



Celebrate Family Literacy in the NWT

How To Kit



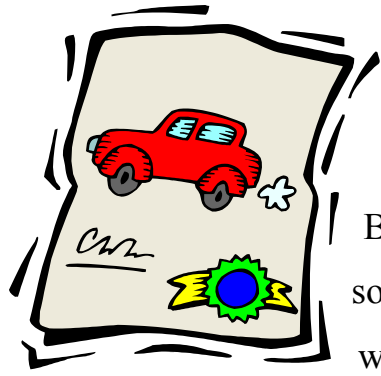
Book Making



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Why do Book Making?

Book making is a wonderful literacy activity. It is something that can be done with children and families. It will help your children begin learning important reading skills and increase their interest in books. Your child's homemade books will become a source of family enjoyment and will be treasured for years to come.

It is easy to see the progress in your child's literacy skills from year to year, especially in the younger grades, if you make books with them every year. You can make extra copies of your child's books to give as a special gift for grandparents, family, and friends.



There are many different kinds of homemade books. You will find instructions on how to make:

- Padded binders, albums or keepsake books
- Bound Fourteen Page Books
- Match Books
- Sixteen Page Books
- Eight Page Books
- Circle Cards
- Quick Books
- Scenic Books

“My child was very proud of his first book, and would read it to anyone who would listen. It encouraged him to work on his reading skills and to continue writing stories,” said one parent.





Steps to Organizing a Book Making Event in Your Community

Preparation

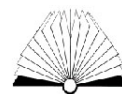
- Find a space in your community to hold the event, such as the school, band office, library, or community hall.
- Advertise your special event at least one week prior to the event. Put posters up around the community, advertise on the local radio station or green screen, and hand out invitations at the school.
Tell everyone about it! [Posters](#) and [invitations](#) are included in this package.
- Prepare yourself by ordering the supplies you will need to make the different books. Collect or make samples of homemade books for your participants to see. Copy the instructions for [making the different books](#).
- You can invite Elders to come to your book-making event and have them tell stories that the children can make books about.
- Call the NWT Literacy Council if you would like help with your event. The NWT Literacy Council can provide free books for prizes, help with the organization of the event and provide training for facilitators.
- Ask the local paper to come to your event and do a story about Family Literacy.





Celebrating Your Book Makers

- Have a community event to celebrate the bookmakers in your community. You can hold a coffee house and have bookmakers read their books. You can give out certificates and prizes to the writers.
- You can donate a copy of your books to a local library. Children will be pleased when they find that a friend has checked out and read one of their books.
- Ask the local paper to do a story about the book-making project and print a story and a sample book in your local newspaper.
- You can make copies of the books and have them available in the community.
- The NWT Literacy Council wants to know about your book-making project. Send us an email to let us know how it went. We'd love to receive any publications that you do.





Different Book Ideas

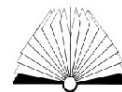
Homemade books and albums can be used for all sorts of things:

- Stories
- Family Histories
- Artwork
- School portfolios
- Family Christmas or birthday books
- Family albums

Why not try one of these book-making ideas with your child or in your classroom?

Making Books At Home

- **‘The Book of Me’** – A pre-writer can tell you what to write for them. Include favorite things, hair and eye color, names of pets, friends, or siblings, and anything else that completes your child's picture of their identity.
- **Make an alphabet word-capture book** - You'll need 14 pieces of paper for this one. Illustrate each of the 26 empty pages with an alphabet letter. As your child learns new words, write them on the page. Beginning readers see their growing command of language.





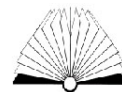
- **Tell your family's history** - Use a homemade book to tell your family's history from your child backwards. Include names, pictures, and information that places your little one in a line of family history.

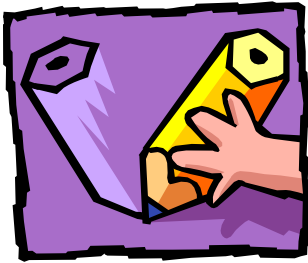


- **Supplement school lessons with homemade books** – For example, farm animals can follow units on food, pets could add to a lesson on community, and wild animals can illustrate facts about different countries. Cut pictures out of magazines or catalogs for illustrations.



- **Keepsake vacation journal** - Pasting in souvenirs from travels can make a wonderful keepsake vacation journal. Older children can use their own book as a diary during the trip.
- **Chronicle a season** - Budding naturalists might like to chronicle a season in a wild area near your home. Even backyards can yield plenty of nature sketching opportunities.
- **Favorite stories you've made up** make treasured gifts for your children. They make the book with you, you write or type the words, and they illustrate them. Expect this kind of story to become a favourite bedtime request.
- **Books that "take off" where a school lesson ended** can be donated to your child's class for further study.





