

Face Book

Make an up-close-and-personal sketchbook or journal cover by creating a “face book” out of a cast and painted high-relief face

(art + history)

Way back in early 2004 Mark Zuckerberg designed what we now know to be the most popular social media site on the Internet — Facebook. He was then a sophomore at Harvard University and Facebook was known as thefacebook.com. The name for Facebook came from the publications that some colleges pass out to students at the beginning of the year to help them get to know each other better, called a Facebook, or “New Faces.”

In the beginning, only Harvard used thefacebook.com. Facebook was created as a way for Harvard students to keep in touch over the Internet and get to know each other better. Within just a matter of months, Facebook became so popular that it was soon opened up to other colleges. By the end of the following year it was also open to high schools. The year after that it was opened to the general Internet public, as long as users were 13 or older.

To create a Face Book by hand, this lesson plan starts with a very personal three-dimensional cast and painted face to grace the cover of a recycled book or a journal. Modeling paste and paint are added to customize it.

GRADES 3-12 Note: Instructions and materials are based upon a class size of 24 students. Adjust as needed.

Preparation

1. Mix Activa Fast Mache' according to package directions.
2. Cover tables and brush a thin layer of dishwashing liquid into mask forms.

Process

1. Press Fast Mache' into each mask form, creating an even layer approximately 1/4" thick. Hold the form up to the light to check for any thin areas. Air bubbles can be worked out with fingers. Allow to dry (the drying process may take a few days, depending upon weather, classroom temperature, and other factors). Remove the Fast Mache' mask from the form.



Materials (required)

Roylco Multi-Cultural Face Forms, package of 10 (61131-1010); need one form per student

Activa Fast Mache', 4 lb (33116-1004); two packages per class

Blick Artists' Acrylic Modeling Paste, Pint (00623-1066); one per class

Blick Studio Acrylics, 8 oz (01637-); share at least six tubes across class

Blick White Glue, 16 oz (23882-1006); share one across class

Blick Economy Golden Taklon Flat, Size 8 (05168-1008); need one per student

Recycled Hardcover book, at least 5" x 7"



Process

2. Glue the cast mask to the cover of a recycled hardcover book. Other options would be a hardcover sketch book or blank journal. If a flimsy cover is the only option, glue a piece of cardboard down first for rigidity.
3. Now, using a brush or palette knife, add Blick Modeling Paste to customize the face even further. Personalize by adding hair, glasses, jewelry or other accessories. Create a realistic self-portrait, or morph the face into an animal or alien being. Detail can be achieved by using a pencil or wooden tool. If there are gaps where the mask form meets the book, modeling paste can be added to smooth the transition. Apply a thin layer of modeling paste to the mask form to even out any irregular areas and provide a consistent surface for the paint. Let dry overnight.
4. The final step is to add more customization using paint. Paint the eyes open or closed. The skin color can be realistic or shocking! Add a background setting.
5. Fill this Facebook with personal thoughts, accomplishments, goals or feelings – much as is popularly shared on Facebook via the internet.

National Core Arts Standards - Visual Arts

Creating

Anchor Standard 1: Generate and conceptualize artistic ideas and work.



Step 1: Press Fast Mache into a mask form in an even layer about 1/2" thick. Let dry.



Step 2: Glue to a book cover. Personalize by adding Blick Modeling paste. Let dry..



Step 3: Customize even further by adding Blick Studio Acrylics.