Many Strong Voices - Arctic Small Islands Developing States Action on Climate Change

Portraits of Resilience is part of the Many Strong Voices Programme. It illustrates in a personal way what climate change means to young people in the Arctic and helps communities create their own visual archive of the changes they are experiencing. More @ www.manystrongvoices.org

"Because it’s getting warmer, it is harder for my grandmother to do this work."

Aajuna Jensine mersorluni avittartoq.

Here is Jensine, hun syer sælskind.

— Jakob Petersen

Grandmother and White Seal Skin
My grandmother’s name is Else Broberg. She is 60 years old and she works with white seal skin. She makes boots for everyone in my family and she makes pancake-faced costumes for the girls. To make the white seal skin, my grandmother must work only in the cold months of January, February and March. The skins cannot be in sun or in a warm place. The first thing she does is put the skins in water with soda, then she ties it up outside for a week. Finally, she uses the skins to make boots and costumes. Because it’s getting warmer it is harder for my grandmother to do this work.

— Jakob Petersen

Jensine lover ting i sælsskind til sin datter, som i voldt bruger det til sin søn. Hun har vælde hæl af, hun lover ting i sælsskind, hun skraber skindets pels af og farver skindet. Skindet som hun har farvet, skærer hun ud med en ulu og laver mange ting ud af det.

Here is Jensine. She is sewing seal skin.
She is making it for her daughter who will use it for her son. She has been doing this all her life. She makes many things in seal skin. She scrapes the seal skin fur and colours the skin. Then she paints the skin, she cuts it with an ulu and creates many things out of it.

— Loneke Therkelsen

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