

**COMPETENCIES #2, #3, #4:** Define the characteristics of natural and manufactured fibers.

Describe how the fiber affects clothing characteristics.

Explain the care required for fabrics made from natural and manufactured fibers.

**CONCEPT:** Our clothes are made of up many different types of fibers, both natural and man-made. If we understand the strengths and weaknesses of these fibers, we will be better consumers of textile products.

**PREPARATION:** Prepare worksheets and other materials that relate to this competency.

#### **ACTIVITY/DISCUSSION**

Discuss the following topics with students.  
Students can fill in worksheets as discussion progresses.

1. Characteristics of natural and manufactured fibers.
2. Strengths and weaknesses of both natural and manufactured fibers.
3. The advantages of blending natural and manufactured fibers.
4. Care required for natural and manufactured fibers.