Books as a Classroom Activity

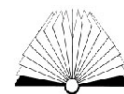
You can make a book about a field trip or special event. Use a camera and take pictures throughout the day that show what you saw and did. Later in the week, have the children make a book about the trip on paper or on the computer. This can be an individual or group book.

Before the trip or event, talk about what you might see. Tell the children that they will be making a book of their trip.

Throughout the day, have them help you choose what pictures to take that will tell a complete story of the event.



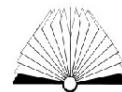
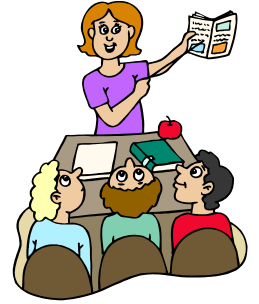
You can use a digital camera and then print out each picture. You can spread out all the pictures and talk about what you did first, next, etc. In other words, help them order the pictures in a sequence. In a group meeting, ask the children to dictate a sentence or two about each picture. Type their words into a word processing program such as MS Word. Later you can insert the correct pictures to make each page. You can ask each child to pick a favourite picture and to tell you what they liked about that part of the trip. So, for each picture you will have something that the group said and then, 'This is Mary Louise's favorite picture. She liked the seeing the dry fish hanging on the racks.'





There are many ways to make books in the classroom

- **Whole class book through dictation**---children dictate to the teacher who writes the story on pages for children to illustrate
- **Whole class book created by pages of individual children**---each child or pair of children creates one page; the separate pages are bound together
- **Small groups**---children in a small group write the story or informational piece to be included in the book
- **Pairs of children (same ages)**---class buddies or partners from different classes write the book together
- **Pairs of children (different ages)**---an older child works with a younger child to write the book
- **Individual child writes**---The child can write a simple story put in the form of a book or a piece created by using the writing process of drafting, writing, revising, and editing
- **Individual child dictates**---the child dictates his/her story while an adult writes it down in neat printing



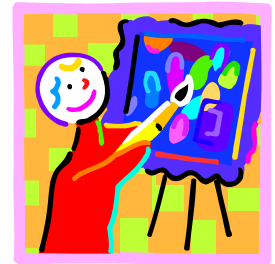


How to Make a Book

Making a book with your child is easy. Together decide on the pages that will make the book, using text as well as art or photos. Then put the pages in order and bind them together.

You can use:

- **Photographs of family members** - Pictures of enjoyable family activities, favorite places to visit, familiar animals and pets, and family trips.



- **Art work created by your child** - Drawings, paintings, or any creation that your child makes to represent their ideas and feelings about the subject of the book.

- **Your child's ideas and feelings expressed on paper or on a tape recorder** -

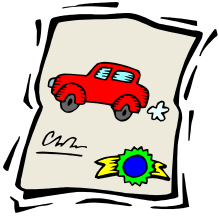


Young children need help to print their ideas on paper. With children about five or six years old who want to do their own writing, "inventive spelling" is the way to go. That just means that the words are written as they are heard by your child; correct spelling is not necessary. You can also have your child record their story on a tape recorder. You can then write out the story for them on pages that will make up the book and have them draw the pictures to go along with it.

You can **bind** your books in a number of different ways:

- Use a stapler
- Punch holes and tie it together with yarn
- Put it in a binder, duo tang or special folder





Be sure to have a **cover page** with the title and the author – your child!

For really lasting memories, try **laminating** the pages so they do not fray or tear.

You can use clear packing tape to ‘lamine’ your homemade book if you don’t have access to a laminating machine. All you have to do is lay the page down flat and cover it with packing tape, overlapping each piece so the entire page is covered.

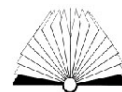
Then turn the page over and do the same on the other side.

Finally, trim the edges.



