



# Families of Philippines

## Teacher's Guide

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## **Families of the Philippines Script**

### **Rural Family - Cebu**

It's early morning on Cebu, the island where I live. The Philippines is made up of over 7,000 islands, and that's why you don't have to look very far to see lots of fishing boats. Most boats have outriggers, which are sort of like big hands that stick out on each side. They push down on the water if the boat tries to tip too far one way or the other.

These fishermen are pulling in nets they've used to catch fish. They're wearing scarves to protect themselves from the sun.

Some fishermen put their faces right down in the water to look for big fish that they can spear.

The water here is so clear that you can see all the way to the bottom, even when it's quite deep.

Some families do fish farming in lakes or along the coast. This man is trying to corner a few fish so he can net them. Success!

My name is Khim, and I live in a rural area close to the coast. Grandma's waking me up to get ready for school.

I live with Grandma and Grandpa, and my aunt and her two kids, John Paul and Misyel.

We bathe every day, because we have a tropical climate that's hot and humid. We get monsoon rains for about 5 months of the year.

I'm putting on my school uniform.

Our kitchen and dining room are on the ground level, but the rest of the house is a few feet off the ground to catch the breeze. The bamboo floor lets sand drop through and helps air circulate. Grandma is having a piece of jack fruit for breakfast.

I'm 13 and I'm in the first year of high school. It only takes me about 10 minutes to walk to school.

I go to this public school that has almost 10,000 students.

Right now, we're studying plants, and one of our projects is raising these medicinal plants on the school grounds. They each have a sign that tells what the plant is and what it can be used for. Lots of modern medicines are made from plants. This is ginger. It's used to treat a sore throat.

Elementary and high schools in the Philippines are free, and almost everyone can read and write. My favorite class is science. Today we're working with a microscope. In this class, we use microscopes to look at things like the cells that make plant walls, or bacteria that live in the soil and help plants grow. Today I'm learning how to put this microscope together so the eyepiece and lenses are in the right places.

I don't know if Grandpa and Grandma had microscopes when they went to school, but I do know that they didn't have computers. All the students here take a computer course in our first year of high school so we'll know how to find information we need for our other classes.

While I'm at school, Grandma's weeding our corn plants. Weeds compete with the corn for water and minerals. We usually grow corn, tomatoes, green beans, sweet potatoes, and cabbage. Most families here have a garden, raise a few chickens or pigs, and catch fish, so we don't have to buy much food at stores. Our neighbor has lots of roosters.

On the way home from school, my friends and I stop at the video arcade. A game costs 5 pesos. I'm looking for dance competitions, because I love to dance, and I study the dancers' moves. I like karate, too.

I need to get home pretty soon because my aunt and uncle are visiting. Right now they're swimming at their favorite place.....a waterfall close to Grandpa and Grandma's house. Aunt Angel said that when they were kids they always liked to swim in the pool at the bottom of the falls.

The cool water feels good.

Our island has lots of areas that we like to explore. Tourists like to come here to explore, too. Many people come to go snorkeling, scuba diving, and shell hunting. The waters here have 12,000 kinds of seashells! Visitors used to collect live shells and coral to take home, but people here are worried that if too many are taken, the

shells will disappear. Dad says that happened with reef fish in some countries. So now, only photographs are allowed in most areas here.

Some people travel between the islands by air, but most go by boat.

Visitors like to try some of the things we do all the time, like eating green coconuts. If you cut the coconut open carefully, you can drink the coconut water inside. If you open it a little more, you can spoon out the soft, sweet coconut. It's a little like melon.

Visitors also like to try jackfruit, which is covered with sharp spines. It's hard to handle, but the inside is juicy and delicious. I always wonder why people first tried a food that's so prickly. They must have been very curious or awfully hungry. Jackfruit can be huge. Grandpa says they're the biggest fruit in the world that grows on a tree. We eat them both raw and cooked.

Grandpa drove a tour bus for many years. He still helps visitors get around, but now he drives a tricycle taxi. It's a motorcycle with a seat on the side. It doesn't use much gas or take a lot of room to park, and it can carry a lot of people.

This kind of tricycle doesn't take ANY gas at all, because the driver pedals it like a bike.

Today Grandpa's taking Grandma and my cousin to the grocery store a few minutes from our house.

