



Pamphlet Stitch

The pamphlet stitch is a simple book form that even early elementary students can make. It has a cover and pages that function like a traditional book. This book can be used for many purposes, but this lesson focuses on helping students write and illustrate short stories.

Grades/Age Group: K-12

Approximate Time Required:

Prep: 10 minutes

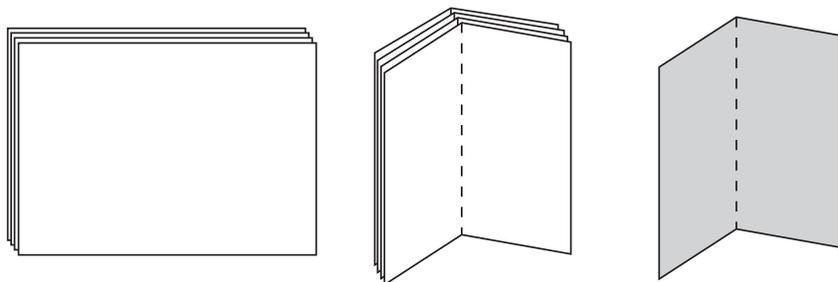
Teaching: 10 minutes

Materials needed (sizes can be scaled as desired for your class project needs):

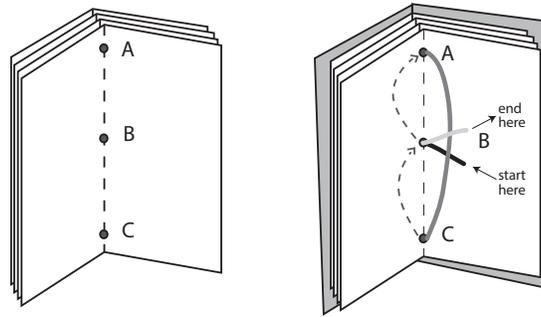
1. 3" x 6" text weight paper, 4 per person
2. 3" x 6" cover weight paper, 1 per person
3. 10" thread, 1 per person
4. Bone folder
5. Needle
6. Awl or push pin

Procedure:

1. Jog all 4 sheets of text paper together and fold in half. Crease with bone folder. This is called a signature. Folder cover in half as well.



2. Open signature to the center folio. Make marks along the center fold to signify where sewing holes will be made. *Mark in the center, 1/2" from the top, and 1/2" from the bottom edges.* Line up the center fold of the signature with the fold in the cover paper. Poke holes through cover paper as well and sew your book with a pamphlet stitch: Go through the center hole (B), then through the top hole (A), then through the bottom hole (C), then back through the center hole (B). Tie your two ends of thread into a square knot around the thread running down the center.



Pamphlet Stitch – Lesson Overview:

Key Points:

1. This is a good example of a simple book form that can be used in conjunction with any subject.

Ideas for Innovation:

1. Kids can fill their pages with words and pictures.
2. Can be used with predesigned pages.
3. For younger kids: use a hole punch to make large holes and ribbon or yarn instead of thread.

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. Students can write their own story, and enhance writing skills.

Core Standard Applications:

Language Arts:

Creative writing is an important skill for young people to develop. It not only enhances important verbal and written skills, but helps them grapple with issues in their own lives through a creative lens. To help students write a short creative story in their pamphlet stitch books follow these steps:

1. Start by reading a handful of picture books with your students. As you go along ask students to predict what comes next in the book to prompt them to analyze story structure. Also encourage students to explain what information the words and images tell and if they share different information.



2. Next talk to students about how all stories have a beginning, a middle, and an end. Students should answer the following questions about the beginning, middle and end of their story:
 - Beginning:
 - Who are your characters?
 - What are their personalities like?
 - What do they look like?
 - Where/when does your story take place?
 - What problem do your characters face?
 - Middle:
 - What changes do your characters face as they are trying to solve their problems?
 - End:
 - How is the problem solved?
 - How do things end?
3. Next have students fill their book with words and images that tell their story. If you are working with older students you can have them fill out a story board first to help them design their story more in depth before starting on the final project.