

### **Stitch it up. Mixed Media Stitching!**

#### **Materials:**

Black and white oil pastels

White embroidery thread

Thread measurements: pinching the thread in your fingers, bring it down your arm to your elbow, wrap it around the elbow and bring it back up the arm to return to your fingers. Do this again (2 elbow lengths in total) and then cut the thread.

Watercolor weighted paper cut into 6x6 squares

Watercolor palette with brush

Scissors

Beads

Blunted embroidery needles

Plastic cups to hold beads, oil pastels, and water for watercolor

#### **Classroom prep:**

Double-check threaded needles. If needed, thread additional needles.

Place containers of black and white oil pastels, a couple scissors, watercolor palettes with brushes, and stacks of paper at each table. Do not put beads out. They will be distributed as we finish embroidering. Make sure to have pitchers of water ready for when we begin to use watercolors.

#### **Clean up and prep for the next lesson:**

Sort and return materials to the cart. Restock paper and beads as needed. Cut material and thread embroidery needles for the next class.

#### **Lesson Plan:**

1. Students will use their choice of black and white oil pastels to draw shapes and lines on their pieces of paper. Students are encouraged not to fill spaces but to play with lines and outlines (i.e. an outline of a square versus a filled in square).

2. Instructors will lead a demonstration on using needles on paper, showing students how to make and connect dots with thread. Watch where your fingers are.

Helpful tips: Piercing close to the edge can cause the paper to rip.

If you are having trouble pushing your needle through, put the paper on a solid surface (the table, a piece of cardboard) and use your needle to push through. Once you've formed a hole, you can take the paper off the surface and continue sewing.

If an instructor feels apt to and the group has responded well to the needles and thread, share with the group other forms of stitching.

Examples:



Running Stitch



Straight Stitch

As students finish using thread and needle to embroidery their papers, have them set needles aside in a designated spot.

3. Instructors will lead a demonstration on working with watercolor, i.e. adding water to the solid colors in order to produce paint. Demonstrate to students what happens when watercolors are applied to the white embroidery threads.
4. Students go to town with watercolors!

Examples of student work:



Iterations:

Allow students to weave in buttons and trinkets