Grandma's buying rice. She's also getting powdered milk for my youngest cousin, who's only a year old and still uses a bottle. Grandma's ready to check out, but she almost forgot to get flip-flops for my cousin Misyel.

When I get home from the arcade, I change my clothes so I can do my chores.

The first thing I do is feed our goats. We have four right now. They like these branches from the tree that grows next to their pen. You might think these goats are pets, but we raise them for food. We have lots of festivals in our country, and serving meat is one way we celebrate special occasions.

When I'm finished with the goats, my cousin and I go out in our yard to collect firewood to cook rice for supper.

When we get as much as we can carry, we take the wood back to the house. We'll use my load tonight and Misyel will put hers under the house to use tomorrow.

A gas stove would be easier to cook on, but we would have to buy gas. This way we're saving money while we're cleaning the yard. I put my branches here in the kitchen under the stove, where it will stay dry if we get rain.

It's my job to cook the rice, and it's time for me to get started, because we'll be eating at about 7 o'clock. Tonight my aunt and uncle will be eating with us. We have rice at every meal. If some is left over tonight, we'll have it for breakfast.

Making the rice is one of the most important jobs in cooking our meals. It's OK not to have much fish or meat as long as the rice is good.

I'm adding water to the rice. Grandma says getting clean water used to be a problem in rural areas like ours. But now most people have water refilling stations nearby.

I measure the water by seeing how deep it is on my hand. I need to add a little more to get it just right.

Building the fire is easy, but once I start cooking I have to stay around to keep adding wood to the fire so it doesn't go out before the rice is cooked.

Our family doesn't grow rice, because it needs a special field that can be flooded with water some of the time when it's growing. Lots of farmers here do grow it, though.

Our country has a science lab that only studies rice, and they have over 80,000 different kinds! In some parts of the country the mountains have been carved into steps, or terraces, where rice is grown. Some terraces like this are more than 2000 years old.

Tonight making supper is a family project.

We eat fish almost every day, and today Grandpa bought some right from the fisherman who caught them. He's cleaning these small fish by taking out the intestines and scraping off the scales, which are the hard little plates, sort of like fingernails, that protect the fish's skin. We have to watch for bones when we eat them.

When he buys bigger fish, Grandpa filets them, which means he cuts the meat away from the bones before he cooks it, so we don't have to worry about bones when we eat.

Grandpa adds onions, garlic, red pepper, salt and water to the fish. He puts a lid on it. Then he adds some wood to the fire.

Several of my aunts and uncles live nearby and we often eat together.

Everyone is waiting for the fish to cook. Dinner's ready. No matter what time of day a visitor comes, we always offer them something to eat.

Most Filipinos eat several small meals a day.

I've heard that in some parts of the world it's rude to burp, but here it means you're full and enjoyed the meal.

After my aunt and uncle leave, I put a label on a DVD. Then it's time to go to sleep. I lay on my bed, say a quick prayer, and make myself comfortable.

Goodnight!

## **Urban Family - Bulacan**

This is Manila, the capital of the Philippines. It's on the island of Luzon. Manila has modern buildings and lots of things to see.

Our family lives on Luzon, too, but not in Manila. We live in Bulacan.

Our family is Mom, Dad, my 9-year-old sister, Diwata, and me. My name is Shahani, and I'm 7 years old.

Mom wakes me up at 5 o'clock so I can get ready for school. She's ironing my skirt.

It's a good thing Mom's helping me, because I'm always sleepy for the first hour or so in the morning. We wear uniforms at school, so it's easy to decide what to wear.

Can you hear the roosters crowing? We don't really need an alarm clock!

Mom's heating water to make cocoa for me. I'm also having rolls with cheese spread. She's already made lunch for me, and she's putting it in my backpack. She also checks to be sure I have all my books and homework.

Most students carry lunchboxes to school. We usually have a thermos with a fruit drink, rice, or a little fish or chicken, and tomato sauce to put on it. Some kids bring a peanut butter sandwich for their afternoon snack.

Do you see the name tag I'm wearing around my neck? I go to a school that has about 5,000 students, and we wear name tags to help the teachers remember who we are.

Mom's putting lotion on my face. Then it's time to leave.

We usually leave our flip flops at the door.

