

Middle School– Art Journal/Book Making Lesson

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This lesson and supplemental materials are posted on

www.artathighplains.weebly.com

Learning Target: I can utilize the design cycle: research, plan, create and adjust or evaluate in order to create a handmade art process journal.

Why: (delivered to students via video) If you already have a journal, notebook or sketchbook to use you do not need to create one, you can just move on to the next lesson. You may want to, however. The art of creating something from scratch incorporates a certain amount of resolution and heart. Using our hands to make something that is entirely our own can be inspiring and empowering. It allows us to tap into our paper and pencil roots even as digital technology expands to every other facet of our lives.

First: Look through the images on the pdf **Journal Making Ideas** or look up the websites themselves. Also, check out my *How to make an art journal video on my **Video** page of the website. I am making my own art journal out of everyday found objects as well! Feel free to research a variety of methods of creating handmade books or journals such as Coptic binding or accordion-style binding. Don't be afraid to try something new- you may just love it!*

Next: Make a plan. Write on a scratch paper or sticky note what type of journal appeals to you the most and what type you could realistically invest your time in creating. Then make a list of materials you will need and start the hunt! If you just can't find something you feel you need- consult the web, myself or a classmate for ideas on substitutions.

Now: Create your journal! Remember: be creative and flexible- if something is stressful or frustrating, put it away for a while. Come back after a snack and/or a nap and a fresh perspective.

Last: Adjust if needed. If the method you researched and tried isn't working, be creative, "think like an artist", and do it "your way".

Please send me a picture of the final product! I love to see them!

Journal Making Ideas

Idea #1 Paper Bag Journal



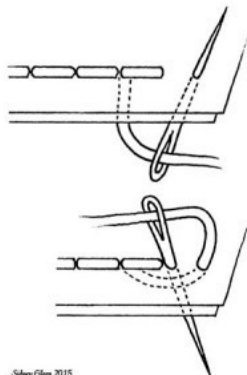
Retrieved from: u-createcrafts.com

Materials Needed:

- Paper bag (or wrapping paper, thin card board (cereal box) or old poster)
- Scissors
- Paper: office paper, drawing paper, Construction paper, or scrap paper
- Thread or string
- Needle, safety pin, or thumb tack
- Ruler



Back stitch

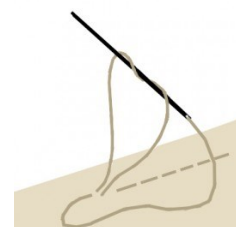


Remember: The pages don't have to be white paper. They can be scrap paper, paper bags, sheets of wrapping paper, etc.

Silky Glen 2015

- Step 1: Take 5 pieces of white office paper.
 - Step 2: Rip it in half with a ruler.
 - Step 3: Fold those in half.
 - Step 4: Cut out a piece of brown paper bag to fit the exact shape of the folded paper.
 - Step 5: Fit the office paper in the brown bag.
 - Step 6: Measure 5 holes evenly across the middle crease of the paper.
 - Step 7: Poke it with an awl or safety pin.
 - Step 8: Thread a needle and start binding by entering from the inside to outside of the middle hole.
 - Step 9: Remember to go through each hole on the front and back for extra support and durability.
- Try using a back stitch as this illustration shows.
- Step 10: Tie off the ends using the needle and anchoring it to one of the stitches. See the illustration below.
 - Step 11: Decorate the cover.

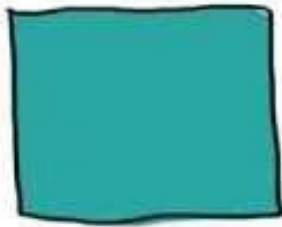
Tying off the thread



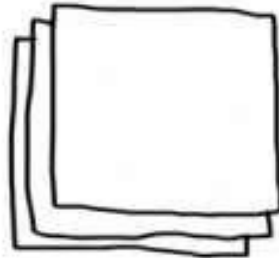
Retrieved from: <http://yesterdaysthimble.com/tutorials/basic-hand-sewing>

SUPER-EASY BIND

NO GLUE, NO SCISSORS, NO NEEDLE, NO RULES

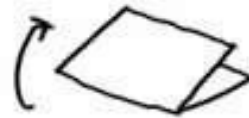


card & cover ↗

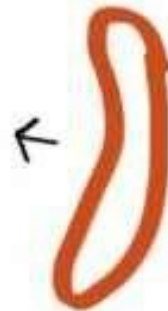
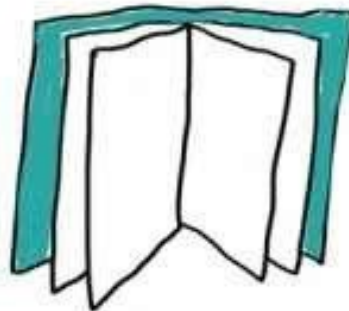


normal sheets for pages ↗

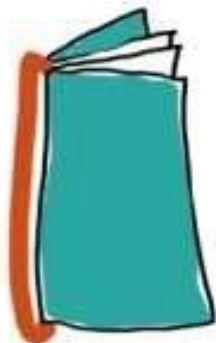
ALL PIECES - SAME SIZE
FOLD ALL BY THE MIDDLE



PUT THEM LIKE THIS →
(1 single signature)



ELASTIC RUBBER
(instead of staples & sewing)



←
YOU HAVE IT!



easy book #1

Cut a notch at the top & bottom of the spine. Stretch a rubber band from top to bottom to bind the book.



Idea #3 Repurposed books or magazines



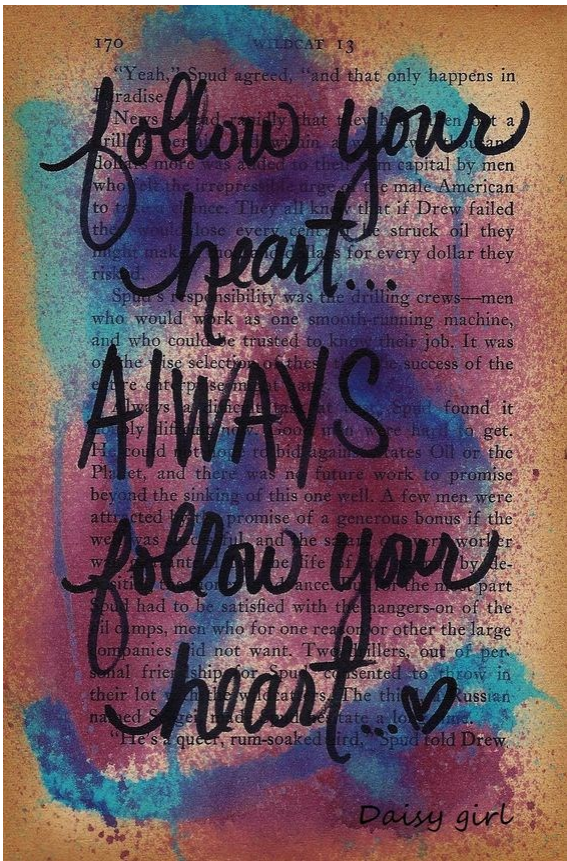
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Retrieved from: <https://allmixedupart.tumblr.com/post/72842071621/via-art-journal-art-journals>

I found an old text book in my basement that I might repurpose, as well as a few old magazines. I could draw or paint on paper bags, copy paper, etc. and attach them to the pages themselves. I could collage a variety of objects on the pages, or I could draw or paint directly onto the pages, making the words and existing images part of the design. There are so many possibilities!

Retrieved from: aztecmichelle.wordpress.com



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