Ideas and Techniques for

ARTFUL JOURNALING

2011 Susan Riley http://educationcloset.com

Artful Journaling is simply the process of recording your ideas in an artful way. Use as many mediums and techniques as you wish. The sky is the limit!

Thanks to the Columbia Arts Association in Columbia, MD for introducing me to these techniques!

LESSON PLAN IDEAS

MATH AND COLLAGE

Study ratios and fractions by creating a collage in the journal. Provide students with different colors of tissue paper. Have them rip it in various sizes based upon the ratio of the paper (rip me a .75 section of this paper) and then glue them down into a collage in their journals.

WRITING AND WATERCOLOR

Have students create a page in their journals with 3 sections - one a straight paint color, one a paint color mixed with a small amount of water and one with mostly water mixed with a small amount of paint. On the next page, have students write about their experience, what they think the colors remind them of and descriptive imagery words for each column.

SCIENCE AND PRINTMAKING

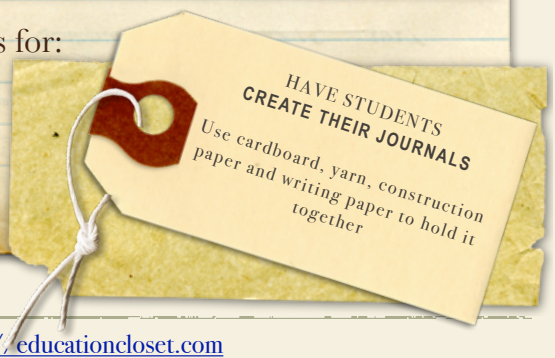
On a nature walk, have students choose various leaves or other items from their natural habitat. Then, dip them in paint and press into the journal. Either write about what they notice or describe what each item is so that they can research them later.

How to create an art journal:

Lay the cardboard pieces side by side on the construction paper and glue them down. Fold the excess paper down like wrapping a gift.

Place the paper on the uncovered side of the journal. Loop the yarn down the middle and around the whole journal. Fold in the center. Tie the yarn!

You'll need:

Two 5x7 pieces of cardboard
One large piece of construction paper
Glue
One long piece of yarn
10-12 sheets of paper.

Create journals for:
Math
Reading
Writing
Science