I'm in school from 7:30 until 4:30, but my cousin goes to a school where they have two shifts, and she's in the afternoon classes. We go to school for 10 months. Our school vacation is in April and May, the hottest months of the year.

Mom and Dad pay a neighbor to take us to school. He picks up 3 other kids on the way. The ride only takes about 10 minutes.



The first thing we do each day is have an opening ceremony. We raise the Philippine flag, sing the national anthem and say the pledge of allegiance. Then we do some exercises together.

Mom says our school is one of the biggest ones in this area.

I'm in second grade.

Our first class is English.

While I'm at school Mom shops for groceries at food stands near our house.

That's cooking oil in the clear bags. She's getting 2 kilos of rice

Now she's deciding what kind of fish to get for dinner. Mom buys fish and vegetables every day to be sure they're fresh. She decides to get a fourth of a kilogram of dried fish.

Next she gets garlic, onions and cucumbers. Mom pays with pesos, which is what our money is called. The boy doesn't have the right change, so the woman next to him helps out.

Mom checks each egg to be sure it isn't cracked. Then she buys cabbage, and she's ready to go home.

Dad's taking a bus to work. He entertains kids at birthday parties, and every weekend he works at a big mall about 3 hours from our house. The mall has all kinds of games and rides, even statues of saints on their feast days! It's so big that it even has a train and a rollercoaster inside the mall.

When families hire Dad for their parties, he dresses in costumes and dances and acts funny. All the kids like to have their pictures taken with him.

He has to be careful not to scare the really little kids. Maybe they think he's a real animal!

Dad also teaches kids to dance, and he has a class after school today. There are a dozen girls in this class. Diwata and I are in this class, too. Our parents are helping us get ready, because today we're practicing wearing our costumes. It's a dress rehearsal, because our group is going to be in a dance competition soon.

Sometimes we compete individually, and a few months ago I won first place in a big contest. I was even on TV!

We play games while we wait.

Now we're starting class. We use this stage at our school after school's out.

First we practice this number a few times without music so Dad can give us directions if he needs to. Then we do it with the real music.

If we get nervous before we compete, Dad always tells us, "Bahala na". That means do your best, then don't worry, just enjoy it. He says that's a good way to think about life.

After class we drop a friend off at a church near our house. Then it's time to go home and have supper.

Mom says most people in the Philippines are Catholics, but we have lots of other religions, too. That's because the country was ruled by several other countries. She says the mixture is what makes things interesting.

Mom made rice and adobo, a kind of stew that everyone likes. Adobo is meat or fish that's cooked with soy sauce, garlic, pepper and vinegar. Tonight we're having chicken adobo. After supper we have one of our favorite snacks, green mango. We dip the mango chunks in soy sauce. Then Diwata and I play around a little.

Later some friends come for a visit. It seems like everybody here loves basketball. Every neighborhood has a place to play, and most kids have some kind of hoop to shoot balls.

We all like to read, so we decide to practice English, because I have a test tomorrow.

My teacher says more than 70 languages are spoken here, but everyone learns Tagalog and English. That's because they're our official languages.

Lots of people also speak Spanish, because the Philippines was a colony of Spain for four hundred years.

Dad and Mom like us to do well in school. Many of our country's leaders are women, and we even had two women presidents. Dad says if we get a good education, we can be leaders, too.

Later we fool around with our hair. Do you think we could get elected if our hair didn't look nice?

Dad set up a spelling game so we can play with it for a while before bedtime.

We have school tomorrow which means we have to be in bed by 9.

Dad makes up the bed for us.

Then we say our prayers. I start to worry about my English test tomorrow. So I say to myself, I know I've studied and I am going to do my best Bahala na. What will be, will be. Goodnight!

