

ARTISTS:

Katharine Bell, Painter

Augusta Sparks Farnum, multidisciplinary artist, & fifth generation photographer



Life's a Stage

Type of Prompt: "All the World's a Stage"
As you like it by William Shakespeare

Characters for your story can be made or things you find.
This is a place where you make the rules.



Contents:

- Key words
- Research: Websites of Stage words & Theaters
- Materials
- Hints
- Create a Stage Setting: Outside or Inside
- Characters for the Stage
- Characters for the Stage: First Aid Art Kit Materials
- Characters for the Stage: Rocks
- Create a Props for the Stage
- Write the Story & Make a Book

Key Vocabulary:

Stage and Setting:

A space that a story takes place, the rules are completely up to you. Is the sky the ceiling, and the stage is on a mountain top, or is the scene under the sea and the walls are painted to reflect the deep water world.

Props: An object used on stage or screen by actors during a performance or screen production.

Character: anything can be a character, from a rock to a triangle to a furry toe.

Play: A work of drama, usually consisting mostly of dialogue between characters and intended for theatrical performance rather than just reading

Research:

The world of the stage has their own words.

<http://www.theatre crafts.com/pages/home/topics/scenic-stage-design/glossary/>

Theaters from around the world:

<https://www.cnn.com/travel/article/spectacular-theaters/index.htm>

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First Aid Art Kit Materials:

Items Included:

- String
 - Markers or Colored Pencils, Water color
 - Water container for paint
 - Colored Paper
 - Crayons
 - Paint brush
 - Ruler
 - Glue stick & clothes pins
 - Pad of Writing Paper
 - Pencil
 - Drawing paper
-

Diorama Kit:

- Tempera paint
 - Paper plates for palette
 - Paper easels
 - Card stock
 - Newspaper
 - A Box
 - Pipe cleaners
 - Cotton Balls
 - Scissors
-

Helpful Items not included:

- Newspaper
- Rocks or pebbles
- A box
- Sponge
- Rags

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In your kit you have all sorts of things to make this project.

Hint: *Inspect what you have for materials.* Think about what they can do. Where does the paper fit. Is the string for making a swing? Or is the string a long paint brush?

Hint: *Consider which part of the project you might work on first,* there are a lot of different ones listed here.

1. Everyone starts a little differently. Sometimes it helps to write a few words or sentences to list who is in the story and how things begin.
2. Consider looking at the Fairytale prompt in the First Aid Art for ideas.
3. Start to draw your ideas lightly on the paper.
4. It is ok to change your mind, to flip the paper over, to start again.
5. If there are no scissors, use a ruler to fold and creasing the paper both ways. If the fold is dampen, the paper rips easy.
6. Those super long sheets are cut for the background.
7. Before attaching things with glue, try them out in the box.
8. Remember to always clean your tools after using them

Hint: *Thinking about painting?*

1. Working with Tempera or watercolor paint is wonderful and messy
2. Keep your brush clean with fresh water, and use try using rags instead of paper towels.
3. Tempera can act like Watercolor
 - Use the lid to add a touch of color
 - Add water and stir
4. Red, Yellow, Blue Are Primary Colors. White adds light
 - Yellow and Blue makes green
 - Yellow and Red Makes Orange
 - Red and White makes Pink
 - Red and Blue makes Purple

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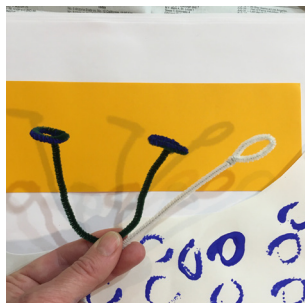
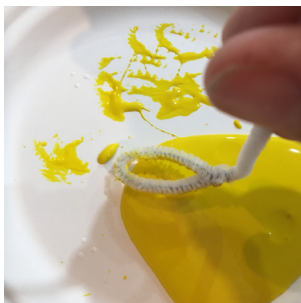
Create a Stage Setting: Outside or Inside

Items the could be used:

- Markers or Colored Pencils or Tempera
- Crayons
- Collage materials
- Card stock
- Drawing paper
- Pipe Cleaners

Landscapes make great backgrounds:

1. The scene view, which is behind the stage might be far away or close up.
2. Try building the landscape with collaged elements
 - What can you see mountains or elephants in the distance?
 - What time of day is it?
3. The background can have a second story to the one you are building.



Wallpaper for the scene in a room:

1. Repeated designs can be made with printmaking.
2. Try bending the non-sparkling pipe cleaner into a shape.
3. Dip the shape into the paint, and print several across a paper.
4. Try other shapes or colors.
5. Other things you can print are the tips of crayons, or the edge of the ruler.

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Characters: for the stage

Anybody can be the star, after all - this is your story

Characters from around your space make great characters:

- A shell and a bottle cap
- A carrot and a spoon
- A straw and a cloud

Characters with the supplies:

- Card stock
- Pencil
- Scissors
- Glue stick
- Scrap paper or paint
- Cotton balls
- Easel with stick strip for attaching



1. Draw an outline of your actor for your stage. Who is the story about? Is it about a moon and a star? Or is it about a worm and a turkey? Or a daisy and a rock and a buffalo?
 - (A Hint) Draw a stick figure, create bubbles to build up the shape, or clothes, and draw a new outline.
2. Cut out the actor's figure shape
 - Remember if anything gets cut off it can be glued back on, this adds dimensions to the figures.
3. Collage an outfit.
 - You can use the glue stick and the clothespins to hold the outfit on while it dries.
 - Is the actor cold? Does the worm need a scarf?
 - What else? Hats, hands, belts, broom, wings, a mustache, things to hold and shoes?
4. Add details with crayons and pencil.
5. The last step for the character is to have them stand.
 - Measure where the easel lines up with your character
 - The easel's top can be cut down before adding them to the back of the figure.

