other special touches like flowers in a girl doll's hair, or a ponytail that goes beyond the head. You can do so now by painting on top of the clothing.

C. As you paint, remember that no mistake is beyond fixing. If you don't like the way something turns out, just let it dry and paint right over it.

6. To clean up, rinse your brushes and pallet and put them away in your kit. You will also need to put away the bottles of paint, being sure to close them tightly. Clean up your work area and check the floor for drips of paint.

Colorful Mandala

Mandalas are elaborate, intricate pictures made out of colored sand. They are made by monks in Tibet as part of the Buddhist religion. Mandalas are always round and contain images and symbols that represent 13 or more different gods.



While some temples contain permanent images of mandalas, actual sand mandalas are always destroyed after just two days! We are going to make a mandala, but from a pattern of your choosing. You will use glue to stick your colored sand to cardstock, so your mandala will last far longer than two days!

Materials Needed

- The bags of colored sand from your kit
- 1 piece of cardstock printed with a circle from your kit.
This is your template.
- The liquid glue from your kit
- The paintbrushes from your kit – probably only your flats
- 1 Styrofoam cup from your kit
- Your own pencil
- Your own spoon
- Your own paint clothes and newspaper
- Your own waste basket

Instructions:

1. You will be working with liquid glue and sand, so cover your workplace and wear paint clothes. You will need to shake extra sand off your mandala, so you will want to have a waste-basket nearby or you will need some sort of paper onto which you will shake the sand.

2. Take a moment to look at the cardstock and decide what designs you will use on your mandala. Use a pencil to lightly sketch the designs. It is important to make large, simple shapes that do not have any small details, and it is also important to consider the colors of sand that are available to you.

3. Pour a small amount of glue into the Styrofoam cup and add an equal amount of warm water. About a tablespoon each of glue and water will be plenty. Stir well; then rinse your spoon so the glue doesn't dry on it.

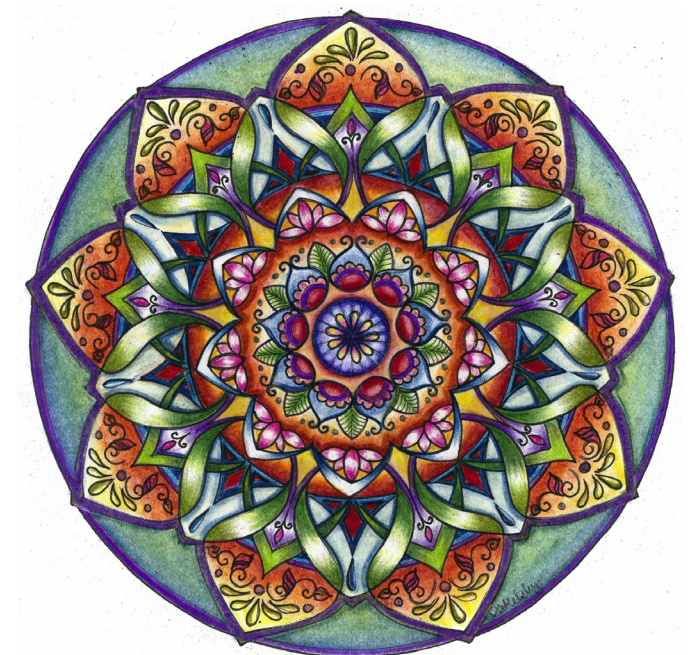
4. Decide which colors you will use for the different parts of your design. Start with one color and use one of your paint brushes to paint a light, even coat of liquid glue in every section that will be that color. Use a larger brush for larger areas and a smaller brush for smaller areas. If you have some very light or very dark colors, you should start with the darkest color first.

5. Sprinkle the correct color of sand evenly over the areas that you painted with glue. It is fine if the sand goes out of the glued area since it won't stick there.

6. Pick up your cardstock and shake it gently over a trashcan or onto some paper. Gently tap the back of the cardstock so that all of the excess sand falls off.

7. Repeat these steps with each separate color of sand. You should be able to use each color one after the other, but if you have a lot of wet glue showing through any color, then you will want to allow it to dry before using the next color. If you do need to wait, cover your cup of glue with a damp paper towel and rinse your brushes until you are ready to work again. If you wait a very long time there may be a thick skin of dry glue on top of the glue in the bowl. Just remove it and there will be more liquid glue underneath.

8. When you are finished, wash out your brushes with very warm water. If you shook out your sand onto newspaper, fold the edges in towards the center and carefully throw it away. Wipe any spilled sand off the table and check the floor to see if you need to sweep up any spills. Allow your mandala to dry completely.



Telling Time with Candles

During the Middle Ages, people learned to tell time in several ways. One way they could tell time was by using a sundial. A sundial is a circle, usually made of stone, with an upright bar of some sort in the center.