## **Glossary**

Catholics - Christians who accept the Pope as the head of their church

Coral - the undersea structure made of the shells of tiny sea creatures

Colony - a place that is settled or ruled by people of another stronger country

Garlic - a plant related to onions that is used to season foods

Intestines - the part of the body that helps digest food after it has been through the stomach

Karate - a form of sport based on Japanese martial arts

Kilo - a measure of weight from the metric systems which is equivalent to 2.2 pounds

Mango - a kind a tropical fruit with a sweet yellow meat

Microscope - a scientific instrument used to enlarge the view of small things

Snorkeling - an activity whereby one can swim with one's head in the water for a long time by breathing through a tube

Soy sauce - a salty sauce made by letting soy beans sit and interact with yeast causing it to ferment

## **Discussion and Activities after Viewing**

- Ask each child to list some of the similarities and differences between their family and school and those in the video.
- Invite someone from the Philippines to talk with the class about growing up in the Philippines and to play Filipino music or tell a Filipino story.
- Ask the class what things in the video tell us about the climate in the Philippines.
- Discuss how living by the sea affect the lives of the people
- Discuss the similarities between the US and the Philippines

## Questions

1. What languages do Filipinos speak?
2. What is the geography of the Philippines?
3. Who are the Philippines' nearest neighbors?
4. Where do the Filipino people come from?
5. Why has the Philippines been in the news?
6. What is the connection between the Philippines and the United States?
7. Why are most Filipinos Catholics?

## Answers to Questions

1. What languages do Filipinos speak?

The two official languages are Filipino and English. Historically the country had many languages because of the land was a collection of mountainous islands

2. What is the geography of the Philippines?

The Philippines is an archipelago of over seven thousand of islands. Only a thousand of the islands are populated and the two largest Luzon and Mindanao make up two thirds of the land area of the country. The islands were born from volcanic activity and are thus mountainous. The climate is subtropical.

3. Who are the Philippines' nearest neighbors?

The Philippines sits in the Western Pacific directly south of Taiwan and northeast of Borneo and northwest of the Indonesian islands of the Moluccas and Sulawesi.

4. Where do the Filipino people come from?

The Filipino people are mostly the descendants of Malayo-Polynesian speaking immigrants who arrived from either Southeast Asia or Taiwan.

5. Why has the Philippines been in the news?

The Philippines has been in the news because it has active Muslim insurgency in the southern part of the islands.

6. What is the connection between the Philippines and the United States?

The United States colonized the Philippines after the Spanish American War for some 40 years. Today English is an official language in the Philippines and there are more than 3 million Filipino-Americans.

7. Why are most Filipinos Catholics?

The Philippines was a colony of Spain for more than 300 years.

## Test

### Some Things We've Learned about the Philippines

(Please circle the correct answer).

1.    T   F        English is the only national language of the Philippines.
2.    T   F        Weather in most parts of the Philippines is subtropical.
3.    T   F        The Philippines is on the continent of North America.
4.    T   F        There has been many wars in the Philippines recently.
5.    T   F        Most Filipinos are Muslims.
6.    T   F        Manila is the largest city in the Philippines.
7.    T   F        Iran and China are neighbors of the Philippines.
8.    T   F        The Philippines is very mountainous.
9.    T   F        The Philippines is an underdeveloped country.
10.   Draw a series of pictures telling Khim and Shahani's story. Try to include as much detail as you can remember from each part of the story.



## **Introduction**

The Philippines is famous for the Rice Terraces of Ifugao, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. It is famous for being the home to the people power movement that overthrew the dictator Ferdinand Marcos. It is the place where the famous explorer Ferdinand Magellan died on the first voyage around the world. It is one of the twelve most populous nations in the world.

## **The Land and Climate**

The Philippines is about the size of the Italy, Ecuador or Arizona.

It lies in the Western Pacific, south of Taiwan and northeast of the island of Borneo and northwest of the Indonesian islands of the Moluccas and Sulawesi.

The country can be divided into three major island groups. The two largest island groups are those around the two largest islands Luzon and Mindanao and the third group the Visayas are a number of mid-sized islands that lie between the first two groups.

The islands have a volcanic origin and are mountainous. Most people live on the coastal plains. Only half of the seven thousand islands are larger than a square mile. And only a thousand of these islands are populated. The climate is subtropical with monsoon rains from May to October. It also lies in the path of typhoons which annually arrive from June to October.

## **Plant and Animal Life**

Only 10% of the Philippines remain forested. Illegal logging is reducing the habitats of the country's diverse range of animals and plants. The Philippines has one of the largest concentrations of species. It is home to over 13,000 plant species including many rare orchid species and over 1000 invertebrate animal species and over 3000 fish species. Hundreds of species are native only to the Philippines.

