



Pants Book

The pants book is a easy book made out of a single sheet of paper.

It has a unique form with a pocket that can hold an insert. Don't be fooled its small size: kids can fill the pants book with poetry, autobiographies, text and drawings about animal habitats, stories and more!

Grades/Age Group: K-12

Approximate Time Required:

Prep: 10 minutes

Teaching: 5-10 minutes

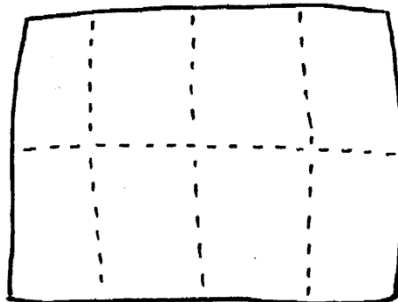
Teaching Overview:

Materials needed:

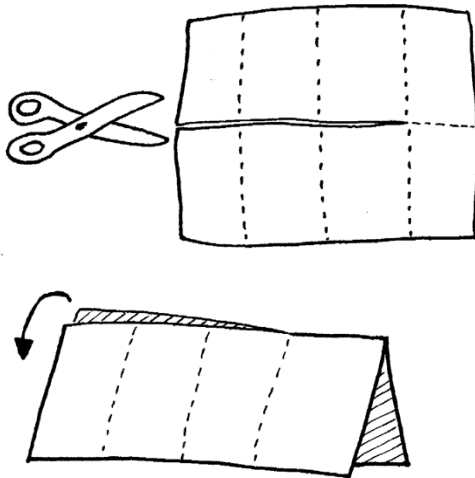
1. Text paper 8 ½ x 11
2. Scissors
3. Drawing/image-making tools
4. Cover paper (optional) 4 ¼ x 2 ¾

Procedure:

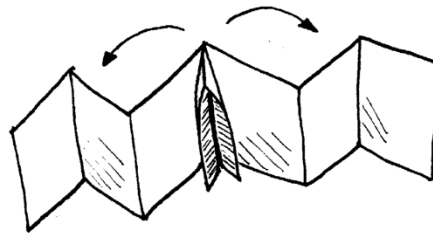
1. Fold paper in half lengthwise, or hotdog style. (If you have imagery, it should be facing *down*.)
2. Open it up and lay flat again. (If you have an image, it should be facing *up* this time.)
3. Now fold the paper in half widthwise, or hamburger style.
4. While still folded, fold the outside edge back to the middle fold. Repeat on the opposite side. You should end up with 8 panels.



5. Open up all the way. Cut up through the first three panels of the centerfold. Make sure to leave the last panel intact. Then fold the paper in half again hotdog way.



6. Fold the flaps around to each side with the intact panel in the center. Make sure that each panel is folded in the opposite direction so that the book can be gathered together to the size on one panel.



7. Press and crease. (Use bone folder or plastic knife/popsicle stick if available.)
8. Add covers by gluing a $4 \frac{1}{4} \times 2 \frac{3}{4}$ rectangle of paper on the front and back of your book (Optional.)
9. Run glue along the bottom and spine edges of two middle pages to create a hidden pocket in the middle. (Optional)

Pants Book – Lesson Overview:

Key Points:

1. This is a good example of a simple book form often utilized by book artists and in self-publishing.

Ideas for Innovation:

1. It can be applicable to any subject.
2. Kids can fill pages their folded books with words and pictures.



3. Can be used with predesigned pages.
4. Can be easily unfolded and photocopied to make additional copies of the book, which can be traded with other students or used for a class exchange.

Learning Objectives:

1. Students will increase their dexterity skills by folding cutting and gluing accurately.
2. Students will explore new ways to interact with what they're learning.
3. Students will have foundational skills for making simple books on their own.
4. Should they write their own story, they will enhance writing skills.

Core Standard Applications:

Math:

1st grade math. Standard: Work with addition and subtraction equations. Application: Have students make up a story about adding and subtracting (such as a dog that gets treats and eats them). In their book they can draw pictures and write their stories and the equations that go along with the story.

3rd grade math. Standard: Develop understanding of fractions as numbers. Application: Have students write and draw pictures of fractions to help them visualize fractions.

Science:

Kindergarten science. Standard: Investigate living things. Application: Have students make a pants book about the metamorphosis of butterflies.

4th grade science. Standard: Students will understand the physical characteristics of Utah's wetlands, forests, and deserts and identify common organisms for each environment. Application: Have students select a habitat and make a book about the organisms that live there. They can draw pictures and write information about the plants and animals that would be found in Utah's wetlands, forests, or deserts.

Language Arts:

5th grade language arts. Standard: Use technology, including the Internet, to produce and publish writing and to interact and collaborate with others. Application: Have students write short poems and publish them on a class blog. Then combine them into a book for everyone (you might have to make a few books so they will have a little book set of poems). Discuss the pros and cons of publishing online vs. in real life. What is good and bad about both kinds of publishing?

2nd grade language arts. Standard: Write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective technique, well-chosen details and well-structured event sequences. Application: Have students practice writing stories that have a sequence of events. They can write stories from their lives or one that they make up.

Social Studies:

Kindergarten social studies. Standard: Students will recognize and describe how individuals and families are both similar and different. Application: Students will make



a book about the members of their families. Students can look at each other's books and talk about how families are similar and different.

6th grade social studies. Standard: Students will understand how ancient civilizations developed and how they contributed to the current state of the world. Application: Students will select an ancient civilization they have learned about in school and will draw pictures and write about how they have contributed to the modern world.