



The Wood Carver

Mata lives in the Trobriand Islands. He carves wood. Read how he makes a big bowl. Mata is proud of his bowl and his culture.



The Wood Carver
Tandi Jackson

Let's Read



The Asia Foundation



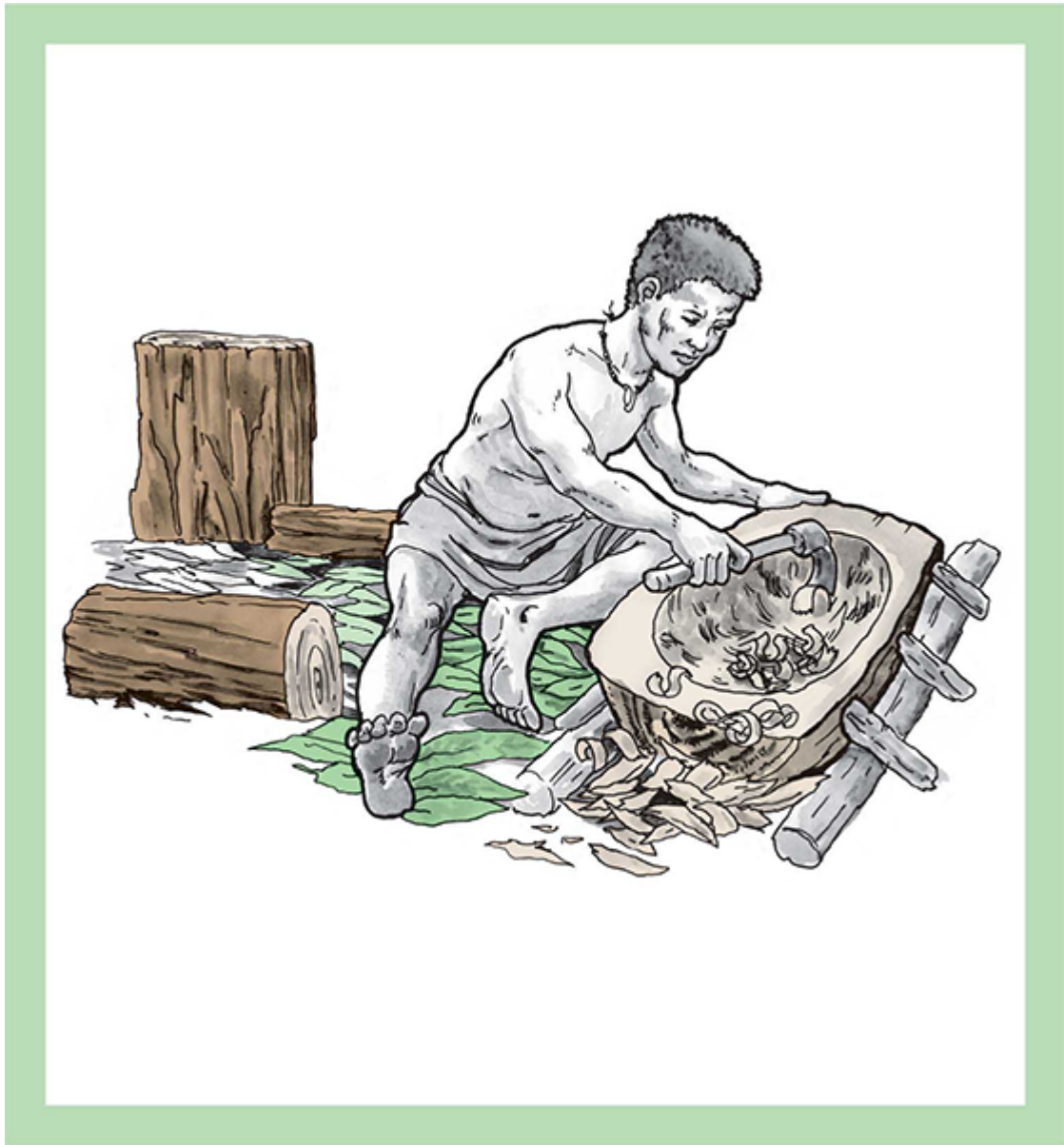
Mata lives in the Trobriand Islands. When Mata was a boy, he learnt to carve wood. Now Mata carves many things.



He makes carvings for singsings. Each pattern tells a story.



Today Mata is making a big bowl. Mata goes into the bush. He cuts off a good piece of wood.



