



Books are important for kids of all ages. Children will eagerly create their own stories and then "read" them to the group.

### Supplies

- ★ Blank white paper
- ★ Construction paper
- ★ Stapler
- ★ Glue stick
- ★ Marker
- ★ Magazines
- ★ Scissors (Child Safe)
- ★ Clear packing tape

# Homemade Books

Skills Learned: Language Skills, Small Motor Skills, Pre-Reading Skills

## Directions

- 1 Prepare blank books by stapling 5-10 sheets of white paper between 2 sheets of colored construction paper.
- 2 Give one blank book to each child telling them that they get to create their own books.
- 3 Each child will create a book about whatever he or she chooses. (Themes might include "animals," or "cars" or "my family" or "my favorites.")
- 4 Have the children cut out images from magazines using safety scissors. (If the children are too young to use scissors, have images pre-cut for them.)
- 5 Using the glue sticks, the children will paste the images in their books.
- 6 Encourage the children to use the markers to write a word or phrase under each image on each page. (You can help write words for younger children who have not mastered writing yet.)
- 7 Remind the children to decorate the front covers and to give a title to their books.
- 8 Make sure they write their names, if they can, on their book cover.
- 9 When the children have finished creating their books, invite each child to describe their book and "read" it aloud to everyone.
- 10 Be sure to create a special area in your book corner where the books can be kept for future reading.
- 11 You may want to use clear packing tape to create a protective covering over each of the pages so the books don't get torn after repeated use.

### Tips for Mixed Ages:

Toddlers can be included in this activity in a less structured way and with more supervision. They will simply enjoy making marks on the pages of their books. 3's can make books by drawing on the pages rather than pasting pictures. Ask them what words they'd like you to write for them. 4's can be encouraged to write "words" on their pages. Some children may prefer to make their own storybook by simply drawing pictures on each page. If so, you may take dictation for their stories.



Major funding provided by

[www.aplaceofourown.org](http://www.aplaceofourown.org)

A production of KCET/Los Angeles in association with Sesame Workshop.  
A production of KCET/Los Angeles in association with 44 Blue Productions, Inc.  
© 2007 Community Television of Southern California. All rights reserved.

