

## The Coconut tree – the elixir of life

### Included Skills

TVET tasks at year 9 level focus primarily on Nauruan Cultural skills and knowledge, Life skills and Work Readiness within the *YR 9 TVET Lifeskills and Culture Project*

The [World Health Organization](#) defines *life skills* as "abilities for adaptive and positive behaviour that enable individuals to deal effectively with the demands and challenges of everyday life."<sup>[1]</sup> In primary and secondary education, *life skills* may refer to a skill set that accommodates more specific needs of modern industrialized life; examples include [money management](#), [food preparation](#), [hygiene](#), basic [literacy](#) and [numeracy](#), and [organizational skills](#). Life skills are sometimes, but not always, distinguished from [occupational skills](#).

**Life skills** are a set of human [skills](#) acquired via [teaching](#) or direct experience that are used to handle problems and questions commonly encountered in daily [human](#) life. Wikipedia

Thus Life skills encompasses many study areas and elements of the Nauru Curriculum Footpath, so only additional skills, not already mentioned in other study areas have been extracted separately here. The task holistically addresses the combinations of Life Skills required to participate in and preserve Nauruan Life and prepare Nauru for the future. It is more important for Nauruan children to combine skills and knowledge than show each skill separately.

Life skills	Traditional skills/knowledge	Values
Developing confidence in own ability	Knowledge and method of making coconut-based ingredients – milk, cream, dried coconut, oil, coconut sugar	Commitment to completing set tasks
Developing camaraderie around the craft circles and product making groups, helping each other, sharing knowledge and caring	Knowledge of using coconut for toddy making and cooking	Hard work ethic, industriousness, perseverance
Group work and team work learning from others	Knowledge, method and rules for making handcrafts	Importance of committing to jobs (employment and community tasks), job sense
Communicating with the community	Making string and rope	Nauruans should use natural resources and actively cultivate renewing supplies
	Weaving, carving, making oils, building	Treasuring knowledge and skills of individuals and community
	Making and identifying traditional tools	Care of the environment enables Nauruans to

<p>to gain help for a planting project Hygienically preparing and storing food Thinking about and acting for sustainable use of resources Using modern tools - hammers, saws, knives, pots, cooking devices, sewing and weaving tools Demonstrating combinations of skills – to make a tool or make an ingredient</p>	<p>Traditional songs and stories of coconut trees</p>	<p>contribute to the Nauru’s future Culture is important (ana dei-Naoero) Influencing “cause and effect” Values and ideas change over time A sense of business and entrepreneurship will help feed the family and maintain the home Changing from keeping family and community knowledge to sharing knowledge Understanding the importance of modern business practices to preserve market share – trademarks, branding, image, advertising</p>
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<p><b>Literacy</b></p>		
<p><b>Writing</b> Sequential instructions in a recipe book or cards or in “How to” cards. Recording when listening Writing and illustrating patterns Illustrative and informative charts Labeling diagrams in English and vernacular Map drawing and labeling Song, poem or traditional story</p>	<p><b>Reading</b> Sequential instructions Patterns Information sheets and books to elicit instructions and ideas Internet information <b>Listening</b> Oral explanations and demonstrations Talking to elders Understanding vernacular sounds</p>	<p><b>Speaking</b> Pronunciation of materials, tools and parts of coconut trees in Nauruan and English Explanation and demonstration of methods Performance of a poem/song/dance Talking with adults during the expo <b>Visual</b> Draw and label simple designs of handicraft items Make charts which connect information pieces Taking and using photographs wisely</p>

Numeracy	ICT Opportunities	Thinking tools
Measurement required for craft making and cooking - includes estimation of measures and making measures using household utensils Sampling methods to estimate numbers of trees Estimation of coconut consumption verses supply on Nauru Patterns	Taking photographs throughout the task for multiple reasons Making posters and charts Compiling recipe or "how to" cards Searching the Internet Editing computer products until they look fabulous and are accurate Online learning journal -a blog or similar tool	Y charts For and against Cause and effect maps Predict, observe, explain KWL for brainstorming