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Sport Theme Leather BACK PACK TAG

Plus A Look Back In History At "How Organized Sports Started"

OBJECTIVE: Students will learn to stamp and assemble leather turning it into a useful and decorative project. Lesson includes history and new vocabulary words. Creativity, and dexterity skills will be exercised to design, personalize, color and assemble the project.

MATERIALS LIST All Supplies Needed To Complete 12 Back Pack Tag Projects:

- Pre-Punched Veg Tan Tooling Leather Parts
- Stamping Tools & Handles
- Mallets
- All-In-One Stain / Finish
- Sponges & Sheep Wool
- Cova Color[®] Acrylic Paints
- Brushes
- Sharpie Pens & Stencils
- Instructions & Handbook

YOU WILL or MIGHT NEED:

- Pencils For Planning & Scissors
- Plastic Water Bowls
- Classroom Markers, Acrylic Paints & Brushes
- Plastic Palettes, Plates Or Wax Paper For Paints

CLASSROOM TIME:

Minimum of 4 Sessions: Design, Case & Stamp = 90 minutes Color the Projects = 45 minutes Assembly = 45 minutes



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GETTING STARTED:

SESSION 1 - Design:

• Copy blank templates on page 5 cut out on dotted lines along with stencils and hand out along with pencils to plan designs.

SESSION 2 - Case & Stamp:

- To prepare for casing & stamping, set-up sturdy tables for 3 or 4 students per table with one plastic bowl of water & two sponges per table (Note: Sponges can be cut in half).
- Hand out to each student: A copy of p. 6 instructions, project parts & one mallet.
- Share stamps and stamp handles.
- Follow the Leather Preparation and Stamping Instructions on the next pages.

SESSION 3 - Adding Color:

- Set up 1 or 2 staining tables for All-In-One Stain & Finish to be applied with sheep wool pieces. Cover tables with paper to protect them from spills.
- Add additional color with Sharpie Pens and Cova Colors. Use plastic palettes, plates or wax paper for mixing paints.

SESSION 4 - Assembly:

- Copy and hand out ID cards on page 7 and Instructions on page 8 along with straps.
- Practice, then demonstrate assembly steps.

ABOUT THE PROJECT:

The leather used in this project is called vegetable-tanned (Veg Tan) leather cut from cowhide. One side is smooth (the grain side) and one side is rough or suede (the flesh side). Veg Tan leather can have designs tooled on the smooth side using different tools and stamps.

> The Leather Craft Handbook offers you more information on the various tools that are available and how to use them on future projects.

How Did Popular Sports Get Started?

Archaeological explorers have found cave paintings indicating that there were forms of sports played way back before the famous Greek Olympic Games. Many of today's sports are related to the various kicking and running ball games played throughout medieval Europe. Many sports played back in history were quite violent and often resulted in death.

The development of sports as we know them today is linked to the history of the industrial revolution and the creation of the first public schools. Sports were restructured to make them less violent and safer for children and young adults. Rules and codes were written and schools and colleges were forced to follow them. **Some of the first organized sports in schools were soccer, rugby, then basketball and football** which were first introduced on college campuses in the late 1800's and early 1900's in the United States.

The popularity of sports was greatly increased with the creation of sports magazines, radio and television broadcasts. Now you don't have to go to the game to enjoy them.

Basketball is the only popular spectator sport that was invented by one person rather than being adapted from another sport. Dr. James Naismith created the indoor activity for New England youth as an indoor activity during the cold winter months. January 20, 1892 was the date of the first official basketball game.

The earliest reference to **baseball** in the United States was in Pittsfield, Massachusetts, 1791. It was not until 1845 that the New York Knickerbockers were founded. Since then baseball has remained one of the best love sports of the United States.

Continued . . .

LEATHER PREPARATION:

Before you can stamp a design on leather, it needs to be moistened. This is called "casing the leather". (Note: Sponges can be cut in half.) Students should share sponges and water bowls per table.

- Apply water to the smooth (grain) side of your leather using a clean sponge and water. Dampen leather but not too much.
- 2) Set leather aside and wait until it begins to return to its natural color and feels cool to the touch. Then it is ready to stamp. While waiting for your leather to partially dry, plan the designs.
- 3) If some areas begin to dry too fast, lightly re-dampen with the sponge and water.



History Continued:

Golf (or "chole") games were first recorded in 1354. The game was actually more like hockey and was played in Flanders (a region in France & Belgium). In 1421, the golf game as we know it today, was developed in Scotland. Over the next two centuries, golf spread throughout Great Britain where records show that kings, queens, and other royalty played the game, as well as commoners. In fact, Mary Queen of Scotts is the first female golfer on record.

Did You Know: The name "football" is associated with several different games: soccer, rugby, and American football. There is also Gaelic football, Canadian football, and Australian football. American football started in the 1820s in New England universities. In the early 1900s the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) was established to organize the codes and rules. In 1920, football was officially made a professional sport with the founding of the National Football League (NFL).

There are many more fascinating sports histories: tennis, polo, hockey, track, water & snow skiing, gymnastics, sailing, swimming, diving, cycling, kayaking, fishing and more. The project for this lesson is to decorate a leather back-pack tag with a sports theme.

VOCABULARY:

Casing - Adding water to one or both sides of vegetable tanned tooling leather to prepare the surface for tooling.

