

## Story Quilt

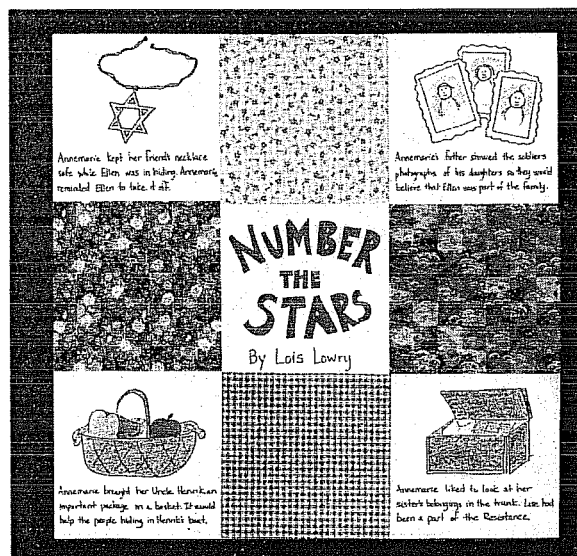
### GUIDELINES

**Objective:** Students create a quilt depicting symbols from the story. Students explain the significance of each.

This project helps students identify and understand symbolism in literature. Start by discussing objects that are important to students. Help students understand the difference between objects they like (video games, shoes, and so on) and those that might hold a deeper significance. Explain that a symbol is an object that represents something important. It symbolizes something else that is more meaningful than the object itself. Discuss examples that students provide to discover what the objects symbolize. You might also use examples from books that you have read as a class.

Students will choose four important symbols from their book. They will create a simple paper quilt on which to draw the symbols. Explain that they are creating a story quilt because each symbol helps tell part of the story. If possible, provide wrapping paper for students to create patterned squares to add to their quilt. In the center they will write the title and author of their book, as well as their name.

To extend this activity, have students choose an additional symbol from their book and make a separate square for it with a picture and a brief explanation. Tape these together to form a class quilt. If desired, make a checkerboard pattern by attaching solid or patterned paper squares in between each student square.



## Historical Fiction

# Story Quilt

Can you think of any objects that have special meaning to you? Do they remind you of a person or an important event? Now, think about the historical fiction book that you read. Were there any significant objects in the story? In literature, these objects are called symbols. They are symbolic of something important. For this project, you'll make a quilt that shows four symbols from the book.

### MATERIALS

large square sheet of white construction paper, ruler, markers or colored pencils, scissors, wrapping paper (optional)

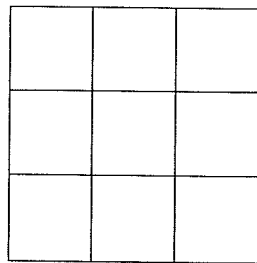
### DIRECTIONS

- 1 Find a book of historical fiction that interests you and is at an appropriate reading level for you. Have your book approved by your teacher.

Book Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Author: \_\_\_\_\_

- 2 Measure and draw light pencil lines to divide the white paper square into thirds across and lengthwise. This will create nine equal squares for your paper quilt.



- 3 Look through your book to help you remember objects that were important to the story. These objects should represent something significant, like a person or an event. List at least six of them below.

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### DUE DATES

Book approved  
\_\_\_\_\_

Book finished  
\_\_\_\_\_

Project finished  
\_\_\_\_\_

- 4 Circle four objects from the list that you would like to include on your quilt. Sketch each object in a box below.

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- 5 Write a few sentences explaining why each object is important. What does it symbolize or represent? Revise your sentences on a separate sheet of paper.

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- 6 Locate the four squares in the corners of the quilt. Draw one object in each square. Leave room in the same square to copy your sentences about the object. It is a good idea to draw and write in pencil first and then trace over it with pen or thin marker.

- 7 Write the title and author of the book in the center square.

- 8 Cut the wrapping paper into squares that are the same size as those on the quilt. Glue a wrapping paper square in each of the blank squares. (If wrapping paper is not available, cut squares of colored paper and draw simple patterns or designs on them. Glue these in the blank squares.)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Historical Fiction

# Story Quilt

Book Title: \_\_\_\_\_

|  | POSSIBLE POINTS | POINTS EARNED |
|--|-----------------|---------------|
| 1 Was the book approved by the due date?                           | 5               |               |
| 2 Did you hand in your project on time?                            | 10              |               |
| 3 Did you list six important objects?                              | 5               |               |
| 4 Did you draw four objects on your quilt?                         | 20              |               |
| 5 Did you write a few sentences explaining the importance of each? | 20              |               |
| 6 Did you write the title and author in the center?                | 10              |               |
| 7 Did you cover the remaining squares with paper?                  | 10              |               |
| 8 Is your project neat and colorful?                               | 10              |               |
| 9 Are the spelling, punctuation, and grammar correct?              | 10              |               |

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_  
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