

Food for Thought: Zine Making Workshop using Frottage

By Annie Canto for Artists for Kids & the Gordon Smith Gallery

Overview

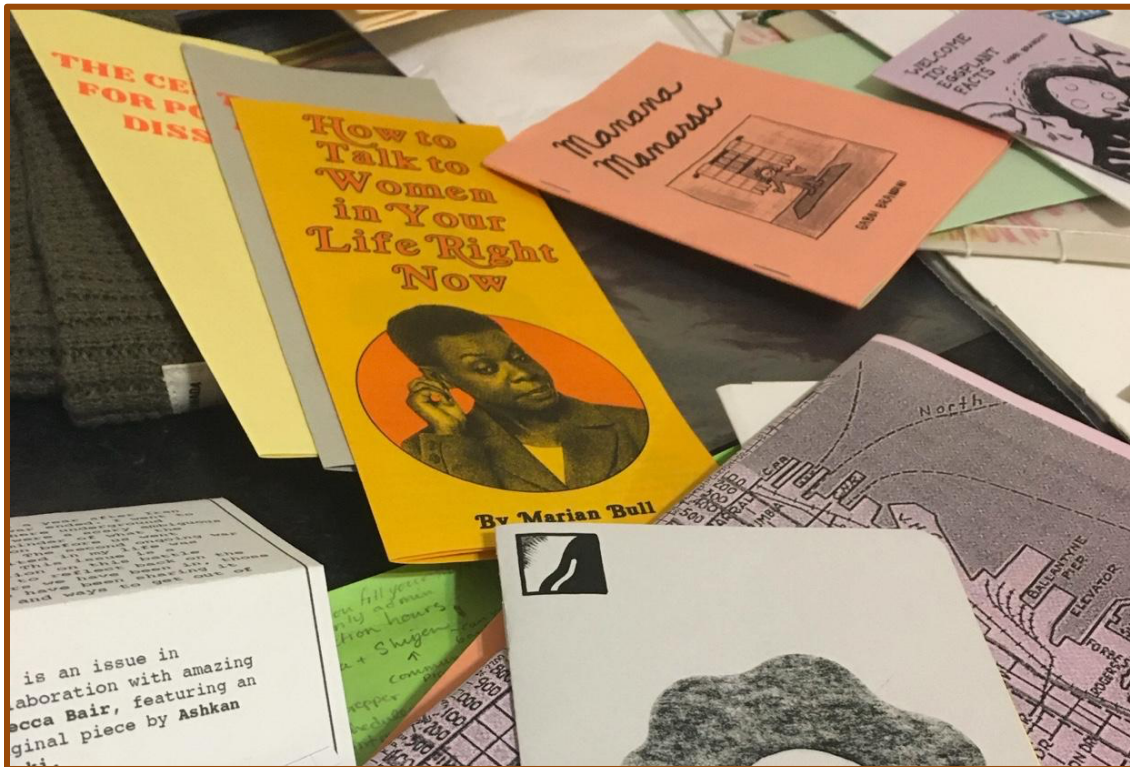
The stories of where we came from, what we like, and how we exist in different places can be told by the food that we eat. In this lesson, you'll design and produce a zine that tells a story with textures and illustrations.

Activity

In this lesson students will:

- Find and record everyday textures using *frottage* - graphite or crayon rubbings.
- Creatively define objects within abstract forms.
- Cut and fold a booklet from one sheet of paper.
- Learn about zines.

What is a Zine?



Zines are small books made with easy-to-find art processes like collage, handwriting, or mixed media drawing. They are then photocopied and distributed widely in a community. Zines have been used to spread important political information, to extend the stories of favourite characters in what are called fanzines, to create collaborative books with friends, to share

stories around music scenes and albums, and many other reasons. The accessible materials and versatility make zines a perfect material for publishing ideas and images and sharing them with a select audience. Here are a couple examples of zines,



Gabbi Brandini is an illustrator who creates one page zines. Above, is a series of zines called "Vegetable Facts." She creates sci-fi stories by making up facts about common vegetables!

Process

Supplies

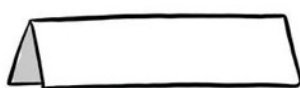
- Blank Zine Template or 8.5" x 11" white printer paper
- scissors
- pencil (not mechanical) or black crayons with paper removed
- Black marker (sharpie okay)
- Coloured markers (optional)

Phase 1: Zine folding and cutting

- Using copies of the attached template, students will fold their single sheet of paper into eight sections, unfold, fold in half, then make a single cut and refold (see folding instructions below. Here is a [video](#) of how it's done, minute .49 is when the folding starts.
- NOTE: Step 5, the single cut, is really important! Make sure to cut from the center fold to the middle and no further or your zine will get cut in half. AND Steps 7 and 8, in the diagram below, are the tricky ones. Once one student figures it out, they will need to help their neighbours.



