

Faith Ringgold and Story Quilts

Create Your Own Story Quilt

Ringgold's first story quilt *Who's Afraid of Aunt Jemima?* was written in 1983 as a way of publishing her unedited words. The addition of text to her quilts has developed into a unique medium and style all her own. Faith Ringgold's first book, *Tar Beach*, was published in 1991. Our story quilt is inspired by *Groovin' High*, but feel free to create your very own idea!



Faith Ringgold, *Groovin' High*, 1996, Silkscreen
Signed and number 182/425

Through this project, students will learn about African American history and Faith Ringgold's history and artistic process. The story quilt encourages analysis and personal interpretation while fostering students' artistic skills, knowledge, and coordination. Through presentation, students are able to practice dramatic play and dance and connect it to fine art.

Duration: 60 minutes

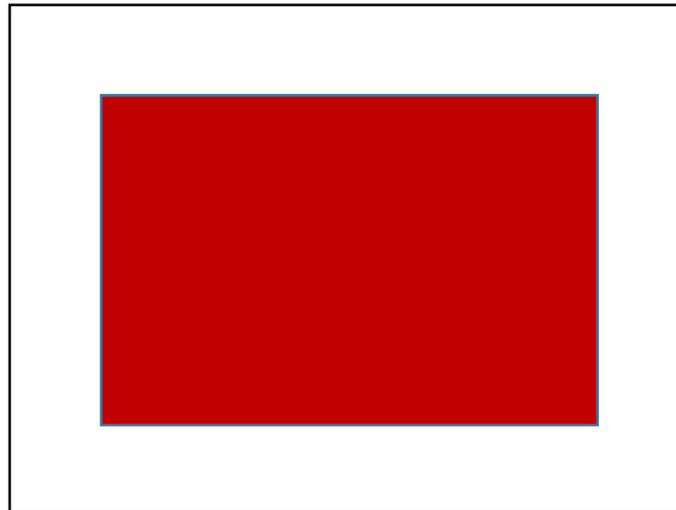
Materials:

- Heavy white paper or mat board- optional
- Solid colored construction paper
- Construction paper scraps or shapes
- Scissors
- White glue or glue sticks
- Magazines, paints, crayons, or colored pencils (depending on your variation)
- Tissue paper, foam, felt, and cloth scraps
- Pencils



Instructions:

1. Think of an event that you want to depict.
2. Write down a sentence or two describing the event.



3. *Optional:* Glue a solid-colored construction paper background in the center of the thick artist paper.

4. Use white and black square construction paper pieces to create a patterned floor. Glue it in place.
5. Draw, color, paint, or glue magazine clippings to create a depiction of the event inside the inner square.
6. Once done, use the tissue paper, felt, foam, or fabric scraps to create a border around the drawings.

Anything you have at home is perfect! Be very creative. Remember, the sky is the limit.

7. Sign your art like a print: "1/1..... Title..... Name and date"

If you don't remember how, look back at your Lesson Plan.

8. Send your finished creation to Heather@mattmuseum.org

Other Recommendations

- While you work, play 1920s jazz music, like Ella Fitzgerald or Duke Ellington.
- Tell your family about your story quilt. Remember, Faith Ringgold was a performance actor. Can you make a dramatic play about your story quilt?
- If you make more than one quilt square, or if other family members made their own, connect all of the individual quilt squares once they are dry to create one larger, family story quilt.

Sample Quilts

Materials Used:

- Mat board
- Construction paper
- Glue stick
- Scissors
- Foam cut-outs
- Markers
- Pencil



Sloth Art by Zack Harris



Materials Used:

- Construction paper
- Tissue paper
- Glue stick
- Scissors
- Magazine cutouts
- Pencil