

Family Art from Home

Thumbprint Storybook

by Radka Apostalon

Your fingerprints are uniquely yours and will become the protagonists in this art project. Put away that paint brush or marker, instead use your fingers to create the characters and objects to illustrate your own story. Create a simple handmade storybook so you can preserve your story for years to come!

Supplies Needed

- Scissors
- Copy Paper
- Elmer's Glue
- Decorative Paper
- Cardboard/Cereal Cardboard
- Watercolors
- Color Pencils
- Ribbon
- Your Thumb and the Rest of Your Fingers!
- Hot Glue (optional)
- Ink (optional)
- Sharpie (optional)

How to Do It

Assembling the Supplies for the Storybook

You will need:

- 2 identical cardboard rectangles or squares,
- 2 identical decorative paper rectangles slightly larger (1/4" larger than the cardboard ones, see photo)
- a strip of paper in harmonica fold for the storybook insert
- ribbon
- your favorite paint color
- your story line

Making the storybook

Glue the cardboard rectangle in the middle of the decorative paper rectangle and make 60 degree cuts at each corner (see photo).



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Put glue on the decorative paper border, fold and press onto the cardboard.

Glue the ribbon in the middle of the long side of one of the rectangles. Take your harmonica folded paper (book insert) and glue the cardboard rectangles to the first and the last 'page' of the insert. These become the front and the back covers of the story book. Your ribbon should be glued between the insert and the cardboard rectangle at this point.

Now, think of the story line for each page.

Take preferably your index finger, press into the diluted paint or ink (you might wipe off the excess paint slightly) and make your fingerprint on the page. Add eyes, arms, etc. to create your characters with a sharpie or color pencil. Add background (landscape, cityscape, etc.). Use watercolors or color pencils to make your story book livelier. Let dry.

Tie the ribbon around the story book to finish it up!

