LESSON PROJECTS

1) THE ROPE BED:

Weave a rope bed for your notebook!

SUPPLIES:
- 1 copy of master M-4-1 per student, printed on colored card stock
- white string (not jute, as it is too stiff)
- scissors
- tape
- 1 nail
- hammer
- a surface to hammer on
- colored pencils
- corrugated cardboard cut to 8.5” x 11”
- rubber cement or glue

DIRECTIONS:

1. Begin by firmly gluing master M-4-1 to the corrugated cardboard.

2. Color in the frame of the bed. Using the nail, hammer, and protective surface, (a wooden board is best) nail small holes through the black dots in the copy of master M-4-1.

3. Cut a piece of string 14 feet long. Tape one end, creating a “needle” to work the string through the holes. Beginning at a knot, weave the string from front to back, tying off the end with a knot that will rest on top of the printed side. Keeping the string loose enough so as not to bend the card stock, begin weaving back and forth across the bed, weaving under the wood frame and straight across the bed to the opposite frame. Continue until all “ropes” have been strung in one direction.

4. At the corner, follow the lines, crossing over the corner as indicated.

5. As you begin to weave in the other direction, weave in an “over and under” pattern as designated on the page. Tie off the last knot.

6. Adhere the card stock to the corrugated card board firmly. 3-hole punch and place in notebook.

The back should look like this
2) THE STRAW TICK (MATTRESS):

SUPPLIES:  
- 1 copy of master M-4-2 on white paper
- 1/4 yd. muslin  - matching thread
- needle  - scissors
- two small pieces of velcro
- iron (with parental help)
- clean straw, feathers, or corn husk

DIRECTIONS:

1. Use M-4-2 as the pattern to cut two pieces of muslin. Stitch together using a 1/4” hem and leaving a portion open for turning and stuffing.

2. Turn inside out and press flat. Using filling (broken straw, feathers, or shredded corn husks) fill the mattress, keeping it somewhat thin so as not to add too much bulk to the notebook once completed.

3. Hand-stitch the opening closed. Use small pieces of velcro and place at the two upper corners as indicated on the pattern. Velcro the straw tick to the rope bed.

3) COLONIAL STENCILS:

Stenciling was a common way to decorate during the Colonial era. Not everyone could afford wall paper. Stencils gave a faux or “fake” impression of having wall paper on a wall by just using paint.

You have a few choices when it comes to stencil activities:

ACTIVITY #1: Stencil Coloring Page (for notebook)

SUPPLIES:  
- 1 copy of master M-4-3 on white paper
- colored pencils

DIRECTIONS: Color in as desired, 3-hole punch, and place in notebook.
ACTIVITY #2: Stenciling a Sample

SUPPLIES: - 1 copy of master M-4-3 on transparency film
- stencil brush
- acrylic stencil paints
- exacto knife and surface to cut on
- masking tape
- paper towel
- 1 piece of white card stock per student

DIRECTIONS:
1. Using the exacto knife, CAREFULLY cut out one of the stencil patterns from the transparency film.

2. Starting with one color, mask off with tape all openings that are NOT the color you choose to use. Make sure they are fully covered!

3. Using the stencil brush, dip into paint and brush off excess on paper towel. You want your brush to be relatively dry. Tape the stencil to a piece of white card stock. Using a “pouncing” motion, paint within the stencil area, working from outer edge to center. You may want to practice until you get the look you want to achieve.

4. When finished with all of one color, remove tape, clean and dry the stencil, and retape the stencil for the next color.

ACTIVITY #3: Stenciling a Box

SUPPLIES: - 1 copy of master M-4-3 on transparency film
- stencil brush
- acrylic stencil paints
- exacto knife and surface to cut on
- masking tape
- paper towel
- 1 paper mache box
(You can usually find these at craft stores)

DIRECTIONS:
1. Cut out the stencil as in Activity #2.

2. After taping off the areas you will not be painting, tape the stencil to the paper mache box. Continue following directions from Activity #2 for painting procedure.

4) PENMANSHIP (Rules of Civility/Scripture):

Continue copywork (Rule #22, M-1-12). Store in your notebook.