

2021

## The Auntie Sewing Squad

Dauphiene Parks

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Response Activity 6: Research one mutual aid organization that sprung up during the pandemic, or earlier historically. Select one: Write about this (500 words), create an infographic, write a poem, record a response, interview someone about mutual aid.

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If you listen real close, you can hear them working. Hundreds and thousands of aunties sweating. Ripping and cutting, measuring and looping. Sisters in spirit mass producing. Antibacterial and silk and cotton. Spreading love through safety and caution. Hospital workers in need of protection leaned on our aunties when they were forgotten. With hard working fingers and knuckles so strong. These aunties carried the exposed and withdrawn. The farmers who consistently grew all our veggies received packs of masks which calmed all their worries. And when those ICE-y cold devils spat out our immigrants, our Aunties caught them, willing participants, of solving the system built on greed, our aunties sewed with such great speed. They brought more safety to those who have less and who the government always attempts to oppress. The squad of sewers rallied to aid, neighbors and strangers despite class and race.