When the sunshine would hit the sundial, the bar would cast a shadow on the flat circle. As the sun's position in the sky shifted, the part of the circle in the shadows would change. If the creator of the sundial was careful, he would be able to mark the hours of the day around the circle, much like today's clock, and the shadow would strike the correct time. Of course, this method was not perfect, because if it was too cloudy outside there would be no way to tell time!

Another method of telling time was with candles. When a batch of candles was made, they would all be the same size. One candle would be burned for an hour or a half hour, or whatever the time the owner wished. Once it had burned for the desired amount of time, it would be blown out and placed next to all of the unburned candles. They would all be marked with a line to show how tall the burned candle was. Then the first candle would be burned for the same amount of time again, and all of the other candles marked, and so on.

When the first candle was all the way burned up, the owner would have an entire set of marked candles. The next time a candle was lit, the owner would be able to tell how much time had passed by seeing how far down the candle burned. Of course, this method was not perfect either. It only showed how much time had passed, not what time it was.

You are going to make a candlestick fit for a royal banquet, then you will mark the time on candles just as if you lived in Medieval times!

Instructions:

Candlestick

1. Put on your art clothes and protect your work surface.
2. Remove the wooden candlestick, gold paint, and paintbrush from your kit. The first thing you are going to need to do is to paint the candlestick with the gold paint. Do not use too much paint or it will become drippy and messy. Use careful, even, up-and-down or around-and-around strokes to paint the candlestick.
3. Allow the candlestick to dry about 15 minutes or so. When it is dry, you can apply a second coat of paint if needed. Let this coat dry as well, and wash your brush carefully when you are finished.
4. When the paint is completely dry, decorate the candlestick with some of the jewels. Plan where you want to put them before actually sticking them on.
5. Be sure to put away all of your supplies when you are finished.

Telling Time

1. Take the candles and the thumbtack out of your kit. You will also need an adult to help you with matches or a lighter. Choose one of the candles and put it in the candlestick. Have the other candles out on the table along with the thumbtack. Have an adult light the candle. Using a timer allow it to burn for one hour (60 minutes) then blow it out.
2. Make sure that the melted wax has a few minutes to cool, then remove the candle from the candlestick and compare it to the unburned candles. Line them all up so that the bottom of each candle is even.
3. Next, mark the height of the burned candle onto the unburned candles by making a deep line across each one with the thumbtack.

The thumbtack is sharp, so be careful and ask for help if you are unsure about using it. Be sure you ask an adult to put it somewhere safe when you have finished the project.

4. Place the burned candle back into the candlestick, and have an adult light it again. Let it burn another hour, and then repeat the above process. Keep doing this until the candle is nearly gone. It may take a day or two if you are busy with other things.

5. Enjoy telling time with your other candles. Maybe your family would like to use one of them to have a special candlelight dinner. It would be interesting to see how close your candles are to the real time on your clock!

Materials Needed

- Your art clothes and something to protect the work area
- Wooden candlestick from your kit
- Gold paint from your kit
- Paintbrush from your kit
- Jewel stickers from your kit
- Candles from your kit
- Thumbtack from your kit
- Your own matches or lighter

Trading on the Frontier

Many types of trading took place on the frontier. In addition to beads, furs, especially beaver furs, were very valuable. In fact, the fur trade is considered to be the main force in opening up the West. Trappers would gather at large meetings called “rendezvous,” and bring in a year’s supply of furs with them.



Fur companies such as John Aster’s American Fur Company, would send out huge caravans filled with supplies of every kind to trade with the trappers. People who were not trappers, or who needed something outside of rendezvous season, had to rely on other methods of trade. There were few stores on the frontier, and shipping from the East was difficult and expensive. Therefore, many items were purchased used from estate sales.

The Illinois State Museum has the estate records of a woman named Marie Catherine Baron. The document is over 300 years old and was handwritten. Each item in her estate was valued by a number of livres, a French currency system.

Agricultural items such as grains, livestock, wood, smoked meat, and skins or furs, were also valued in livres. They were ideal for trade because they could be produced or harvested from the land. Someone who wanted a non-agricultural item, such as a pistol, could trade an agricultural item to obtain it.

Use the copy of Marie Baron’s estate inventory to answer the questions below. The inventory is located in your kit.

1. Deer hides were worth 2 livres per pound. How many hides would it take to buy a bullet mold?
2. Wheat was worth 10 livres per bushel. If you had 5 bushels, what would you buy with it?
3. Corn was worth 5 livres per bushel. How many curtains could you buy with a bushel of corn?
4. Flour was worth 3 livres per bushel. If you needed three pairs of breeches, how much flour would you need to trade for them?
5. Salt and pepper were very valuable. Pepper was worth 4 livres per pound, and salt was worth 60 livres per pound! What was more valuable – a pound of salt, or a hunting knife and silver pistol?

What other word problems can you think of?