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Characters with the supplies: Rocks and pebbles

Supplies:

- Rocks
- Paint
- Pencil
- Water & sponge

Rocks are really fun to paint, and turn into characters.



Rocks have pre-existing shapes that can lend itself to become something else:

1. Wash and dry your rocks
2. Paint the rock white.
3. Draw with a pencil, the outlines for the paint color.
4. Paint in the rock
5. Rocks stand up!

Create props for the stage:

- Cotton Balls
- Pipe cleaners
- Colorful paper
- String
- Glue stick

What is part of the story, and is not a character?

Do you need stairs, portals, cave? Ways to enter and exit? Do you need windows, do they have curtains? Is there a funny thing in the newspaper that could go in the window? Do you have other recycling or magazines to collage with?

What kind of weather is there? Cloudy?

What do you need for the story? A bucket? A tree? A pot of gold? Or a table and chairs?

A coat for a Llamas? A cape?



At this point you have explored all of the materials. Try making things with the tools you have learned. Cut shapes out of the card stock. Try to collage for new shapes and color. There are pipe cleaners to try out your ideas. And don't forget the string!

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Write the Story & Make a Book

Supplies:

- Writing Paper
- Pencil
- String
- Thicker paper
- Drawing paper
- Scissors
- Glue stick
- Crayons/watercolor

Can you write a story about what is happening on the stage? You might refer to those few lines or thoughts you used to begin with. Try the Fairytale Prompt in the packet for ideas.



How did the story change as you made the stage? What is the back story? What happens next?

Try writing the story out on your pad of lined paper. When you are ready here is how to make a hand-made book to share, and illustrate.

How to make a book:

1. **Prepare** your string by rubbing the end with the glue stick. This will bind the threads, with time to dry for when we lace the book at the end.
2. **Pick** one card stock and water color paper that is long and narrow for the cover.
 - Fold the cover in half
 - Decorate it with a theme from your play.
 - Try the Water Color Resist & Explore in the Packet!



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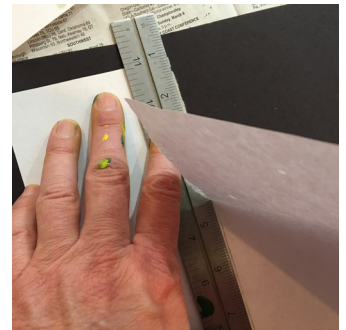
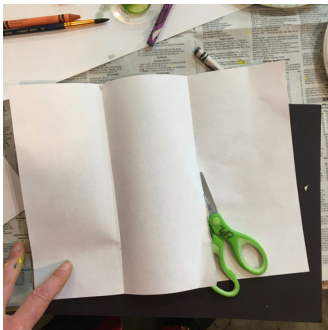


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How to make a book (con't):

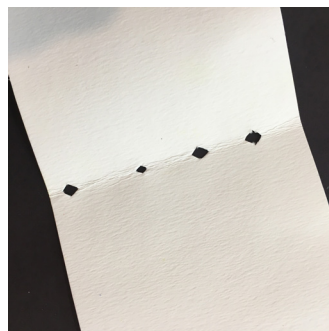
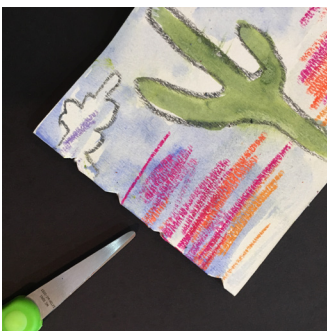
3. Find paper for the pages.

- The sample used the drawing paper folded in threes
- Then ripped to make pages.
- Two drawing pages makes 6 sheets.
- The book will have 24 pages.



4. Prep the Pages:

- Cut four spaced out holes along the folded edge of the cover, by using the tip of the scissors to nip a triangle out. When unfolded it will make a square.
- Fold each page in half, and stack.
- Take the top page, place on the cover and hold it up to the light. Can you see the holes? Mark the page where the holes are.
- Take that page and wrap the other sheet. Nip out triangles where those marks are on all the sheets.



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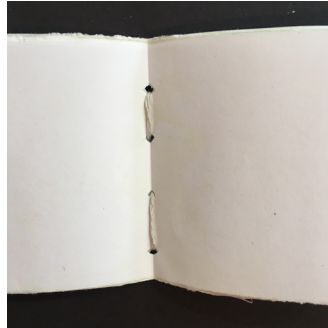


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How to make a book (con't):

5. Assembling the book:

- Line up the sheets with the cover. See the light through the holes?
- Remember that glued string? It should be dry by now.
- Start from the cover side, in the top hole, through all the pages to the bottom.
- Work your way through each hole
- Take the two loose ends, tuck them back through the exposed thread.
 - Note, the bottom thread tucks under from the right and the top string tucks under from the left.
 - Now, tie a square knot. (right over left and left over right)



Clean up tricks:

Glue is easy to wash off your hands. Scraps are fun to make new things with, I like to collage the left overs to make funny animals.

The paint is a little bit more messy, and completely doable. We are all working to be clean, this is a great way to practice doing your part. Plus your newspaper should definitely help you here.