ONCE YOU GOT YOUR ZINE
TEMPLATE PRINTED OUT, HERE'S
WHAT YOU'LL NEED TO DO :



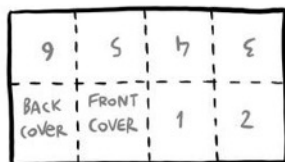
① FOLD



② FOLD



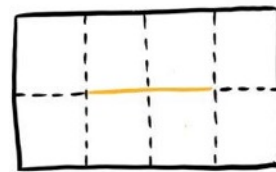
③ ... FOLD



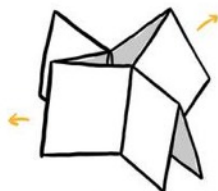
④ OPEN



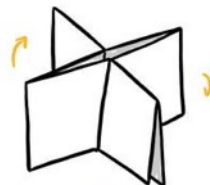
⑤ CUT ON
THIS LINE



⑥ ... SO WHEN YOU
OPEN IT LOOKS
LIKE THIS



⑦ FOLD



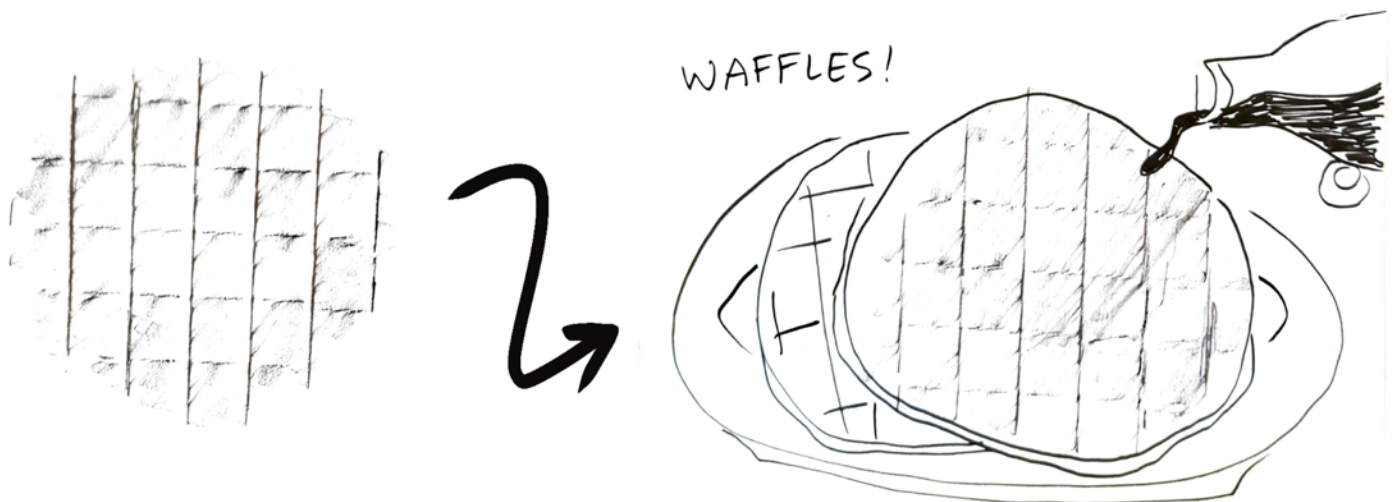
⑧



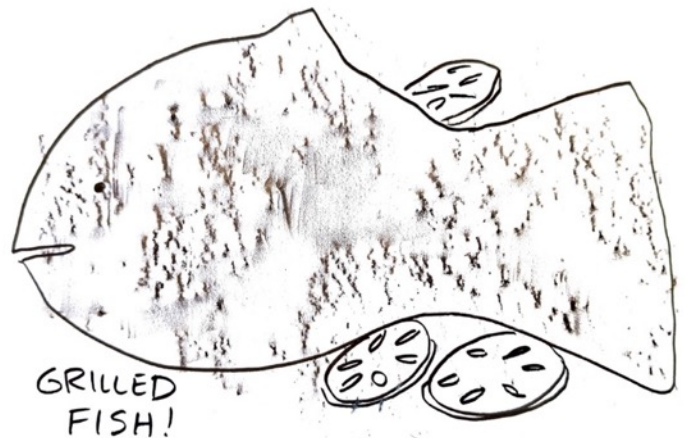
⑨ TA-DAA!