Some of the larger animals of the Philippines include the Philippine eagle, the dugong, the spotted Visayan deer, and the mouse deer.

## **People**

The earliest known settlers of the Philippines came some 50,000 years ago. Next, about 30,000 years ago came a people known as the Negritos. They were a short statured, wavy haired, dark complexioned people who were one of the many early waves of people to have left Africa and settled in the southern coastal areas of Asia. Then a Malayo-Polynesian speaking people of Austronesian descent arrived in waves from about 7000 years ago. They may have come from Taiwan or Southeast Asia. The Philippines came into contact with Europe in 1521 when Magellan landed. The Spanish colonized the islands and converted all to Catholicism. There was considerable trade with the Chinese and many Chinese artisans and traders came to the Philippines. Most took native women as wives and a largish population of mixed Chinese Filipinos developed. As many as 5 million Filipinos claim to have some Chinese ancestry. In the south on Mindanao and the surrounding islands there are Muslim peoples who date from the first millenium of the current era.

The country has an urbanization rate of 50%. 20% of the country's people live in the greater Manila area.

Less than 20% of the land is arable. A third of the workforce works in agriculture. High population growth has meant that the typical worker has about an acre of land to work. Many small landholdings have led to low productivity and lack of investments.

Light industry dominates manufacturing, electronic assembly and garments. The nation faces competition from many countries in these industries. The industrial sector is handicapped by poor infrastructure, corruption, and low government efficiency.

An area that is growing is business service processing including call centers. This is due to the availability of a large English educated workforce. Because of the lack of growth in the country up to 5 million Filipinos work abroad in various service occupations from managers and nurses, to maids and ship's crew and many unskilled workers.

## **History**

Evidence suggested that humans have inhabited the area that is today the Philippines for over 50,000 years. About 7000 thousand years ago Malayo-Polynesian people arrived in waves from either Taiwan or Southeast Asia,

displacing the Negritos. Myths and legends of that time tell of many small tribal groups. They worshipped the sky and the mountains and believed in magical spirits and supernatural forces.

Between the ninth century and the fourteenth century, many small kingdoms were established ranging from those with Indianized cultures, Muslim sultanates and even one with Chinese influence. The dominant force was that of Islam. A flourishing trade was established with countries in East and Southeast Asia.

In 1521, Magellan arrived during his attempt to circumnavigate the globe. In a skirmish with locals he was killed. His expedition continued onward and succeeded in circling the world. The Spanish soon arrived in force and slowly colonized most of the islands. The country is named after King Philip II of Spain. The Spanish brought the Catholic Church which soon converted most of the natives. The Spanish used Manila as a great Asian trading center. The trade goods of Asia would arrive in Manila, and the Manila galleons would take the ivory, silk, porcelain and spices to Acapulco Mexico and would return with Mexican silver. Some of the goods were sold in the Americas and others made the journey on the Spanish treasure fleets to Spain.

The Philippines was not a very profitable colony for Spain. The colony required constant subsidies from the Spanish government. In the late nineteenth century the Spanish educated local elites began agitating for reform and independence. In 1896 the Philippines Revolution began. By 1898 most of the Philippines was in the hands of the Filipinos and the First Philippine Republic was established.

In 1898, the US and Spain fought a brief war and as part of the spoils the US received the Philippines. Overriding the interest of the people of the Philippines who were striving to be independent, the United States annexed the country. In response, the Filipinos rose up against the United States and many were killed as the United States suppressed the uprising.