Flesh Side - The rough (suede) underside of leather.

Grain Side - The hair side of the leather with the hair removed.

Tanning - The process using tannins to change a fresh animal hide into leather.

Tannins - Yellowish substance from oak bark and other plants used to tan leather.

Staining - Adding color to the leather using different types of stains and paints.

Stamping - Using metal stamps with designs or shapes on the end and a mallet to put a design on the grain side of vegetable tanned leather.

Vegetable Tanned (Veg-Tan) - Leather which has been tanned with vegetable materials that are derived from certain plants and woods, often called bark tannins.

CREATE DESIGNS USING DIFFERENT STENCIL PATTERNS & STAMPS



Here are some ideas combining stencil patterns, stamps and alphabet stamps. The same samples are shown on page 1 with color applied. Different coloring techniques can be used: Leave backgrounds natural leather and add color using Sharpie Pens and Cova Colors. Or, apply All-In-One Color Stain & Finish over the entire project and then add more color.



COLORING HINTS:

WHEN USING ACRYLIC PAINTS over All-In-One, make light colors stand out on the dark background by first painting the inside of the design with white acrylic paint. Let it dry completely (few minutes), then paint over the white with the desired color.

MIXING COLORS: The primary colors (red, yellow & blue) can be mixed to create the secondary colors (orange, green & purple). Add white to lighten and black to darken a color.



CLASSROOM EXPANSION IDEAS:

- ~ Study the history of the Olympic Games and how they have changed
- ~ Research and study the different logos, mascots and colors used in sports.
- ~ Research and study the different kinds of sports played in other countries.

RECYCLE ME!

"I am your Theme Bucket - be sure to recycle me! I would like to end up in your closet with many of my friends. I could store art supplies, extra leather project parts, or even help you organize your files. Create a new label for me so I can help you find what is stored in

me. But until it's time to recycle, I am happy to bring fun & learning into your classroom by offering you Projects To-Go from Tandy Leather Factory."



STAMPING Instructions: (Shown here on a leather strip.)

- 1) After leather has been cased, hold stamp in a vertical (straight up and down) position. Be sure stamp is facing the desired direction.
- 2) Strike handle end of stamp firmly with mallet to leave a deep impression.
- 3) Repeat with same or different stamps.

Be sure to keep leather damp while stamping. Reapply water lightly with sponge as needed.

STAMPING Alphabets:

(Shown here on a leather strip.)

- 1) To stamp two or more letters in a row, first mark the center of the space where letters will be stamped.
- Place stamps side by side, centered over the mark. Be sure stamps are facing the correct direction.
- 3) Remove all stamps except the first one to be stamped.
- 4) Insert stamp setter in top of stamp and strike firmly with mallet. Repeat if necessary until impression shows clearly in the leather.
- 5) Place 1st stamp back over its impression. Position 2nd stamp next to the first for proper spacing.
- 6) Remove 1st stamp. Insert stamp setter in top of stamp and strike firmly with mallet. Repeat if necessary.
- 7) Repeat with rest of letters.
- 8) Allow project to dry completely before applying All-In-One Stain & Finish.

STAINING THE LEATHER:

You will be using All-In-One Stain & Finish which is a color and finish combined for speed. Be sure to work quickly and in a special staining area away from other supplies.

SEEDER

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SEE LEATHER-CRAFT HANDBOOK

USING STAMPS

FOR MORE ABOUT

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- Shake bottle well. Transfer a liberal (heavy) amount of All-In-One onto a piece of sheep wool, but never directly onto the leather. NOTE: Only one coat is needed.
- 2) Then apply to leather quickly, rubbing in a circular motion until color is even and all cuts and impressions are full of stain.
- Remove excess with a clean piece of sheep wool.
 Then, buff to a mellow gloss with a clean piece of sheep wool.

OPTION: After stain is dry, come back and add more color using colored markers or acrylic paints.

		Page 7 of
	ATES FOR ID CARDS	
Copy this page, cut a	part on dotted lines and hand out	to students
so they can b	nsert them into their finished Tag	<i>zs.</i>
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ASSEMBLY INSTRUCTIONS

Select a stitching style and follow the instructions.

TO DO THE RUNNING STITCH:

- 1) Cut cord in half and tie a knot in each cut end.
- Fold leather in half aligning holes. On one side, stitch up through first aligned hole. Then stitch down through next hole and continue in & out along one side of project to last hole. At last hole, tie a knot close to hole and trim off excess cord.
- 3) Repeat on other side.

TIP: KEEP CORD FLAT - AVOID TWISTING.

TO DO THE WHIP STITCH:

- 1) Cut cord in half and tie a knot in each cut end.
- 2) Fold leather in half aligning holes. On one side, stitch up through first aligned hole. Pull cord through hole up to knot. Stitch over edge; then up through next hole. Continue to last hole. At last hole, tie a knot in end close to hole and trim off excess cord.



TIP: TO KEEP CUT CORD ENDS FROM UNRAVELING, APPLY A DROP OF CLASSROOM WHITE GLUE TO ENDS AND LET DRY.

ID

ID

ID & STRAP:

- 1) Insert ID card.
- 2) Insert one end of strap through both long holes.
- 3) Insert other end of strap through slit in strap. Pull snug.
- 4) To attach to a handle, slip tag under handle and through slit in other end of strap. Pull snug.