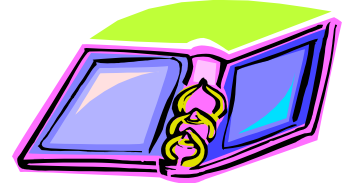


Instructions for Making Different Books





Padded Binder

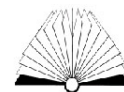
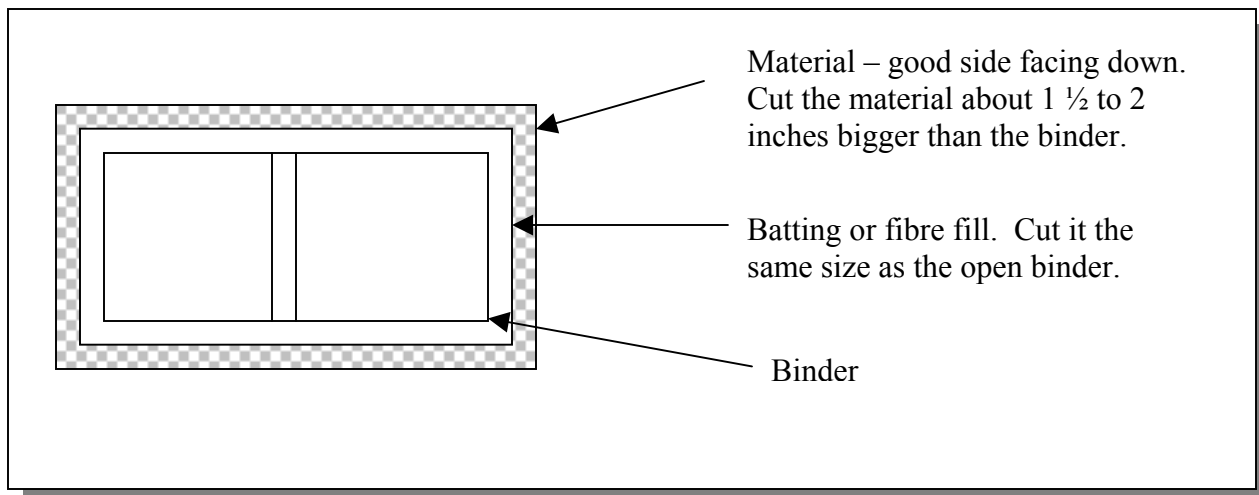
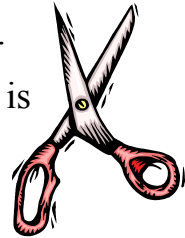


You will need:

- 3 – ring binder
- Cover material
- Batting (fibre fill)
- Glue gun
- Scissors
- Page protectors

How to make it:

1. Gather your supplies. Choose your cover material depending on what the book will be used for – baby book, Christmas, etc.
2. Cut the cover material. Lay the cover material on a flat surface. Put the open binder on top of it. Now cut the material so that it is about 1 ½ to 2 inches larger than the open binder.
3. Lay the batting (fibre fill) out on a flat surface. Put the open binder on top of it. Cut the batting so that it is the same size as the binder.
4. Put the cover material (good side facing down) on a flat surface, put the batting on top of the material, and then put the open binder on top of the batting. See the diagram below.





Padded Binder (Continued)

5. Put a line of glue on one edge of the binder with the glue gun.
Pull the material over and attach it to the binder.



6. Repeat this for each side. It is best to do only a small section at a time because your glue will cool down and it won't stick.

7. You can cover the inside cover. Cut a piece of light cardboard or Bristol board (cereal boxes work well too) so that it is large enough to cover the inside cover.



8. Now cut a piece of material that is a bit larger than the cardboard. Use the glue gun to glue the material to the cardboard.

9. Now glue the covered cardboard to the inside front cover. Repeat this for the back cover.

10. Put your page protectors in the binder.

11. Your project is now complete and ready to fill!



You can use these padded keepsake books for many things:

- Baby books
- School books to keep report cards, journals, school pictures, and projects
- Family photo albums
- Christmas or birthday albums to keep letters to Santa, artwork done at the special times and photos of your child
- Journals



Bound Book



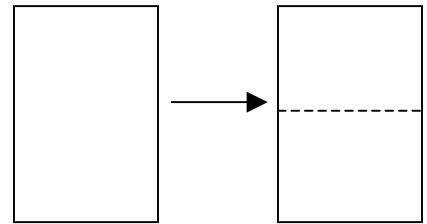
To make a simple bound book, similar to a hardcover book, all you need is a few readily available supplies:

You will need:

- 8 pieces of 8 ½ X 11” paper
- Ruler
- Pen
- Sharp craft knife
- Adhesive shelf paper
- Cardboard
- Packaging tape
- Button thread or other thick thread
- Large needle
- Rubber Cement or glue

How to do it:

- Take 8 pieces of 8 ½” x 11” paper and fold the paper in half to form a 16-page booklet measuring 8 ½” x 5 ½”



- Thread your needle with about 24 inches of heavy thread
- Beginning at one end of the booklet's centre crease, sew large stitches about 1 inch apart. Leave a 2-inch 'tail' hanging from the first needle hole. When you reach the end of the crease, turn the booklet over. Now sew back, bringing the needle through the same holes on the other side of the book. When you are finished stitching the pages together, tie the two ends of your thread together on the outside of your booklet. Trim the ends.

