

# Paper Quilting

*The following art lessons are based on the book Selina and the Bear Paw Quilt by Barbara Smucker, Stoddart Pub. Co. Ltd. 1995. Even though the story does not take place in Canada, it is chosen for its subject matter; quilting and tradition. Quilting is a craft practiced in Saskatchewan.*

*Some Saskatchewan quilters are Jocelyn Meyeres, Diane Douglas, Michelle Harris, Lynne Underwood. The Craft Council in your area will be able to direct you to a quilter. Ask one to come and visit your classroom!*

## Student Objectives

- Students will learn various stitch types and names.
- Students will become aware of the stitching around them.
- Students will use compositional and colour technique to create a cohesive patterned quilt square.
- Students will use layering techniques to enhance unity in the pieces.
- Students will develop fine motor skills.

This unit was approached differently for the middle years children and for the primary children. Both projects will be explained.

## Paper Quilting

### Materials

Various coloured paper, cardstock is very helpful  
Patterned papers  
Buttons  
Embroidery thread  
Small nails or clay needle tools  
Cardboard  
Needle threaders (see instructions below on creating your own)  
Thick needles with dull tips

White glue and glue stick  
Pressed leaves  
Crayons (primary)  
Watercolour paint (primary)  
Pattern for Bear Paw Quilt (primary)  
Newsprint  
Fine gauge wire

## Web Links

For more information on quilting:

[www.saskatoonquiltersguild.com](http://www.saskatoonquiltersguild.com)

For examples of stitches.

<http://www.hutchal.clara.net/curtains/sewguide.htm>

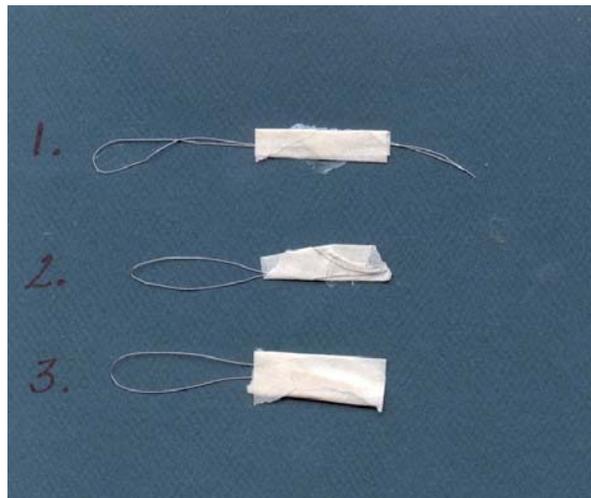
## Resources

*Selina and the Bear Paw Quilt* by Barbara Smucker, Stoddart Pub. Co. Ltd. 1995.

