

Riverboxes

Ripple Effect: Artistic Impact of the Scioto River

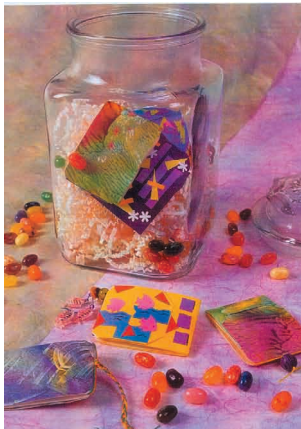
making personal journals:

People have been making books and journals for thousands of years. From the clay tablets of Mesopotamia to Egyptian scrolls made of papyrus, documenting history and keeping permanent records has been an important part of daily life.

Today, books are made in all shapes and sizes and from all different types of materials. Handmade books and journals are especially meaningful and create special places to pen personal thoughts, collect photos, express ideas, keep lists and describe experiences.

In letterboxing, participants carry a personal journal where the unique, handmade stamps found in each letterbox can be imprinted, documenting each letterbox for the future. Each person's personal stamp reflects an aspect of their personality, and their journal can be created the same way. In addition to the ink stamp, the journal owner might also write down thoughts or reflections about the place where they discovered the letterbox, or the experience of that discovery process itself.

Here are some simple journal-making ideas that could be adapted for use in the classroom. Many book-making resources are available in the public library. A bibliography follows.



JELLY BEAN BOOKS

design: Paula Beardell Krieg

(*Making Books that Fly, Fold, Wrap, Hide, Pop Up, Twist, and Turn: Books for Kids to Make*, Gwen Diehn, Lark Books, 2006.)

Typically small, the *JELLY BEAN BOOK* can be adapted to whatever size necessary and decorated with all kinds of colorful things, from ribbons and dried flowers to beads and paper designs.

Materials needed:

6-strips of writing or drawing paper, approximately $4 \frac{3}{4} \times 2$ "
Medium weight paper, $9 \frac{1}{2} \times 2$ " for book cover
Heavy thread, liked embroider thread, colored if possible
Decorative add-ons
Ruler

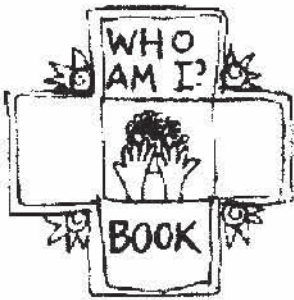
Pencil
Scoring tool
Craft glue and glue brush
Scissors
Craft knife

Directions:

1. Using a ruler and the $9 \frac{1}{2} \times 2$ " piece of paper, make a mark at the measurements of $2 \frac{1}{2}$ ", 5", and $7 \frac{1}{4}$ ". Lightly draw vertical lines from these marks, so that you have divided the strip into four rectangles: two that are $2 \frac{1}{2}$ " wide and two that are $2 \frac{1}{4}$ " wide. These lines mark placement for folding. Score the folds, fold the paper and reopen.
2. Next, apply glue to the two $2 \frac{1}{4}$ " sections, and glue them together.
3. On the opposite edge, the first $2 \frac{1}{2}$ " section, create a triangle by folding in right triangles from the corners. Glue down the triangles.
4. Take the six strips of $4 \frac{3}{4} \times 2$ " paper and fold them in half, one at a time. Nest the papers together. These will be the pages for the book, and are called the "signature" or "book block". Align the edge of the signature with the first fold of the cover page; the fold closest to the triangle. Fold the cover over the book block with the triangle folding on top. Lightly mark either side of the triangle. Reopen the book, and using a craft knife, carefully cut a slit in between the two marks. Now, fold the book again to be sure the triangle will tuck nicely into the slit.

JELLY BEAN BOOK, CONT.

5. With the signature still nested in the book spine and folded close, snip off the corners of the spine, creating two small triangles when the book is open. Open the book, and find the center page of the signature. Using heavy thread, wrap the thread around the outside of the book and along the center for the pages, securing the signature to the cover. Tie a knot but leave the threads long for attaching beads or other decorations.
6. Close the book, first closing the solid section with the slit, followed by the triangular shaped section and tucking the triangle into the slit to close. Decorate the cover as desired.



WHO AM I? BOOK

designed by: Susan Kapusckinski Gaylord (www.makingbooks.com/)

Gaylord originally created this book to use as Who Am I? or What Am I? books. Each of the four folded pages would contain facts, and when all pages are opened, the center page reveals the identity. This form can easily be adapted for any subject, including social studies and math.

Materials Needed:

- | | |
|---|-------------|
| 1 - 12 x 18" piece of paper | Scrap Paper |
| 1 - 6 x 18" piece of cover stock or oak tag | Hole Punch |
| 1 - piece of yarn | Pony Beads |
| Scissors | Glue Stick |
| Decorative add-ons | |

Directions:

1. Place the 12 x 18" paper in landscape orientation, and fold the paper into thirds.
2. While still folded, turn the paper 90 degrees, and fold it into thirds again. When you open the paper, you should have nine squares on the page.
3. Using scissors, cut out the four corner squares. Fold the four remaining flaps into the center, in any order.
4. Punch a hole in the center of the top flap. Thread the yarn through the hole and around the back of the book, making the ends even. Loosely tie the yarn in a double knot, so that it can slide on and off the book. Add beads to the yarn ends for decoration.
5. Decorate the outside of the book as desired.

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www.makingbooks.com/

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Resources:

Mime Migliore	Nature Education Coordinator, City of Dublin Department of Parks and Open Space http://www.dublin.oh.us/recreation/parksopenspace.php mmigliore@dublin.oh.us
Brandon Brown	GIS Administrator, City of Dublin Department of Geographic Information Systems http://www.dublin.oh.us/gis/ BBrown@dublin.oh.us.
Tom Holton	Dublin Historical Society http://www.dublinohiohistoricalsociety.org/
Dublin Arts Council	http://www.dublinarts.org/
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<http://www.firstpeople.us/>

<http://www.geocaching.org/>

<http://www.letterboxing.org/>

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