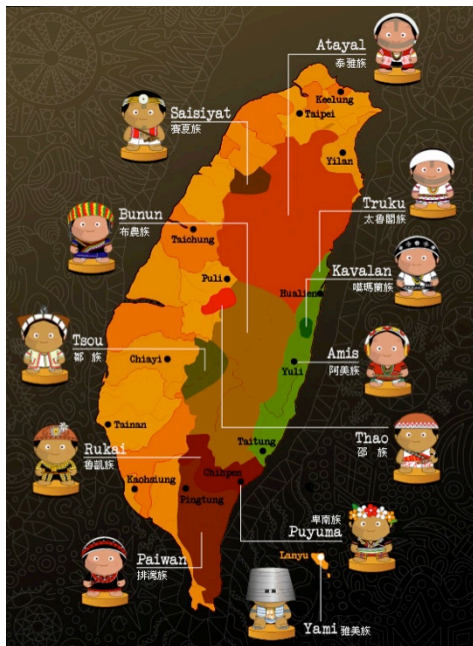


Taiwanese Indigenous Cultures And Dances

Some Facts

- § Taiwan is a small country that is only 1/11 of California in acreage. However, there are 16 indigenous groups living on this island, and each group of people is divided into different tribes.
- § The indigenous people comprise about 2% of the total population in Taiwan.
- § The 16 indigenous groups are: Amis, Atayal, Paiwan, Puyuma, Bunun, Tsou, Rukai, Saisiyat, Yami, Thao, Kavalan, Truku, Sakizaya, Sedig, Hla'alua, and Kanakanavu
- § These groups speak different languages and have different cultures. Even tribes that belong to the same group have dissimilar languages and cultural features.



Distribution of some indigenous groups in Taiwan
<http://teacher.aedocenter.com/mywebB/Newbook-7/kc-index.htm>



Front Basket Position

Some Dances

- § *The Atayal Young Girl Dance*: Choreographed with an Atayal folk song, this dance interprets the Atayal young couples interacting with the mouth harp, an Atayal traditional instrument.
- § *Song of Naruwan Dance*: The dance is choreographed with the song from the Amis. *Naruwan* is a functional word generally used to express joyfulness of the singer.

Let's Try!

- § The Front Basket Position: Open your arms in front of you, and hold hands with the person next to your neighbor(s) (See the photo above).
- § The V Shape: Arms are in a relaxed position while you connect with the person next to you.