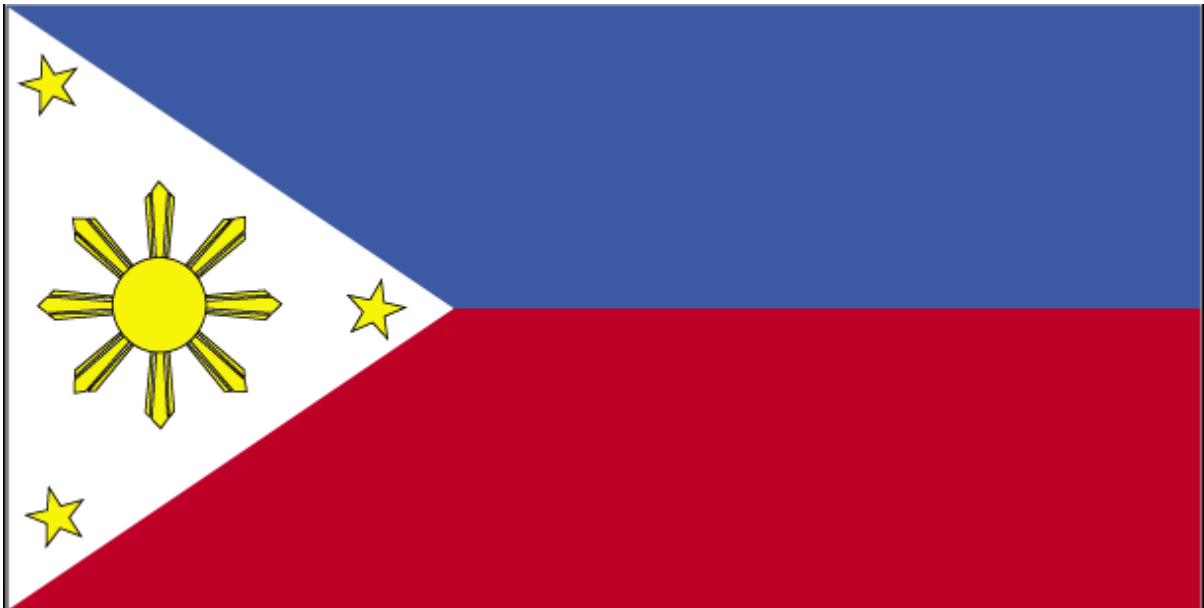
During the Great Depression sugar interests and labor unions in the United States encouraged Philippine independence to shut out imports of Philippine sugar and low cost labor respectively. In 1934 the US agreed to a ten year timetable for Philippine independence.

In 1941 Japan invaded the Philippines and defeated the combined US and Philippine forces. Over 80,000 prisoners were captured and thousands died in

the Bataan Death March to their prisoners of war camps. During the final days of the war, the American general MacArthur launched a misguided land invasion of the Philippines that served no strategic purpose. More than a million Filipinos died during these last stages of the war. The Japanese fought a desperate suicidal defense especially in the defense of the city of Manila. During those last days, the Imperial Japanese Army and Navy units committed atrocities against the population. American use of heavy artillery and the close quarter combat destroyed much of the city and killed over a hundred thousand of the trapped civilians.

In 1946, the Philippines gained its independence. After a good start, the governance of the country fell victim to special interests and corrupt politicians. The country was not able to implement necessary reforms to produce strong economic growth. The country stagnated through the end of the twentieth century. Some institutional problems still remain, and economic growth is not sufficient to raise the income of the people.

## Flag of the Philippines



Two equal horizontal bands of blue (top) and red; a white equilateral triangle is based on the hoist side; the center of the triangle displays a yellow sun with eight primary rays; each corner of the triangle contains a small, yellow, five-pointed star; blue stands for peace and justice, red symbolizes courage, the white equal-sided triangle represents equality; the rays recall the first eight provinces that sought independence from Spain, while the stars represent the three major geographical divisions of the country: Luzon, Visayas, and Mindanao; the design of the flag dates to 1897.

**Note:** in wartime the flag is flown upside down with the red band at the top.

## Map of the Philippines



## Suggested Activities

### Recipe Adobo Chicken

#### Ingredients

- \* 1 (3 pound) whole chicken, cut into 8 pieces
- \* 1/2 cup soy sauce
- \* 3/4 cup sugar cane white vinegar
- \* 1 bulb garlic, peeled and crushed
- \* 2 tablespoons thinly sliced fresh ginger root
- \* 2 bay leaves
- \* 1/2 tablespoon black peppercorns

#### Directions

1. Combine the chicken, soy sauce, vinegar, garlic, ginger, bay leaves and peppercorns in a Dutch oven. Bring to a boil over medium heat. Once it boils, reduce heat to a simmer. Cover the pot and simmer for 30 minutes, basting the chicken occasionally. After 30 minutes, remove lid and cook until liquid has reduced to half.