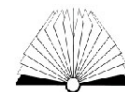
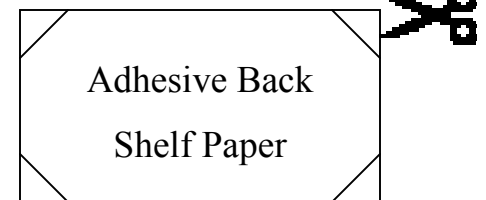




Bound Book

(Continued)

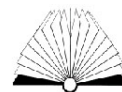
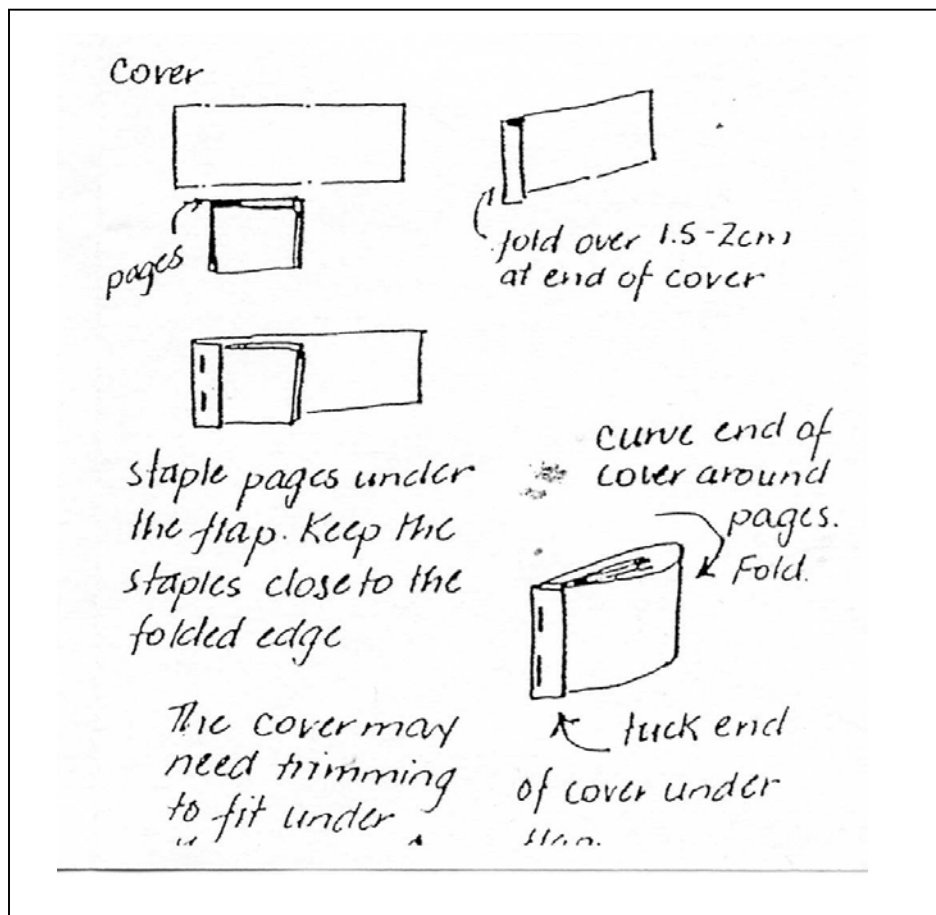
- Cut two 6" x 9" rectangles from cardboard. You may find the craft knife makes neater cuts than scissors.
- Lay the cut pieces side by side, leaving a half-inch space between them. Cover the center gap with packaging tape, attaching the cardboard pieces together. This is the spine of your book. If you tape the front and back covers together without leaving the space between them, your book will not shut!
- Cut a piece of adhesive backed shelf paper 15 x 20 inches. Do not peel off the backing yet! Place your book cover in the center of the shelf paper. At each corner you will want to trim off a triangle before you peel the backing from the adhesive paper. Mark a diagonal line about one half inch from the corner of the paper and trim. Now peel off the backing from the shelf paper and place your book cover in the centre on the sticky side of the paper. Fold over the edges and your cover is done.
- Put the pages and cover together by taping the pages in. This will add extra stability and wearability. Put the closed pages into the open cover, with the centre of the booklet, sewn edge in, at the center of the book cover's spine. Tape it in place. Repeat the process on the other side.
- The first and last pages of your booklet are the endpapers. Glue the first page flat against the cover. Rubber cement makes fewer wrinkles on your endpapers than regular glue, although regular glue will work fine.





