BLICK[®] art materials

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Retell a Story

Use an old, discarded children's book to tell a new story!

art + creative writing



Children's picture books are a beloved form of art that generations have cherished for their ability to captivate and delight us. Poetry or prose, some remain timeless and tens of thousands of new ones are published every year.

With such high production rates, thrift stores, flea markets, and garage sales are often full of outdated and unwanted children's books. Students will give these books a new life, while claiming them for their own by writing and illustrating their own version of the story. Consider changing the ending, location, period in time, and so forth.

Collage, drawing, painting, and bookbinding come together to create a new literary masterpiece. Simply begin by choosing a hard cover book. The cover can easily be cut off, and with new, blank pages inserted, the possibilities for creative ingenuity are endless!

GRADES 3-12

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

Preparation

1. Collect children's books from thrift stores, library and estate sales, one per student.







Materials

Hardcover children's books, one per student

Recommended for construction of new pages:

Blick Studio Mixed Media Pads, 60 sheets, 9" x 12" (13649-1023); share two pads across class

Fiskars Sparkle Softgrip Non-Stick Student Scissors, 7" (57666-1007); share one pair between two students

Lineco Pad Compound, 12 oz (12752-1012); share one bottle among class

Plastic Water Cup, (03068-1012); share one between two students

Blick Economy White Bristle Gesso Brush, 1" (05160-1001); one per student

X-Acto Bulldog Clips, No. 2 Clips, box of 36 (57305-1022); two per student

Blick Glue Sticks, purple, 0.70 oz (23895-5637); one per student

Optional for construction of new pages:

Books By Hand Linen Bookbinding Thread, 50 yds (12841-1050); share one among class

Needles, size #18, package of 12 (66903-1009); one needle per student

Midwest Products Grip Pins, package of 100 (34956-1001); one pin per student

Recommended for illustration:

Blickrylic Student Acrylics, Blockout White, pint (00711-1086); share one bottle across class

Blick Matte Acrylics, assorted colors, 2 oz (00727-); selection of 6-12 colors to share across class

Uni-Posca Paint Markers, assorted colors set of 8, fine, bullet tip (19994-1009); share one set among class

Blick Studio Markers, assorted colors, set of 24 (22148-1024); share one set among class

Blick Studio Drawing Pencils, 2B (22220-2021); one per student

Sharpie Ultra-Fine Point Marker, Black (21315-2003); one per student

Recommended for collage:

Roylco Remnants Value Pack, 8 lb (11320-1008) share one pack among class

Awagami Creative Washi Paper Pack, 1 lb assorted (11325-1001); share one pack among class

Pacon Tru-Ray Construction Paper, assorted colors, 9" x 12", 50 sheets (11406-0039); share two packs across class

Scanned and printed pages from selected children's books

Process (to remove book pages and insert blank pages)

- Cut book at end pages to remove the original book insert or signets. An end page is the very first and last page of a book. This is a page that is bound in the signets, with the first page glued to the cover.
- 2. Use the removed signets to create new pages of the same size. Measure the height and width of the original pages and double the width to create a new signet of the same size. Use a minimum of five sheets of paper.
- 3. Fold each sheet in half. Use a bone folder, finger, or flat, hard tool to firmly go over the crease. Clean clay tools work well as a substitution for bone folders.
- 4. Stack the folded pages, making sure they do not exceed the depth of the book cover's original spine. Use a Bulldog Clip to secure the top and bottom of pages.
- 5. Pour a small amount of book pad compound into a plastic water cup. Use a stiff brush to apply the compound to the folded side of the book. Add two more clips to the folded side to ensure there are no gaps between the pages. Allow to dry fully.
- 6. Place new pages inside the original cover. Open the first page and glue to the inside cover. Repeat for the back side. Allow to dry.
- 7. When the new end pages have dried, the book is ready to be filled with a new story!



- -Use blockout white to cover large areas on the cover. When dry, paint and markers can be used to alter the original cover art or title.
- -New illustrations can be used, drawn in pencil first. When satisfied with the composition, trace the pencil lines with a fine tip sharpie or colored marker.
- -Pages and pieces, or even photo copies, of the original pages can be used as collage element. Students can even swap pages for a variety of material.





Options

— Instead of using book compound, sew the pages togeter.

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

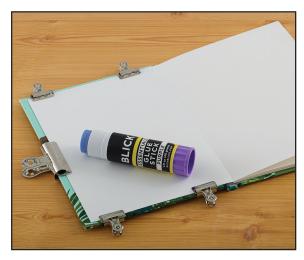
Anchor Standard 10: Synthesize and relate knowledge and personal experiences to make art.



Step 1: Cut end pages to remove book insert.



Step 2: Use book compound to secure new pages together.



Step 3: Insert new pages by gluing the first page to the inside of the cover.