

**Title:** *History Quilt*

**Grade Level:** Elementary—College Level

**Curriculum Areas:** Language Arts

**Purpose / Objective:**

American quilts have always reflected our diverse heritage, from simple and refined quilts of the Amish communities to the crazy-patchwork quilts of early settlers. Women etched the births and deaths of family members onto quilt squares with indelible ink, then sewed them into quilts. Today, quilt making continues to be a creative expression of personal, family, and community history.

Any community can honor its history and create a quilt that will reflect the personalities and pastimes of each member, whether the community is in a classroom or is a biological family.

**Procedure / Activities:**

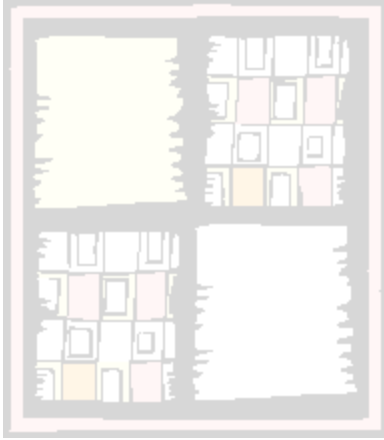
1. The class will, through a process of "pre-writing," decide on the significant events in the history of the class: parties, new classmates, birthdays, etc.
2. Each person will be given a square of muslin or some other appropriate material for creation of the individual quilt square.
3. Each person will complete the "writing process" by using various scraps of other cloth, markers, and buttons to decorate the square.
4. Square will be sewn together to complete quilt. It may be necessary to seek assistance from a professional seamstress or perhaps one of the parents of the class.

**Additional Activities:**

N/A

**Time Required:** 5 one-hour class periods

**Materials:**



1. Paper and pencil
2. Squares of prewashed, unbleached muslin, one per student, cut to size
3. Material for decorating each square, scraps, fabric, paint, glue, markers
4. Cotton batting, cut to size
5. Sewing supplies

**Additional References:**

N/A

**Lesson Plan Provided By:**

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