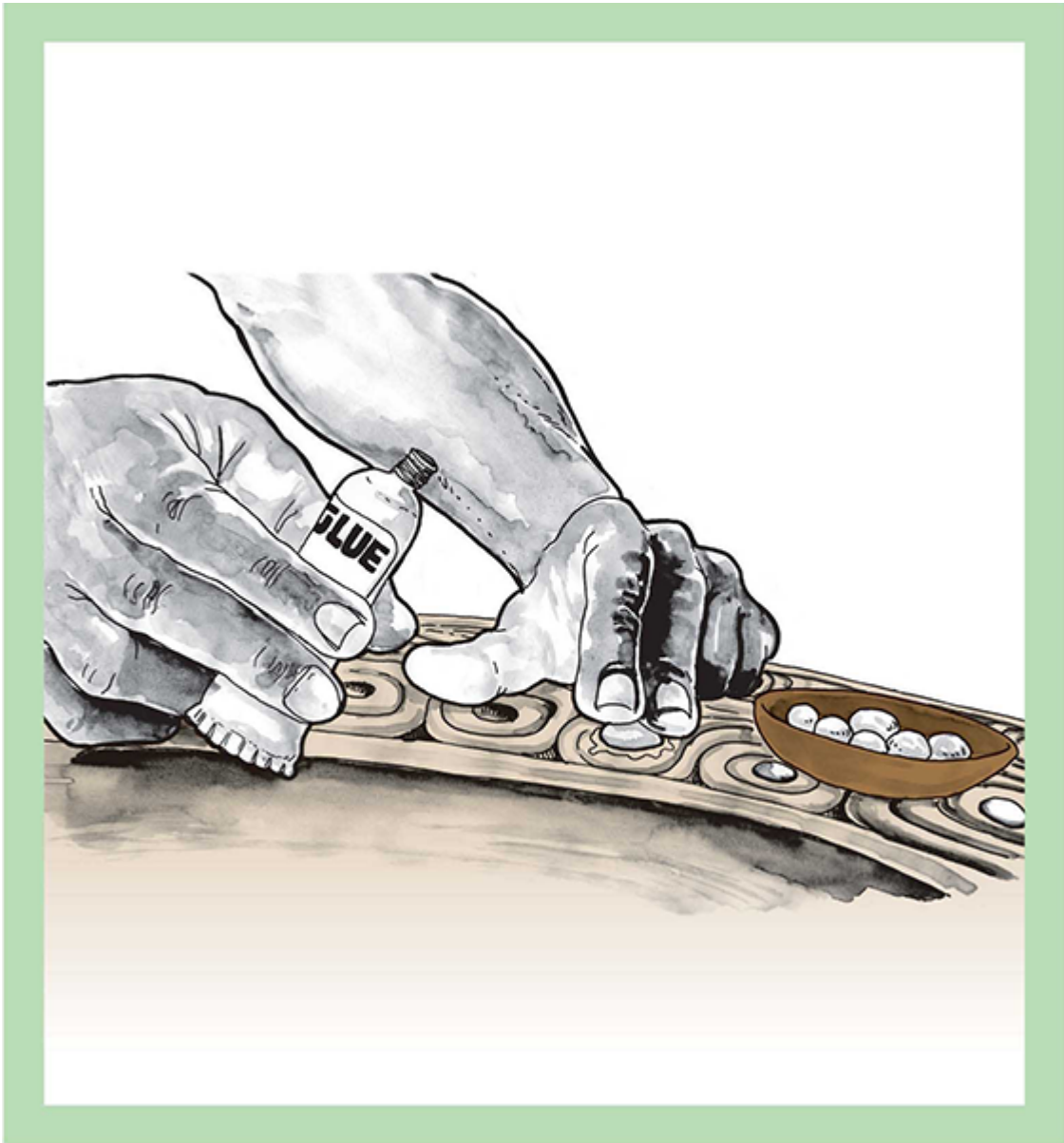
Mata carves the wood with his axe.



