

## ISRAELIAN SKOBY CLOTHES MADE FROM KOMBOUCHA

By Kim Assaël

The Danciger Darca Comprehensive High School of Kiryat Shmona, in northern Galilee, presented the [Scoby project at the Israeli Pavilion Expo 2015](#) from 27 to 29 July 2015.

Israeli high school students displayed clothing and objects they produced from a material derived from the Kombucha.

The students and presented their research project together with professors from the school, with the support of images and video showing the biotechnology production process.



The idea behind scoby clothing is sustainability. If we can grow our own clothes, we don't need to rely on other natural resources. Scoby clothing is also biodegradable.

The Scoby project, so named for the acronym *symbiotic colony of bacteria and yeast*, produced the clothing material using a bacteria base, from a traditional fermented tea drink known as kombucha, combined with a microscopic fungus consisting of single oval cells that is capable of converting sugar into alcohol and carbon dioxide (yeasts).

As underlined the Israeli teacher Morgalit Mualem, the kombucha is already used in other parts of the world by artists and designers, but the simultaneous use with yeasts make the dresses enlarging at a contact with water; their goal, now, is to find the right combination of bacteria to make the innovative material resistant as the cotton.

The compost naturally obtained from the fermentation of the yeast and sugar looks like a bright colored gelatin which can in fact be added either to natural coloring substances to obtain the textiles and eatable products as well.



The [Danciger School](#), a biotechnology institute, is in the northern and poorer side of the country, in the small city of Kiryat Shmona, near the Libanon border. It was founded in the beginning of the 1960s and its vision has always been to advance and strengthen students of the periphery of the country while providing them with tools for success, combining values.

The Danciger School is today a frontier school with students of all religions (only 48% are Jews) that, even in need of great refurbishments and renovation, demonstrates the possibility to make scientific research at the highest levels.

This year, the High School's students have prepared something special to bring and show at Expo 2015 Milano, showing that starting from kombucha, you can create clothes completely natural!

### To know more

[Skoby project video](#)

<http://expo2015israel.com/en/tag/israel-en/>

[Slide Show in Milano.corriere.it](#)

[Article in ansa.it](#)