2. Remove chicken from the pot to a serving plate. Strain the liquid from the pot to remove all the food particles, and set aside. Serve chicken hot over steamed rice and drizzle with reserved sauce

## **Creating a Christmas Star - a Filipino Craft**

### Supplies

Tag board

1/8" and 1/4" hole punch

3 Sheets Tissue Paper (5.5" square)

Glue

1 yard nylon filament

Needle, scissors, stylus, straight edge

### Instructions

Cut two parol stars according to template below

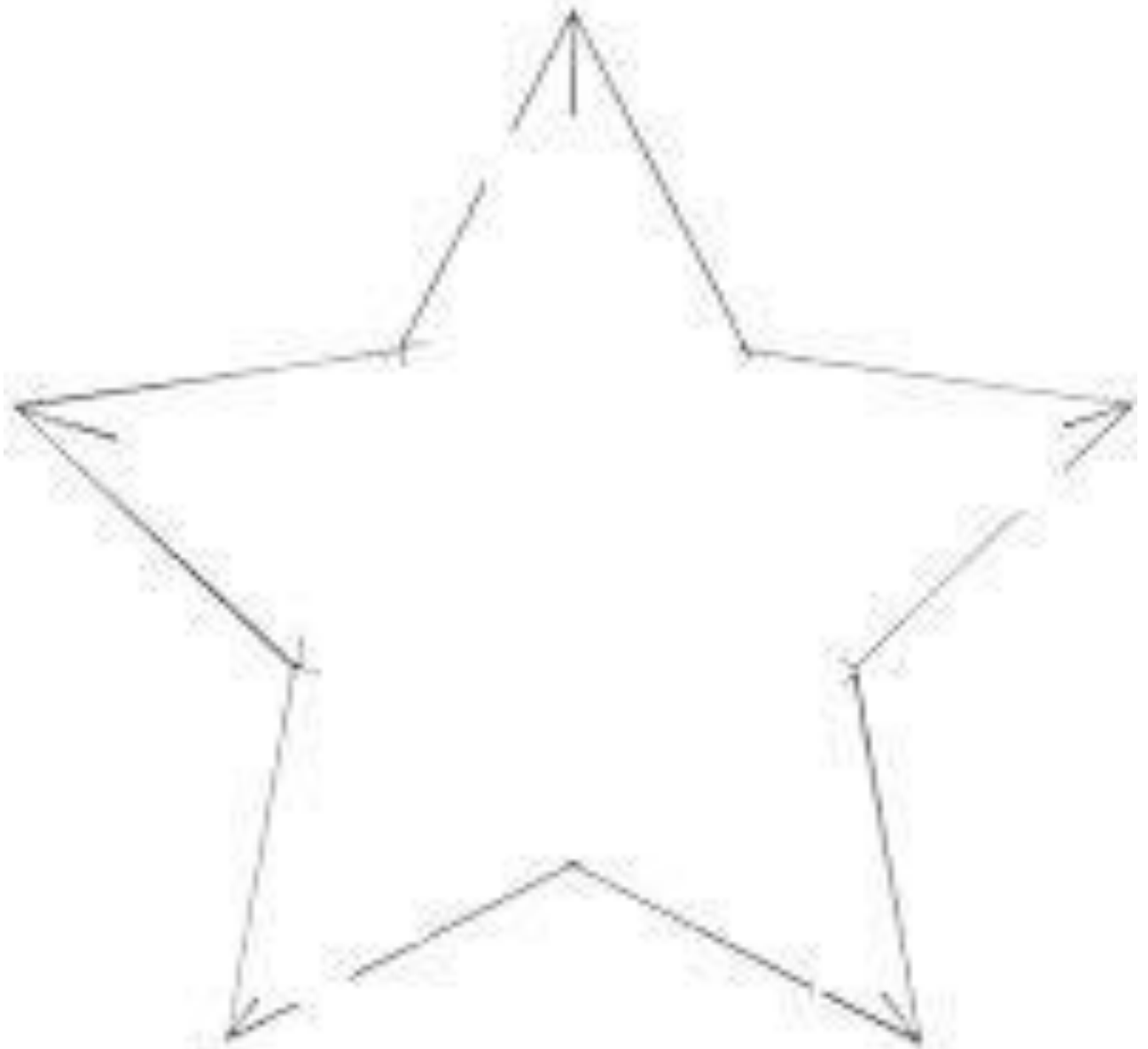
Punch 1/8" and 1/4" holes in both star sides

Cut about 8 1/8" x 5.5" strips of tissue paper. Cut length in half. Glue eight strips in two lower star points.

