



Kids Gallery Guide

**Veiled Meanings:
Fashioning Jewish Dress**
from the Collection of
The Israel Museum, Jerusalem

November 3, 2017 – March 18, 2018

The clothes people wear often reveal information about who they are and where they are from.

The costumes on view in this exhibition were worn by people from countries around the world over different periods of time.

Look closely at the garments and imagine who might have worn each dress or coat.

Start by entering the exhibition and turn left. Continue until you see two platforms, one against the wall on your left and a second larger platform on your right. Choose one garment that looks interesting to you. Then discuss the following with your grown-up:

- Describe the different types of fabric you notice.
- What colors do you see? Is there a pattern?
- What words would you use to describe this garment? Is it plain, fancy, or bright? Why?

PLAIN



FANCY

BRIGHT



BRIGHT



- Many of the garments in this room were worn during special events. What type of events do you dress up for?
- Imagine you were wearing this garment, and strike a pose. How might wearing this costume change how you stand or how you feel?

Continue walking until you find the area with two large cases in the center of the section entitled *Exposing the Unseen*. Choose one item and examine it closely.

- What kind of clothing or accessory might this be? How can you tell?
- Is it made of one or multiple materials?
- How is it similar to something you might wear today? How is it different?

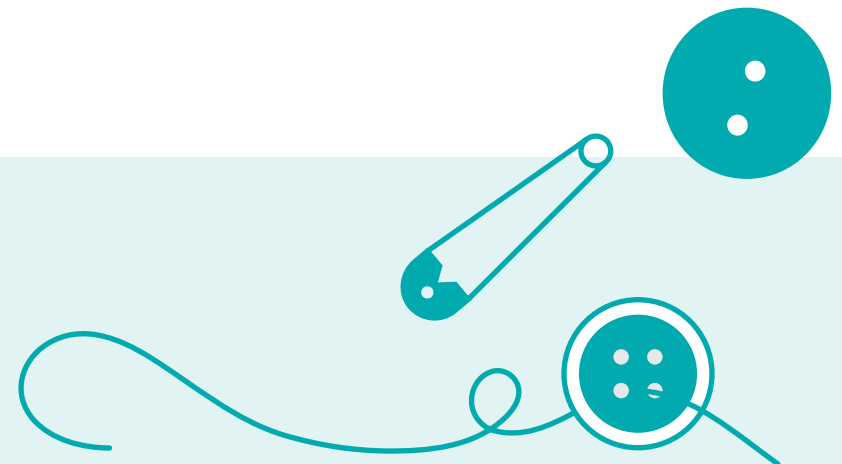
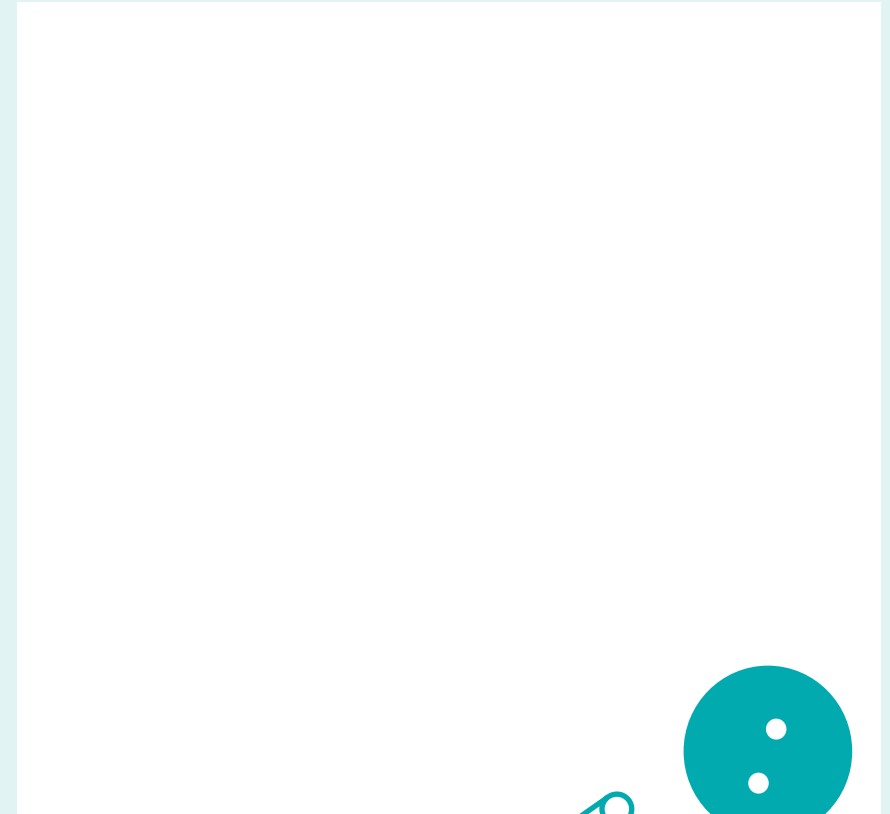
Stand in front of the platform nearby. Find the garment labeled *Girl's Amuletic Dress*.

- Describe the design. Does it look the same on both sides, or are there differences?



