

Art Lesson Outline: Making Mini-Books

By Dorothy Smith | 08 November 2018

ART 2222-102 with Assistant Professor Albert Stabler, Ph.D

Timeline: This lesson is prepared to take two class periods to complete. Each class period is approximately 35 minutes long. Day One will be an overview of instruction, brainstorming, and to start sewing the spine of the miniature book. Day Two will be a work day to illustrate the book.

Supplies Needed:

- 9" x 17" Watercolor Paper as a substrate
- Awl Tool to punch holes
- Blunt Needle with Large Eye
- Yarn / Linen String / Ribbon
- Crayons / Pencils / Watercolor / Pen / Markers

Activity Brief:

The students will learn about the process of hand-making a miniature book, as well as how to brainstorm to make a six-word story to be used as the title of the book.

Activity Process:

- I. The lesson will start with a questionnaire to brainstorm. Each question will have up to five descriptive single words as answers.
 - A. How would you describe yourself?
 - B. How would you describe your family?
 - C. What are your interests?
 - D. What are your goals?
 - E. How would your friends describe you?
 - F. What else is interesting about you?
 - G. What is important to you?
- II. The instructor would explain the concept of a six-word-story from the descriptive words in the brain-storming activity, as well as "the", "and", "is", etc. The students will be given a set amount of time to write as many six-word-stories they can and choose their favorite one.
- III. The Instructor will reveal that this story will actually be the title of a mini-book. A presentation of step-by-step instructions on how to crease the paper into sections, cut it, and fold it into a booklet will be shown, as well as ideas on how to sew the spine and embellish the book, if desired.

- IV. The students will be given pre-folded and pre-punched books to save time, as well as a blunt needle, and will be given the choice of what color yarn they would like to sew the spine with. The teacher will assist if need-be.

-----End of Day One-----

- I. The lesson will continue as the students finish sewing the spine of their books.
- II. The students will choose their illustration medium(s) and begin to give content to their books. This content can be both a written story as well as illustration.
- III. If time allows, the students may present their books and tell the class about their ideas. If time does not allow, the students may take their miniature books home at the end of class.

-----End of Day Two-----