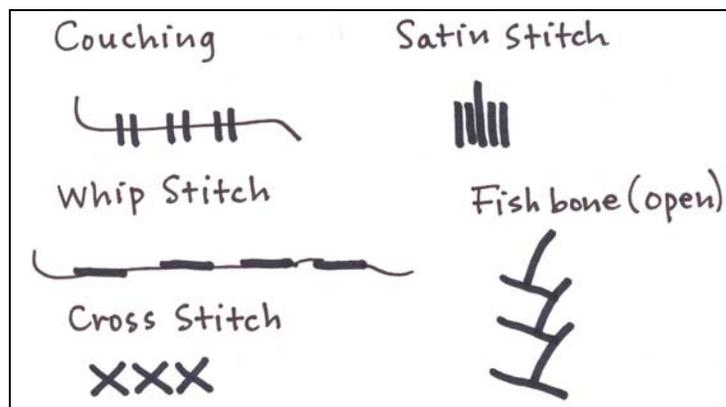
## Procedure

1. Create some needle-threaders by cutting fine gauge wire to about 5 inches. See diagram below.

## Diagram



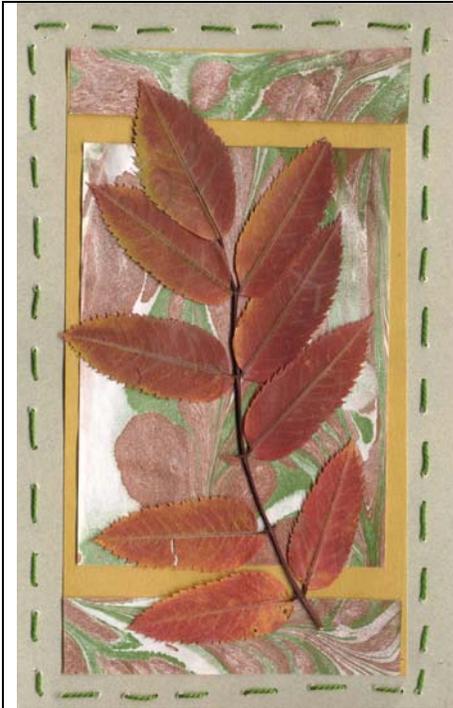
2. Double the wire, use masking tape to hold the two pieces of wire together. Double the tape back over a new section of wire and tape again. The doubling over makes the threader strong so that the wire does not pull out when the students are threading their needles.
3. Practice stitches on cardstock. We used a needle tool that is used for clay work to create pre-punched holes. Old pizza lids under the cardstock create an excellent surface to work on to create the holes.
4. Thread the thread from the back, tape the end. And stitch. The thread must go through the next hole on the same side that it ended on. If it ended on the top the next stitch goes through from the top.
5. We focused on three types of stitches, straight stitch, cross-stitch and couching.
6. Types of stitches



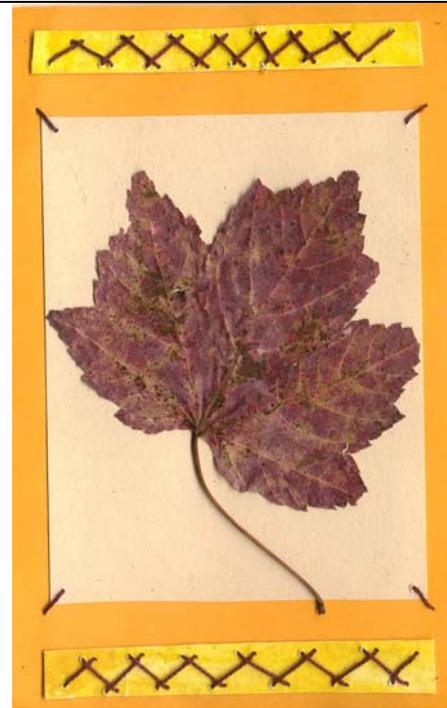
7. Students plan their pieces on newsprint. Using crayons, plan out colours and shape placement. Mark the types of stitches to be used.
8. Cut the various pieces of paper needed and glue them all together. Use white glue to glue on leaves. To press the leaves to paper, place another paper over it after the glue has been applied and then rub. This will keep the leaf from breaking. If the leaf is rubbed directly, it will break.  
  
The leaf can also be glued on at the end to avoid breaking. If doing so, mark lightly where the leaf will go.
9. It is worthwhile to give a demonstration on gluing paper using glue stick. Demonstrate that the glue must go to the edges, even over the edges, when applying the glue so that all the edges are pressed down.

10. Stitch the work.

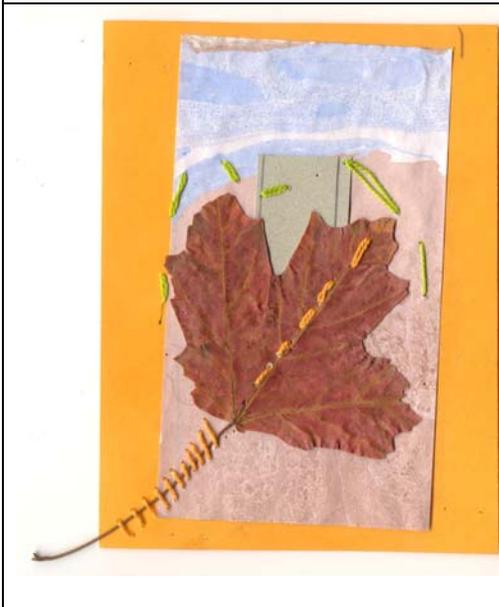
Student Art / Paper Quilting



Matthew Webster, Grade One



Jocelyn Altrogge, Grade Eight



Jeremy Amiss, Grade Two



Mitchell Epp, Grade Eight


## A Bear Paw Quilt

Based on the book, *Selina and the Bear Paw Quilt* – Barbara Smucker , Stoddart Pub. Co. Ltd. 1995

### Student Objectives

- Students will be able to draw a realistic looking bear.
- Students will learn about different geometric shapes.
- Students will be able to be able to recognize the shape pattern that makes up a bear paw quilt.
- Students will use various types of stitches to decorate a quilt.
- Students will work cooperatively in a group project.