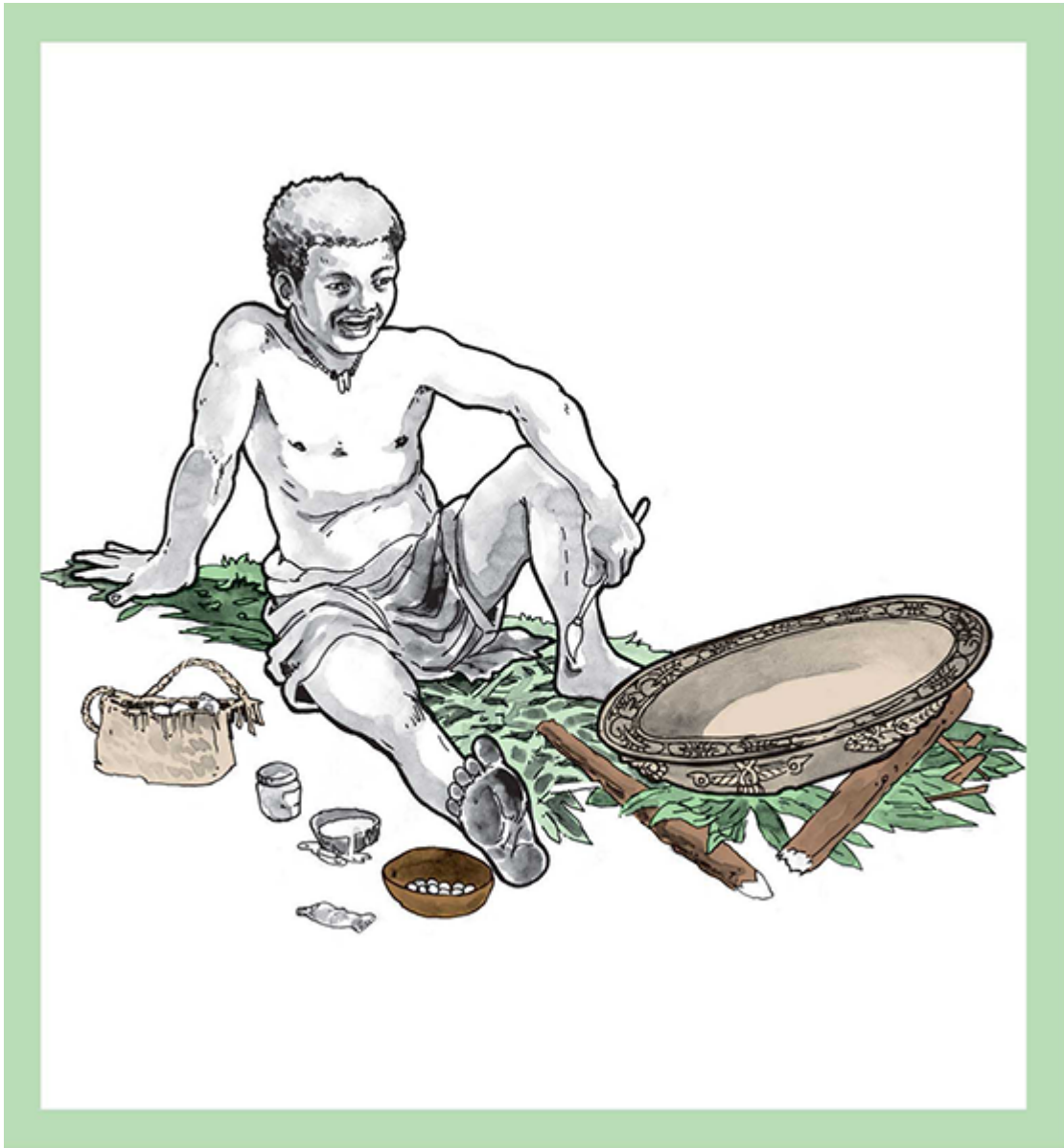
Next he uses a stingray tail to smooth the wood.



Mata paints the wooden bowl with black paint.



Next Mata finds small shells and cuts them. He glues the shells around the top of his bowl.



Mata is proud of his bowl. The pattern tells about the sea.



Can you see the story in this pattern?



Comprehension Questions 1. Where does Mata live? 2. What did Mata learn as a boy? 3. What things does Mata carve? 4. What do the patterns he carves tell? 5. What does Mata make in this story? 6. What does he do first? 7. What tool does he use to carve the wood? 8. What does he do with the stingray tail? 9. What does Mata do to decorate the carved bowl? 10. How does Mata feel about his bowl? Why? Activity Draw patterns that tell about the customs and traditions of your people.



Bilum Books publishes quality educational resources for schools in Papua New Guinea. Our publishing priority is literacy. Our commitment is to help raise the standards by producing quality books at reasonable prices and in line with the PNG Department of Education Syllabus. Bilum Books runs teacher-training workshops to assist the professional development of Elementary teachers, in particular. Visit our website: www.bilumbooks.com or Facebook.



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



**GLOBAL BOOK
ALLIANCE**

This product is made possible through the support of the All Children Reading: A Grand Challenge for Development (ACR GCD) Founding Partners (the United States Agency for International Development [USAID], World Vision, and the Australian Government) in collaboration with the Global Book Alliance. It was prepared by The Asia Foundation and does not necessarily reflect the views of the ACR GCD Founding Partners or the Global Book Alliance. Any adaptation or translation of this work should not be considered an official ACR GCD translation, and ACR GCD shall not be liable for any content or errors in this translation.

Brought to you by

Let's Read is an initiative of The Asia Foundation's Books for Asia program that fosters young readers in Asia and the Pacific.

booksforasia.org To read more books like this and get further information, visit letsreadasia.org.

Original Story The Wood Carver, Author: Tandi Jackson. Illustrator: Michael John. Published by Bilum Books, <http://www.bilumbooks.com/> © Bilum Books. Released under CC BY 4.0.

This work is a modified version of the original story. © The Asia Foundation, 2021. Some rights reserved. Released under CC BY 4.0. For full terms of use and attribution, <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/>