Match Book

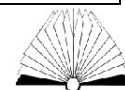
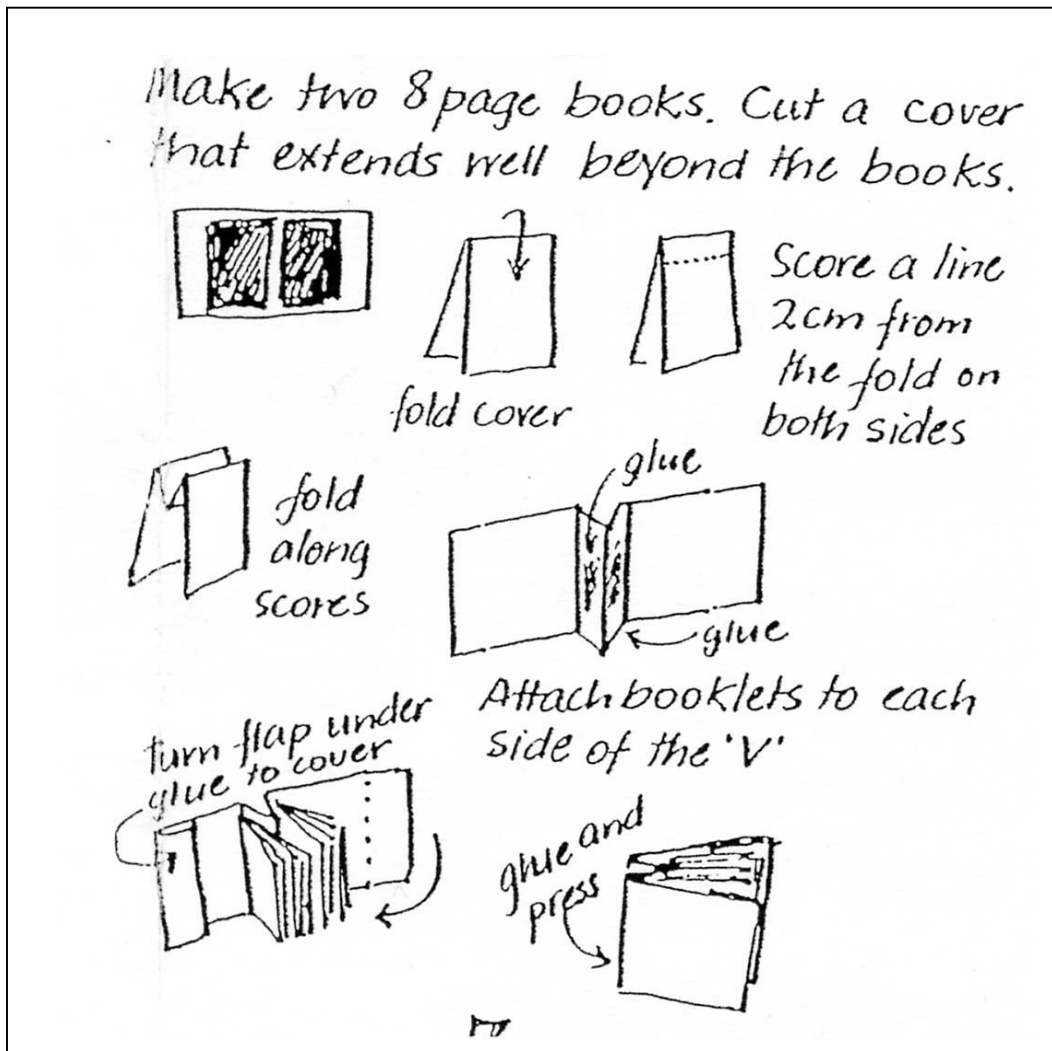
1. Make a cover for your book by cutting a piece of Bristol board or construction paper.
2. Fold the end 1.5 to 2 cm at the end of the cover.
3. Take several 8 ½ X 11 inch pieces of paper and fold them in half.
4. Staple the pages under the flap on the cover. Keep the staples close to the folded edge.
5. Curve the end of the cover around the pages and then fold.
6. The cover may need trimming to fit under
7. Tuck the end of the cover under the flap.





