

Metallic Shadow Book

Combine bookmaking, papercutting, and poetry, then enhance with a metallic shine. **art + writing**

Art comes from personal experience.

Many works of art, including visual art, music, and literature, have been inspired by the simple act of taking a walk and observing nature. Imagine sitting under a tree. Watch the light come through the leaves and create shadows on the ground. What thoughts appear during this experience?

In this lesson, personal engagement with nature is combined with poetry, bookmaking, papercutting, and painting. The result is a wonderfully dimensional work of art!

Abstractly cut paper is folded into a freestanding accordion book, creating shadows and light patterns on the surrounding environment. The book is made stable using Fredrix Cut Edge canvas panels for the cover. The eight pages created by the accordion fold can be used to display one line each, creating an octave poem that can be read when open or by turning the pages, just like a regular book. Finally, FW Pearlescent Liquid Acrylic Inks are applied for a shimmering glow.

GRADES 3-12

Note: Instructions and materials are based upon a class size of 24 students. Adjust as needed.

Preparation

1. Cut Blick construction paper in half lengthwise, creating two sheets each measuring 6" x 18".
2. Sit in a quiet place outdoors. Observe shadows and record thoughts. Simple notes, stream of consciousness writing, and quick sketches are all excellent ways to record inner observations.



Materials (required)

Fredrix Value Series Cut Edge Canvas Panels, Pkg of 25, Black, 4" x 6" (07026-2003); share two packages across class

Blick Construction Paper, 12" x 18", Black, 50 Sheets (11409-2006); share one package across class

Blick Aluminum Non-Slip Rulers, 18" (56014-1018); share one between two students

Blick Glue Stick, Purple, 1.41oz (23895-5638); share one between two students

Blick Economy Short Handle Sable Round, Classpack of 36 (05147-0369)

Hemptique Hemp Cord Spools, asst. colors, 205ft, 20lb (63830-); share one across class

Westcott Titanium Bonded Scissors, Titanium Blade, 5" (57059-1005)

Recommended Metallic Paints and Pens

Crayola Signature Pearlescent Cream Sticks, (67856-1010)

Daler-Rowney FW Pearlescent Liquid Acrylic Artists' Inks, (21111-)

Niji Pearlescent Watercolor Pan Sets, (01727-1021)

Pentel Slicci Pens, Metallic, Set of 8, (21887-1008)



Process

1. Use a ruler to measure 4" increments across the page. Make registration marks at the top and bottom of the sheet. Do this on both sides of the paper, starting from the same side each time. There will be a 2" remainder. Repeat on the second sheet of paper.
2. Fold both sheets in an accordion style zig-zag pattern. Use the ruler to create a sharp fold. Do this across both pages.
3. Use a glue stick to adhere the two sheets together. Attach the 2" flap to a full 4" piece.
4. Cut the remaining 2" piece off.
5. Draw a large "X" on the first and last page.
6. Use metallic paints and Crayola Pearlescent Cream Sticks to paint the pages and covers. Experiment by making a variety of marks and using an atomizer. There is no need to paint where the "X" has been drawn, as this side of the page will be glued to the cover and not seen.
7. To cut the pages, simply cut in from the folds in the same way one would cut to make a paper snowflake. Additional cuts can be made by creating a separate fold in the center of each page. Cut geometric shapes, lines, and swirls. Shapes can be cut out completely, or left partially attached and folded to pop out.
8. Use each page to write an octave—a poem of eight lines.
9. Insert a cord enclosure and use a glue stick to attach the front and back covers to the pages marked with an "X".

National Core Arts Standards - Visual Arts

Creating

Anchor Standard 1: Generate and conceptualize artistic ideas and work.

Anchor Standard 2: Organize and develop artistic ideas and work.

Responding

Anchor Standard 8: Perceive and analyze artistic work.

Connecting

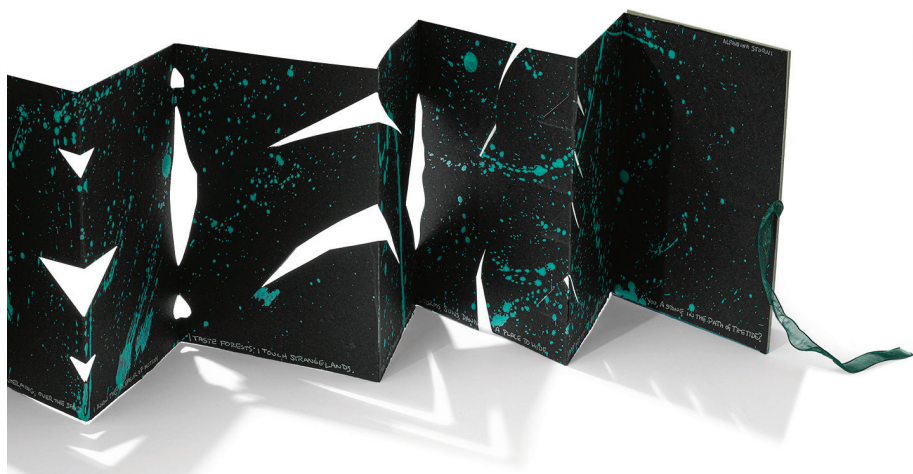
Anchor Standard 10: Synthesize and relate knowledge and personal experiences to make art.



Step 1: Fold both sheets in an accordion style zig-zag pattern.



Step 2: Use metallic paints and Crayola Pearlescent Cream Sticks to Paint the pages and covers.



Step 3: To cut the pages, simply cut in from the folds.