### Materials

Shapes to create quilt (I used one shape per student and created a group project)

Cut out:

- 5 squares
- 24 triangles
- 4 rectangles
- 4 trapezoids

You will also need:

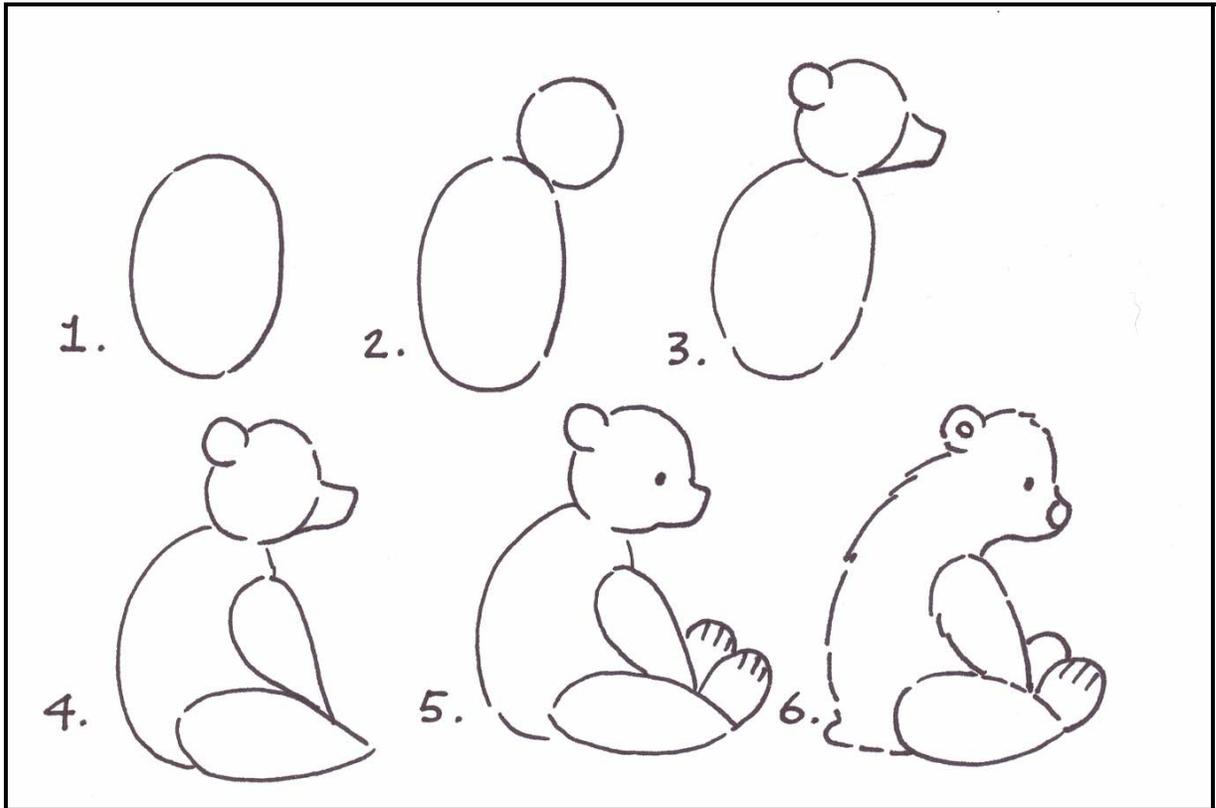
- Large paper to glue shapes to
- Embroidery thread
- Small nails or clay needle tools
- Cardboard
- Needle threaders (see instructions below on creating your own)
- Thick needles with dull tips
- Steps to drawing a bear, included in this resource

## Procedure

1. Read the story of the Selina and the Bear Paw Quilt to the class and discuss.
2. Do research on bears. Do a search on the Internet. Go to the library.
3. Take the students through the steps involved in drawing a bear. See the diagram included in this resource. Photocopy onto a transparency and use an overhead projector for the class to see it. Students practice these shapes on scrap paper.
4. Students transfer their bear images to a shape of the quilt.
5. Colour with crayons. Press very hard so as to create a resist for the next step.
6. Dilute watercolour paints with water for painting the background on each square. They do not need to worry about getting some on the bear as the wax created a resist.
7. Glue the quilt together following the picture of the student art.
8. Have the students work in pairs or groups of four to make the holes in the paper for the thread and create the stitching. I had the children on stitch around the paws of the bear to emphasize them. The children discussed the stitch types they would use.

