

RAFT IDEAS

Topics: Writing, Storytelling, Book Construction, Invention

Materials List

- ✓ 3-ring binder spine
- ✓ Tractor feed paper (old-fashioned printer paper)
- ✓ 3-hole punch
- ✓ Markers, crayons, etc.
- ✓ Yarn or string

This activity can be used to teach:

- Informative/explanatory texts (Common Core English Language Arts Standards: Grades K-12, Writing, 2)
- Narratives (Common Core English Language Arts Standards: Grades K-12, Writing, 3)
- Development & Organization (Common Core English Language Arts Standards: Grades 3-12, Writing, 4)



Tall Tales

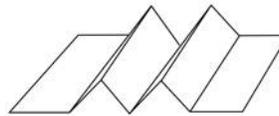
Stretch your stories!



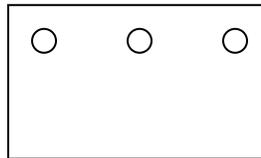
Tall Tales books gradually reveal themselves until the entire book is shown.

Assembly

1. Draw/write your book on six consecutive pieces of tractor feed paper (attached). The beginning should be at the bottom. You can make the cover on the back of the first page. Your book will unfold to reveal two pages at a time. For more complex topics more pages can be used.
2. Refold the paper so that you are looking at the cover. Use a 3-hole punch to



punch holes along the top. (Make sure the holes are aligned to the spacing of the binder spine.)



3. Place the book onto open binder spine.
4. Tie yarn or string to the binder spine to allow it to hang from a stationary location. Magnets can also be attached to the back of the binder spine to make the book magnetic and able to hang from most metal surfaces.

Possible Topics

1. All About Me books- Kids draw themselves on the pages, then write clues about their identity leading to the top page where their identity is revealed. Can also be done with police, firemen, or any other job.
2. This _____ Is My Home books- Could be done with an apartment building, city, ecosystem, etc. Show the various people/creatures that live in a certain place.
3. Zones of the ocean, atmosphere, mountains, etc.

The Content Behind the Activity

This project allows students to interact with stories or information in a somewhat different way. It can be used for simple stories and art projects for younger children, or for science projects and oral presentations for older students. The possibilities are limitless. In addition, students get a lesson on reusing supposedly useless or obsolete items. Students should draft out their ideas prior to utilizing the tractor paper, so they don't get frustrated with the process of laying the story out backwards.

Web Resources (Visit www.raft.net/raft-idea?isid=712 for more resources!)