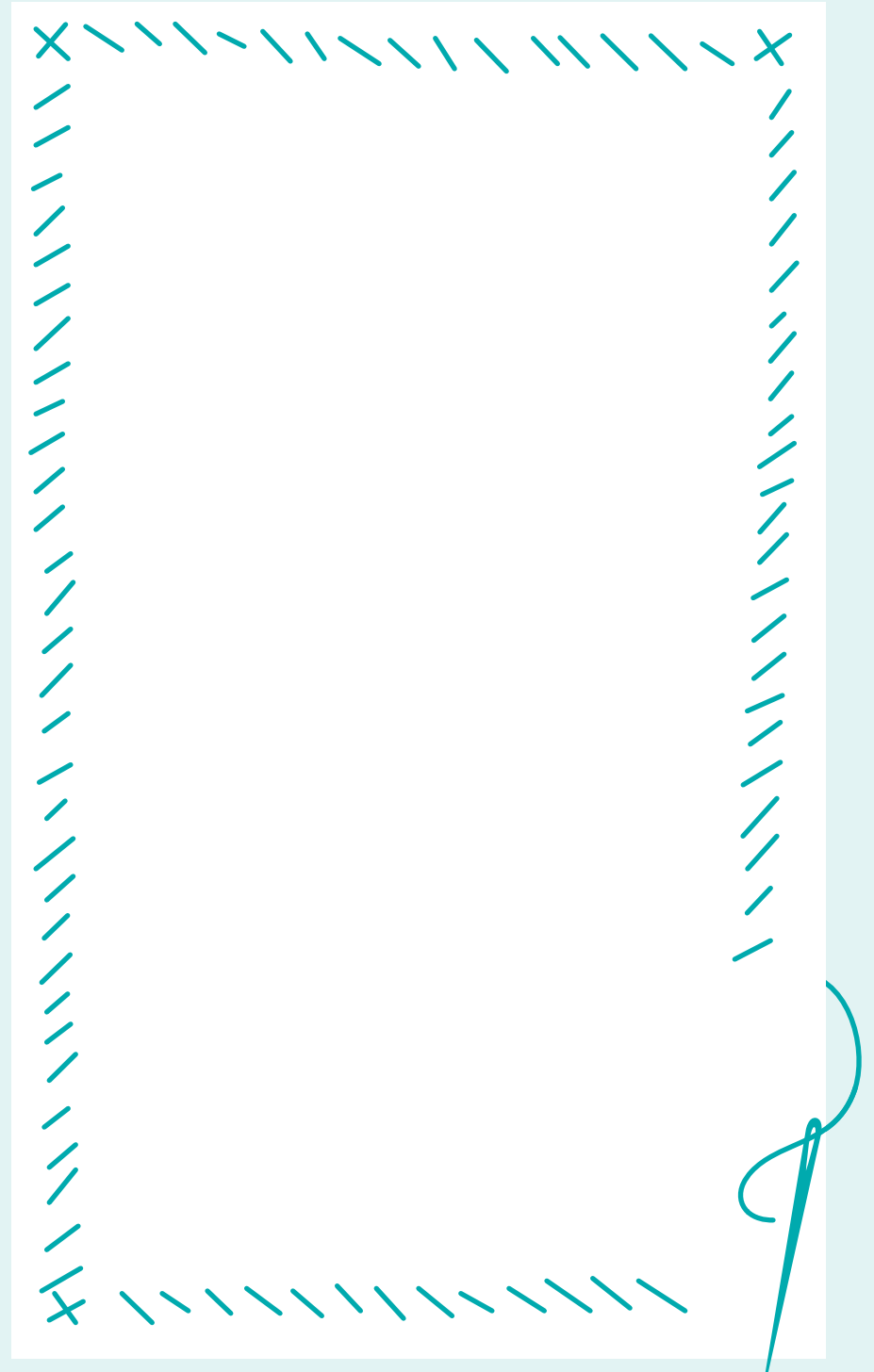
- When this garment was made in Yemen in the 1930s, people did not have access to the same types of medicine that we do today. Many believed that wearing special clothing could keep away sickness and bad spirits. This garment was designed to protect a young girl from illness.

- Can you think of other types of clothing or accessories people wear to protect themselves?
- In the space below, draw your own protective garment.



At Home: Create an Outfit Collage

- Inspired by the costumes you discovered today, create your own garment on the next page. Design something you would like to wear to a special occasion.
- Cut out and paste fabric patterns from any page of this guide, or draw a custom outfit. Choose colors, patterns, and shapes that will make this outfit special.



Thank you for visiting the Jewish Museum—we hope you enjoyed the exhibition! For information on Family Programs at the Jewish Museum, visit [TheJewishMuseum.org/Families](https://www.thejewishmuseum.org/families) or sign up for our eNews at [TheJewishMuseum.org/eNews](https://www.thejewishmuseum.org/eNews).

Veiled Meanings: Fashioning Jewish Dress, from the Collection of The Israel Museum, Jerusalem was organized by The Israel Museum, Jerusalem.

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Cover: Woman's coat (*kaltachak*) (detail), Bukhara, Uzbekistan, late nineteenth century. Brocaded silk, ikat-dyed silk and cotton lining. The Israel Museum, Jerusalem, B64.12.4226.

Page 3: Woman's festive attire (detail), Tripoli, Libya, early or mid-twentieth century. Artificial silk wrap; silk chiffon blouse; velvet vest; silk sash. The Israel Museum, Jerusalem, Gift of Louise Djerbi, Jerusalem, in memory of Luly Raccah; Gift of Lillo Arbib, Bat Yam, in memory of his mother Ida Arbib née Nahum; Gift of the Moshav Uzah Synagogue, B83.0816, B79.206, B71.0532, B94.0096.

Page 4: Girl's amuletic dress (large detail), Sanaa, Yemen, 1930s. Indigo-dyed cotton, cotton-thread embroidery, and kauri shells. The Israel Museum, Jerusalem, O.S B79.0014.

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