

TREE FUND journal project

Investigative Question: NA

Goal: Students will start construction of a project journal, including creation of a personal title page draft and class cover.

Objectives: Students will create a title page with information about author, date of creation, title, and location. They will also use assorted resources to create a journal cover relevant to the project topic (trees).

Knowledge: Students will identify the components of a book title page and cover. Students will share information learned about trees during their explorations and visits.

Skills: Students will consider the content and audience of their work and practice fine motor skills, including handwriting. Students will work collaboratively with classmates to create a class journal cover.

Value: Students will produce a significant resource on tree information

SOL: ENG 3.6 (backwards learning – understanding nonfiction by creating nonfiction)
ENG 3.9 The student will write for a variety of purposes

Materials

- Teacher directions
- Construction paper
- Glue sticks
- Scissors
- Markers
- Pencils
- Title page templates and blanks
- Model title page
- Large-scale cover (large post its or Kraft paper with tree outlines drawn on)
- Laminated leaves

Procedure

1. Set up: Place materials on each table, teacher directions on board and in teacher folders. Draw tree outlines for students to glue leaves to.
2. Using a sample template, instruct students to create a title page (in their best handwriting) with the following information (a student template is available for those who wish to use it):
 - a. Title of their journal (differentiate between fiction and non-fiction)
 - b. Author of the work
 - c. Date and location of journal creation (2014 – 2015 Blandy and ____ Elementary School)
 - d. Any acknowledgements (on the back of the page)
3. Ask students to brainstorm as a class about things they've learned about trees. These can be recorded on the board for students to refer to.
 - a. Each student cuts out a leaf shape out of construction paper (encourage them to use real leaf shapes – the laminated leaves are provided for inspiration)
 - b. Encourage students to write (in their best handwriting, print or cursive) something from their experience in this project that they have learned, discovered, or like about trees. Refer them to the brainstorming for ideas.
 - c. As they finish up, have chaperones help them apply a bit of glue to the back of the leaf.
 - d. Place the leaves on the provided tree outline. An adult can help students place leaves to minimize leaf overlap.



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- e. If time does not permit, leaves can be collected and attached at a later time.
 - f. Please help students place leaves on the large sheet of paper to minimize leaf overlap.
 - g. Students may repeat A-C as frequently as time permits.
4. Collages will be digitized and used to make book covers for the end-of-project student journals.
 5. Clean Up: Place student title pages in the ziplock labeled with the teacher's name. Make sure the cover collage has the class name on the back.

