

Stories from Home

Inspired By: Josh Quick
Topics: History, Geography & Art

Grades: K and Up
Estimated Time: 40+ minutes

Materials

Paper (either white drawing paper or Construction paper), pencil, oil pastels, watercolor, crayons, string, hole punch, optional cardstock cover

Key Terms

- **Illustrator:** An artist who creates drawings &/or pictures to accompany stories or text. interacting with the art.
- **Digital Art:** A type of art that uses digital technology to create or enhance an artwork
- **Narrative Art:** Storytelling through art

Intro

Illustrator Josh Quick, created his book *Montana Quick Facts*, by illustrating and sharing 100 random and surprising facts about our home-state, Montana. He created his book because he thought these facts about Montana were worth sharing with people. Many of the facts are from the history of Montana, but some are from present day. Do you think it is important to know about the place where you live? Historically? Presently? What would you want to share with people about the place where you live? What happens when we exchange stories of our home with other people in Montana? How do you think they will be similar and how do you think they will be different?

Process

Step 1: Think of or research facts/stories that you would like to share about your home place. What images pop in your head while you are thinking of that fact? How will you write your facts? In Josh Quick's work, his facts are very much a part of his art. Think of how you can use your stories and your images in the same design.

Step 2: Get your paper together. Whether you are making your book yourself or making a book as a class, you will need to fold your papers (pages of your book). If you are using 8.5" X 11" paper, then you will want to fold it "hamburger-style" so you have more paper to work with. You may want to cut your paper to be 5" X 11" depending on the shape you want or how big you want your book to be. Keep in mind that each paper will have 4 designs/pages on them. One on each side of the folds and on both sides of the paper. If you are making the book as a class, you can have students create one page then glue the paper to your folded pages when finished. If you are using 8.5 X 11" paper, the pages would be roughly 8.5" X 5" each. Otherwise everyone can make 4 pages with 4 different facts or stories on them. If you are making the book by yourself, you will need a minimal of 6 facts, plus your outside cover, which you will want to label before getting started. (see video for instructions)

Step 3: Once you are set on your design(s), draw them on your final papers with pencil, then go over your design with color, use either markers, pastels, watercolor, crayons, etc... if you're using crayons or pastels try going over your design with watercolor when you're finished, your design will still show through!

Step 4: Create your cover. The cover could be made with cardstock to be a bit thicker and sturdier than your pages. Your cover piece will be the folded paper that goes on the outside of your pages. You can design your front and back covers. Think of a good title for your book- What will the title say about the stories people will find in your book? Be sure to add images and color to your cover to attract readers!

Step 5: Put your book together. There are several options for creating your book with stories from home. You can either create a book as a class or group, or you can create your own book with several facts. There are also many different ways to put your book together. Here are a couple options:

Reflection

- Share your book on AMM's Community Gallery!
- Share your book with other classes or groups of people. Maybe read your book aloud to them and show your pictures, this can also be done on zoom!
- Share your book with other schools in different communities. How cool would it be to exchange books with other schools/classes?? Contact AMM about finding a class to exchange your books with.

Standards

- **Anchor Standard #2:** Organize and develop artistic ideas and work
- **Anchor Standard #6:** Convey meaning through the presentation of artistic work
- **Anchor Standard #8:** Construct meaningful interpretations of artistic work
- **Anchor Standard #10:** Synthesize and relate knowledge and personal experiences to make art

Binding Options

You can either punch two holes around 3"- 4" apart through the folds on each page, stack your pages with the cover page on the outside, and use string to tie the pages together through the two holes. You will want your knot on the outside of the book. You can also do the same process but with 5 holes, which will make the book a bit sturdier. See the 5-hole connection below.

