Fruit Basket

Lainey Wright, Spring 2026, Artist Books

Materials

- Tanto, shindan, shintorinoko, and colored construction paper
- PVA glue
- Recycled newsprint
- Cardboard (thin and corrugated)
- ClickArt marker pens (brown)
- Embroidery and sewing thread
- Basket (Daiso)

Artist's Remarks

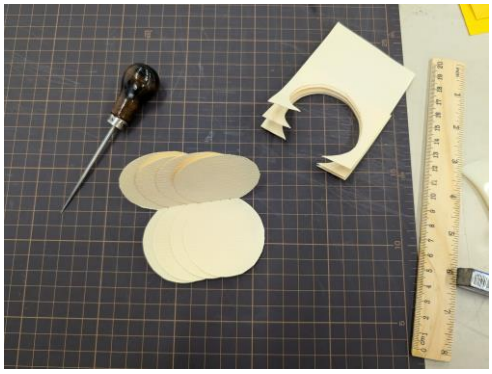
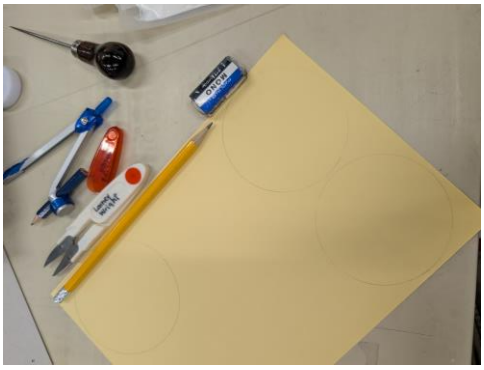
For this project, I chose to do a fruit theme. I was inspired by the previous food themes that other classmates have done, as well as the 3D modeling I attempted when creating the first project (telephone book). I hoped to create fruits that reminded people of their own fruit baskets at home. I wanted it to have a childlike sense of wonder, with brightly colored paper and a more handmade feel. It is more about reminiscing on happy memories associated with eating fruit rather than creating hyper-realistic ones.

The most difficult part of the project was managing my time. Because there is so much paper construction involved, cutting and gluing the sheets down takes a long time. I was most worried about the construction of the fruit "shells" that make up the covers of each book, but that went surprisingly quickly. Another difficulty I ran into was that adding paper clay made the outside covers far too heavy, so I had to rely on creating well-crafted "shells" with the paper instead. Overall, combining the rougher texture with the layered construction paper worked out well in creating the final look that I wanted.

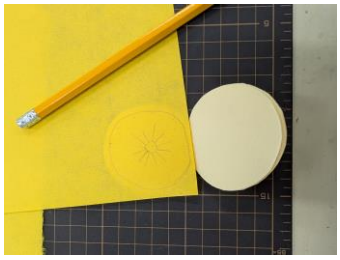
I loved bookmaking this semester. I feel that I have really pushed myself creatively and made books that strayed from the conventional ones that we made in each demo. I pushed myself to think outside the box, and even though that meant I had to fix the problems that I created, I really enjoyed the process. I wanted to do book restoration and archival work as a career; however, other factors prevented me from doing so. This was a fun course that let me explore this new hobby!

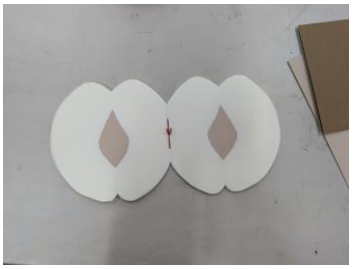
Production Process

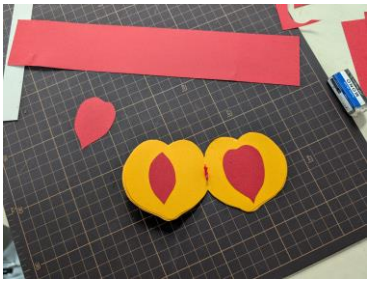
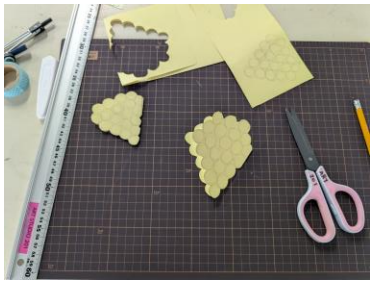
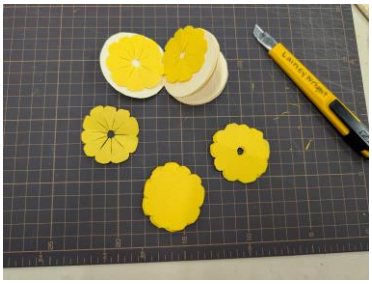
1. Cut each pamphlet page. This is achieved by drawing the fruit cut in half, creating a small line on one side (where the fold will be). Then, fold the paper on that line (to create the two sides of the page) and cut out the shape. Repeat for four pamphlet pages and sew them together using the three-hole technique.

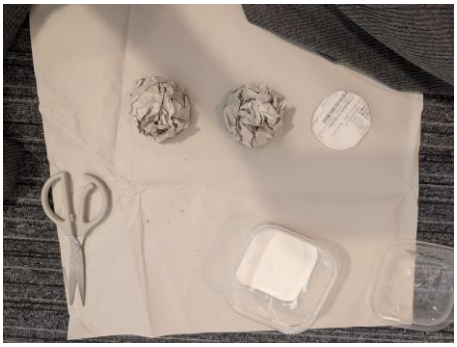
2. Cut out objects of various shapes using construction paper to create the core/pit of each fruit. This can be done by creating a design, folding multiple times, and cutting the entire piece out. Glue down with PVA glue.



3. To create the outer shell, trace the pamphlet created onto cardboard (preferably thinner cardboard). Cut out two of them and mark where the “fold line” is with an arrow. Then, crumble up newsprint and glue it down onto the cardboard piece. *

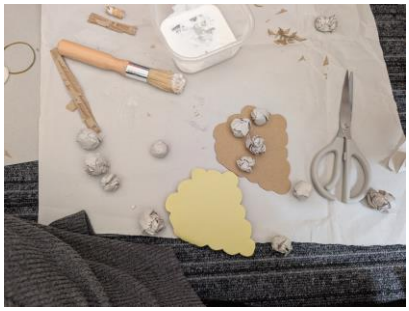
4. Strip cardboard pieces so that only the inside crimped pieces are left. Cut that into strips and place those strips around the shell to stabilize it. Fill in with other newsprint pieces as needed to create the shape. Once the desired shape is achieved, strip pieces of newsprint and layer them on top to create a smooth exterior. Now the “shell” is complete.





**The grape is an exception. After creating the cardboard backing, crumple newsprint into a ball, smush it until it creates a semi-circle, and covered with newsprint, attaching it to the board. For the inner grapes, create entirely round circles and glue them in a stack.*





5. Select desired colors for book cover and cut them into various rectangle sizes. Glue down in a random fashion to the outside of them “shell”. Select various colors and textures of paper.



6. Place PVA glue on both end sheets and then connect them to the book covers. Use a rubber band to hold it in place until it is fully dry. Add leaves and other decorations afterwards.