Apply glue on the back of stars, align and glue together

Decorate





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## Appendix

### Geography

Area: total: 300,000 sq km  
Country comparison to the world: 72  
Land: 298,170 sq km  
Water: 1,830 sq km

Area - comparative:  
Slightly larger than Arizona

Land boundaries: 0 km

Coastline: 36,289 km

### People

Population: 101,833,938 (July 2011 est.)  
Country comparison to the world: 12

Age structure:

0-14 years: 34.6% (male 17,999,279/female 17,285,040)  
15-64 years: 61.1% (male 31,103,967/female 31,097,203)  
65 years and over: 4.3% (male 1,876,805/female 2,471,644) (2011 est.)

Median age: 22.9 years  
Male: 22.4 years  
Female: 23.4 years (2011 est.)

Population growth rate: 1.903% (2011 est.)  
Country comparison to the world: 60

Birth rate: 34 births/1,000 population (2011 est.)  
Country comparison to the world: 58

Death rate: 5.02 deaths/1,000 population (July 2011 est.)

Country comparison to the world: 185

Net migration rate: -1.29 migrant(s)/1,000 population (2011 est.)

Country comparison to the world: 157

Urbanization: 49% of total population (2010)

Major cities - population: MANILA (capital) 11.449 million; Davao 1.48 million; Cebu City 845,000; Zamboanga 827,000 (2009)

Religions: Roman Catholic 80.9%, Muslim 5%, Evangelical 2.8%, Iglesia ni Kristo 2.3%, Aglipayan 2%, other Christian 4.5%, other 1.8%, unspecified 0.6%, none 0.1% (2000 census)

Literacy:

Definition: age 15 and over can read and write

Total population: 92.6%

Male: 92.5%

Female: 92.7% (2000 census)

## **Economy**

GDP (purchasing power parity): \$353.2 billion (2010 est.)

Country comparison to the world: 34

\$329.2 billion (2009 est.)

\$325.6 billion (2008 est.)

Note: data are in 2010 US dollars

GDP - real growth rate: 7.3% (2010 est.)

Country comparison to the world: 21

1.1% (2009 est.)

3.7% (2008 est.)

GDP - per capita (PPP): \$3,500 (2010 est.)

Country comparison to the world: 161

\$3,400 (2009 est.)

\$3,400 (2008 est.)

Note: data are in 2010 US dollars

GDP - composition by sector:

Agriculture: 13.9%

Industry: 31.3%

Services: 54.8% (2010 est.)

Labor force:

38.9 million (2010 est.)

Country comparison to the world: 15

Labor force - by occupation:

Agriculture: 33%

Industry: 15%

Services: 52% (2010 est.)

Unemployment rate:

7.3% (2010 est.)

Country comparison to the world: 76

Population below poverty line:  
32.9% (2006 est.)

Agriculture - products:

Sugarcane, coconuts, rice, corn, bananas, cassavas, pineapples, mangoes; pork, eggs, beef; fish

Industries:

Electronics assembly, garments, footwear, pharmaceuticals, chemicals, wood products, food processing, petroleum refining, fishing

Exports:

\$50.72 billion (2010 est.)

Country comparison to the world: 53

Exports - commodities:

Semiconductors and electronic products, transport equipment, garments, copper products, petroleum products, coconut oil, fruits

Exports - partners:

US 17.6%, Japan 16.2%, Netherlands 9.8%, Hong Kong 8.6%, China 7.7%, Germany 6.5%, Singapore 6.2%, South Korea 4.8% (2009 est.)

Imports:

\$59.9 billion (2010 est.)

Country comparison to the world: 42

Imports - commodities:

Electronic products, mineral fuels, machinery and transport equipment, iron and steel, textile fabrics, grains, chemicals, plastic

Imports - partners:

Japan 12.5%, US 12%, China 8.8%, Singapore 8.7%, South Korea 7.9%, Taiwan 7.1%, Thailand 5.7% (2009 est.)

Exchange rates: The Philippine pesos (PHP) per US dollar -

45.11 (2010)

44.439 (2008)

51.246 (2006)