Sixteen Page Book

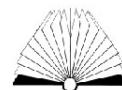
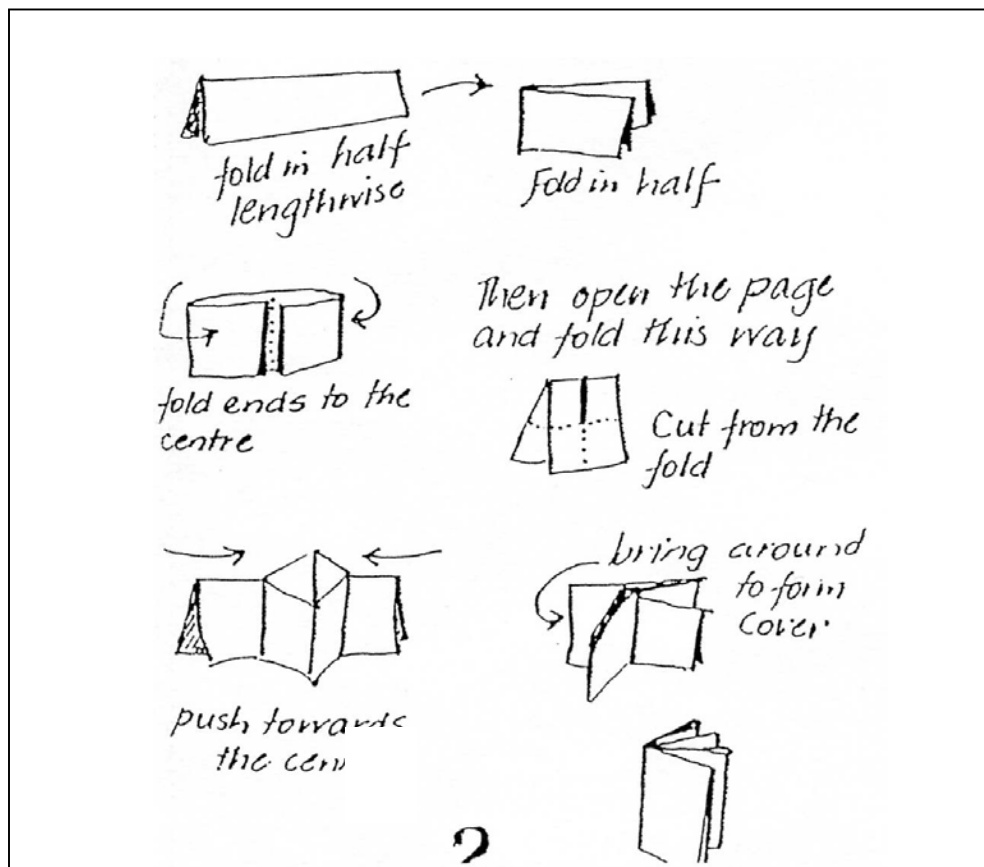
1. Make two 8-page books by folding 4 sheets of 8 ½ X 11-inch pages in half.
2. Cut a cover that extends well beyond the books. Fold it in half and then fold and crease a line 2 cm from the top fold.
3. Attach the booklets to each side of the 'V' with glue.
4. Turn the cover flap under and glue it to the inside of the cover.
5. Put glue between the spines and glue together.





Eight Page Book

1. Fold a 8 ½ X 14-inch piece of paper in half lengthwise. Fold it in half again.
2. Open it up so that it is folded in half lengthwise again. Now fold the two ends into the centre.
3. Open the page and then fold it in half width-wise.
4. Cut along the fold as shown in the diagram.
5. Open it up lengthwise again and then push the two ends towards the centre.
6. Bring the front around to form the cover.






Circle Card

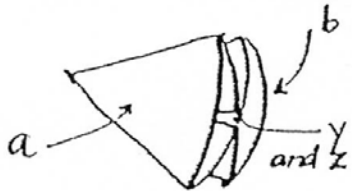
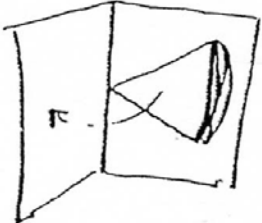
1. Cut a circle the size you want to fit in your card.
2. Fold it into quarters as shown in the diagram. Remember to crease the folds on both sides of the paper.
3. Push sections 'a' and 'b' towards each other while also pulling points 'y' and 'z' towards the inside so that it looks just like the diagram. (I know it sounds confusing!)
4. Leave the circle folded and glue it to the inside of the card, gluing sides 'a' to the front and 'b' to the back inside cover.
5. When the cover opens, the circle will flatten out.

Cut a circle. Fold as indicated.

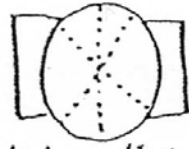


Remember to crease folds on both sides of the paper.


Push sections a and b towards each other while also pulling points y and z towards the inside.

glue a and b to insides of cover.



When the cover opens, the circle will flatten out.






Quick Book

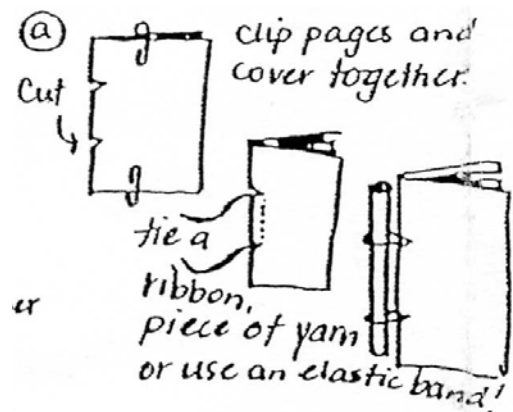
For the spine of a quick book you can use a straw, piece of wood, a twig, coffee stirrer, Popsicle stick, or roll of paper.

