

The Art Part of Language Arts

A Collection of Art Projects that Correlate With Each Story in the Third Grade Houghton-Mifflin Anthology
By Victoria (Tori) Gonzalez, Liberty Elementary
Santa Maria-Bonita Unified School District

Theme 1

Story Title

Lost and Found

Art Project

“Lucky Newspaper Hat”



Story Summary: “When Mona, the new girl at school, disappears into the lost-and-found bin, Wendell and Floyd follow her. Soon the three of them are wandering through a strange world, searching for Mona’s lucky hat. When their fantastic adventure ends, Mona has her hat – and two new friends.”

Houghton-Mifflin Teacher’s Edition – pg. 11B

Materials:

Newspaper	Directions on How to Fold a Hat (see Appendix)
Markers	Foam Shapes
Buttons	Feathers
Tacky Glue®	Tape

Directions:

1. Model how to correctly fold the newspaper hat according to directions.
2. Pass out newspapers and directions
3. Allow students to fold hats, tape sides.
4. Decorate.

Teacher Tip:

Tacky Glue® is best for gluing items such as buttons and feathers to paper.

Optional Writing Assignment:

Finish sentence: I need my Lucky Hat when

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Story Title

The Ballad of Mulan

Art Project

“Scrolls with Chinese Characters”



Story Summary: When Mulan disguises herself to take her father’s place in the Emperor’s army, she becomes a great general. The Emperor offers her anything her heart desires. Mulan chooses only one thing – a swift camel to return her to the family she has heroically fought to protect.

Houghton-Mifflin Teacher’s Edition – pg. 530

Materials:

White construction paper cut lengthwise (vertically)
Black tempera paint
Small paper plates or cups (to distribute paint)
Pencils
Brushes
Student Anthologies

Directions:

1. Have students open anthologies to Content Link (pg. 89)
2. Students are to copy, in pencil, three or four Chinese characters lengthwise on paper.
3. Students will then trace over pencil with black paint.

Teacher Tip:

Have students close and put away their anthologies after tracing in pencil so that paint does not get on their books.

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Theme 1

Story Title

The Waterfall

Art Project

“Hiking Collage”

Cut out things from a magazine that you may see on a hike.



Story Summary: A family’s backpacking adventure in the mountains leads to the discovery of an amazing waterfall – and to an exhilarating climb to the top of it.

Houghton-Mifflin Teacher’s Edition – pg. 92A

Materials:

Magazines suitable for cutting pictures from
Paper
Glue sticks

Directions:

1. Explain to students what a collage is, with visual examples if possible.
2. Pass out paper and magazines to students.
3. Have students cut out things they would see in nature and arrange pictures in a collage on their background paper.

Teacher Tip:

The concept of a collage was new to my students. It will be helpful to have an example.

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APPENDIX

Newspaper Sailors Hats

Materials:

- for small hat: 8 1/2 x 11 piece of paper
- for child sized hat: 1/2 sheet of newspaper
- OPTIONAL: scotch tape

Instructions:

- Fold the paper (or the 1/2 sheet of newspaper) in half
- Fold down each side to make triangles
- Fold one bottom flaps up
- Flip the hat over and fold the other bottom flap up
- add a bit of scotch tape if you like