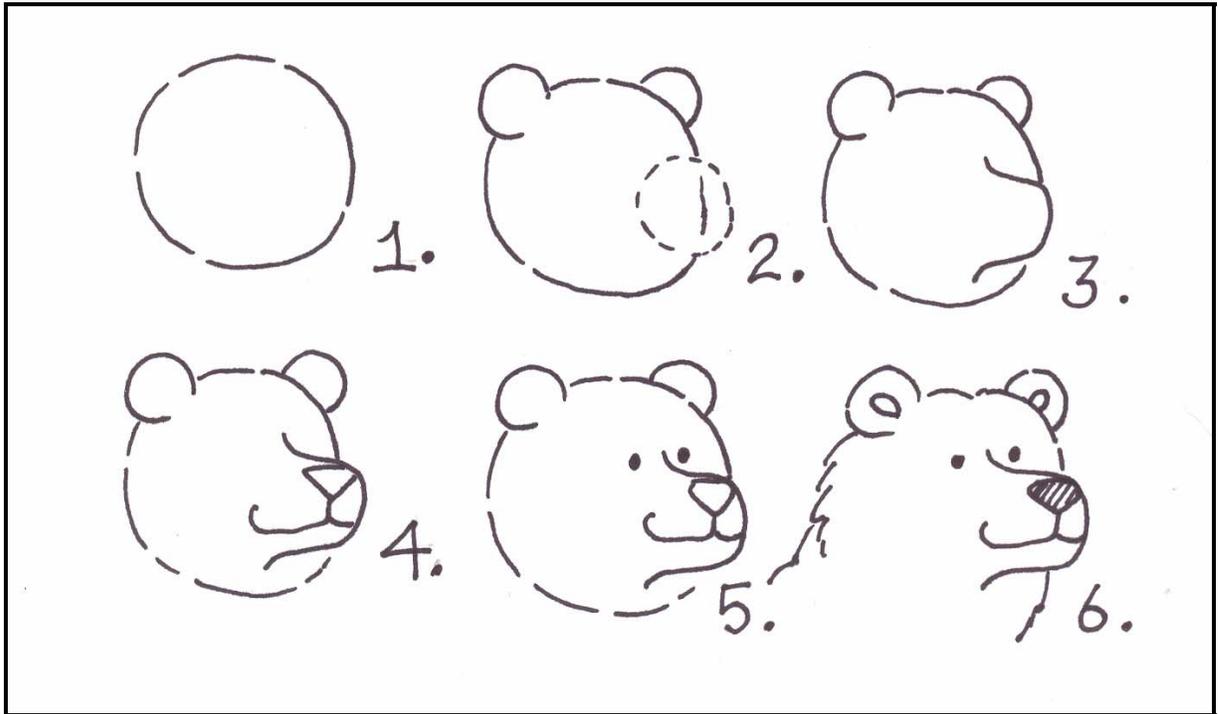
## *Draw a bear with shapes and lines!*

A bear can be drawn from many angles. This is how to draw a side view.



1. Draw an oval shape.
2. Draw a round shape on top of the oval.
3. Draw a semi-circle for the ear that is showing and draw a cup shape for the muzzle.
4. Draw teardrop shapes for the legs.
5. Draw half-ovals for the feet and a dot for the eye that is showing.
6. Draw the details, like the nose and toes.

*Draw a detailed bear's head with shapes and lines!*



1. With a pencil, lightly draw a circle.
2. Draw another circle to help you draw the muzzle.
3. Draw a small hill-shape on the right side of the circle and erase the circle.
4. Draw a triangle nose. Draw lines for the mouth.
5. Draw dots for the eyes.
6. Add details. Draw lines for the fur. Make the nose black. Draw smaller circles inside the ears.

Student Work / Bear Paw Quilt