1. Fold blank 8 ½ X 11-inch paper to make the inside of the book.
2. Make a cover out of construction paper and fold as you did for the inside of the book.

You can attach the cover in two different ways...

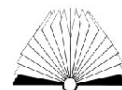
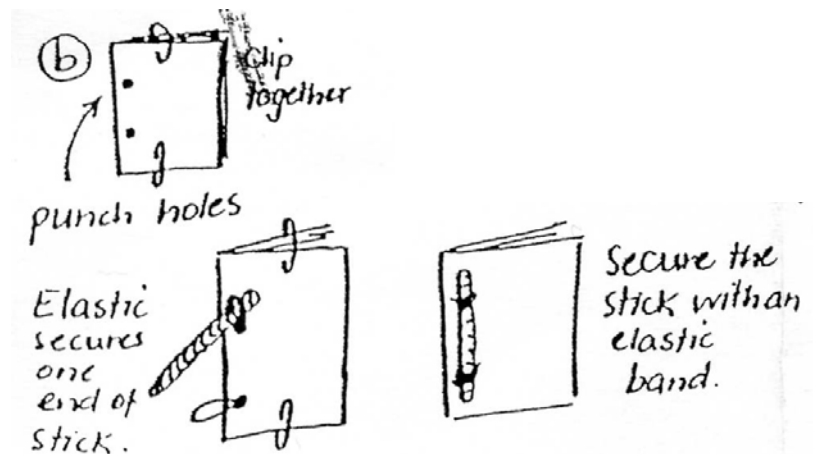
A.

- Put the cover and pages together and then use a paper clip to keep them together.
- Cut two notches out of the folded side of the book.
- Thread a piece of ribbon, piece of yarn, or an elastic band through the pages and tie it around the stick or whatever you have decided to use.



B.

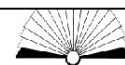
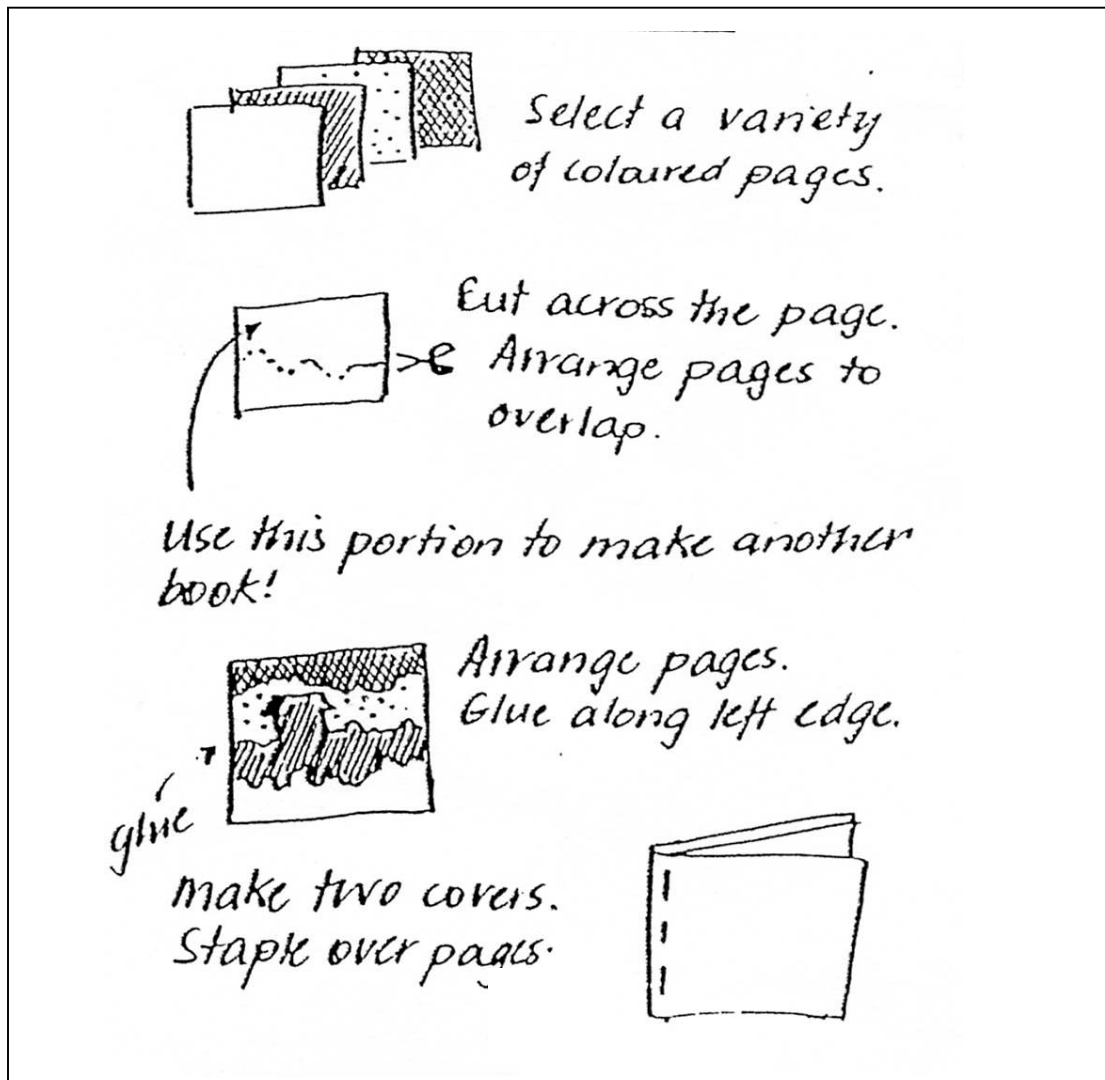
- Clip the pages together and punch two holes along the folded edge.
- Push an elastic through the holes and then thread the straw through the elastic. The straw will be secured by the elastic band.