Phase 2: Filling the pages

- Students will then unfold their zine to create rubbings in each numbered rectangular section.
- Frottage - Bring students, zines, and black crayons or graphite pencils on a walk around the school or classroom. Ask students to create rubbings of interesting textures.
- NOTE: To capture a great rubbing, use the edge (not the tip!) of the black crayon, or the edge (not the tip!) of a pencil. It's easier to capture the textures of hard surfaces such as wood grain, a metal grate, or a flat stone. It's much more difficult to make rubbings on soft surfaces such as a couch, a stuffie, or grass.
- Back at their desks, transform the textures into types of food by drawing outlines and labeling each page with the food represented (see examples, below).



NOTE: Draw minimally or not at all on the actual rubbing section. The texture should be very visible in the final drawing. Focus on outlines and external details like plates, bowls, cutlery, sides, and garnishes. Here are some examples:



“Chicken and Rice” is a rubbing of a door handle. I added an outline, a mound of rice, three cucumbers, and a circle around that looks like a plate.

“Grilled Fish” is a rubbing of a wooden banister. I added a fish outline and lemons.

NOTE: Even though the drawings might not look exactly like the food they represent, when you add labels, like “chicken and rice” or “grilled fish,” suddenly everything is clear!

- **Creating a Front Cover and Back Cover**

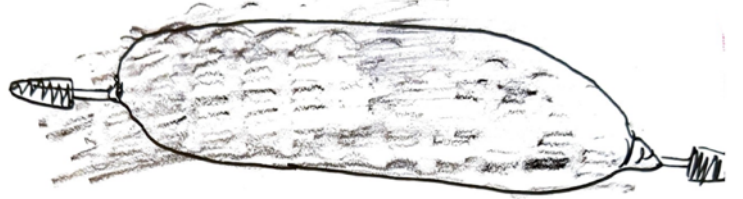
- As a class, decide on a title for your class collection of zines. For example, the attached sample zine reads “Division 5, Class Menu.”
- Each student can write the title for the class collection of zines on the front cover of their own zine, using a personalized lettering style and adding unique design details, such as a patterned frame (see sample zine for ideas).
- On the back cover, each student can write their first name and grade. For example, the sample zine reads “Written and Illustrated by Annie grade 1.”

Phase 3: Copies Copies Copies

- Zines are short form publications that are easy to make and distribute! In keeping with this material, original one page zines can be photocopied with a xerox machine. The copies can then be folded and cut into their final form.

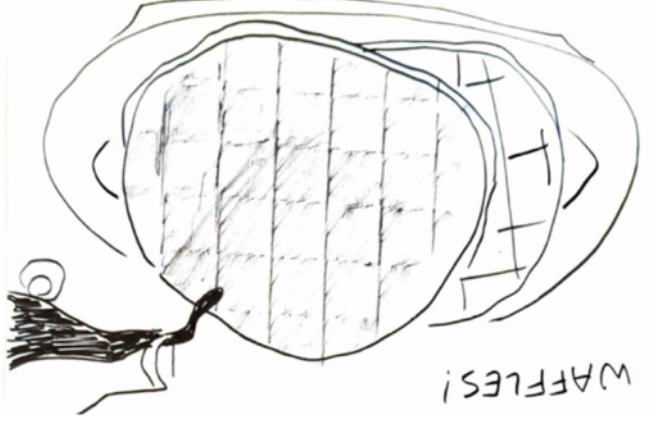
6

CORN ON THE COB



5

WAFFLES!

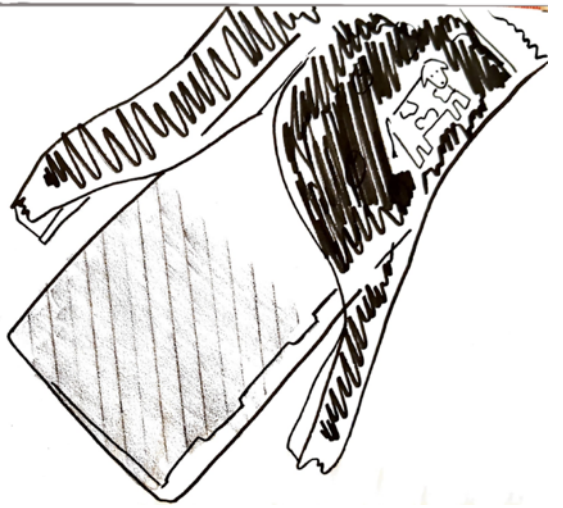


4

RAMEN



MILK CHOCOLATE
BAR



STOP

STOP

Written
+
Illustrated
by
Annie
grade 1

BACK COVER

FRONT COVER

DIVISION
5
Class
Menu

CHICKEN AND
RICE

1



GRILLED
FISH!



2