Scenic Book

1. Select a variety of coloured pages.
2. Cut across the page to make different layers.
3. Arrange the pages on top of each other so that the shortest page is at the front and the tallest is at the back.
4. Glue the pages together along the left side.
5. Make a cover and staple over pages.





Using Technology

Computer programs and ‘gadgets’ can make a homemade book look very professional and can be a lot of fun to use. Give it a try and you will be surprised at how easy it really is.

You can use:

Word Processors

You can use a word processor such as MS Word to type in your child’s stories and put in photos, clip art, or scanned artwork.



Publishing Programs

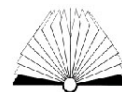
You can create books using a home or desktop publishing programs such as MS Publisher. Publisher has a ‘catalogue template’ that works well for making books. With this type of feature, illustrations can be scanned into the computer and the text added. The computer will print the pages correctly. We have included a book template that was created in MS Publisher.

Digital Cameras

Digital cameras are wonderful to use in literacy programs. The photographs can be put into word processing or publishing programs and then printed on a printer. We have put together an information sheet on what things to look for when you are buying a digital camera.

Scanners

You can scan in artwork or writing that your child has done and put it right in your word processing or publishing document. This is great when you want to make multiple copies of your books.





Where to Get Supplies

Check for supplies for your bookmaking projects in your community. If the supplies needed to do your bookmaking project are not available in your community, you can order them.

Walmart

The supplies for making the padded books can be ordered from WalMart if you cannot find them in your local stores. You can call Walmart and order material, binders, batting, and glue guns and glue sticks and they will send them to you in the mail.

- Call Walmart at 867-873-4545 and ask for ‘Northern Orders’
- You will need to have a credit card. You can also use a purchase order (PO) if your organization has an account with Walmart.

Creative Basics

Another thing that you will need to make the padded binders are page protectors for putting in your binders. You can order them through a stationary store such as Creative Basics in Yellowknife. Creative Basics has a toll free number that you can call and then use your credit card to order your supplies.

Toll Free: 1-800-661-0712

Telephone: 867-920-2486

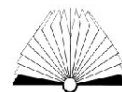
Fax: 867-920-7757

<http://www.creative.basics.com/>

Basics Page Protectors Letter-Size 100/Box

Order #: 40102-00

Price: 18.99/box





You're invited to a

Book Making Night

Bring your family and learn how to make
homemade books.



Great for sharing family stories, your children's
stories, artwork and more.



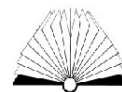
Date: _____

Time: _____

Place: _____



Sponsored by: _____





Celebrate Family Literacy in the NWT

Book Making Night

Bring your family and learn how to make homemade books.



Date: _____

Time: _____

Place: _____



Celebrate Family Literacy in the NWT

Book Making Night

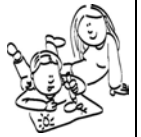
Bring your family and learn how to make homemade books.



Date: _____

Time: _____

Place: _____



Celebrate Family Literacy in the NWT

Book Making Night

Bring your family and learn how to make homemade books.



Date: _____

Time: _____

Place: _____



Celebrate Family Literacy in the NWT

Book Making Night

Bring your family and learn how to make homemade books.



Date: _____

Time: _____

Place: _____

