Welcome to the My Skoobi Teacher's Helper

Dear Teacher,

These two pages are all you need to help you plan your notebook-making project:

- This page: Basic project guideline.
- Page Two: Creative Ideas and Tips.

In the online Help Section you will also find a student instruction sheet and a sample order form.

<u>**Project Guideline**</u>

The notebooks really are easy to make and you can use them for any project, so just have fun and follow these simple steps:

1) **Choose your project.** Maybe it's all about the cover art, or the students are designing notebooks that they will work in later (for example, for a creative writing project or math practise book).

2) **Choose notebook size and paper type**. Will each student choose the size and paper type they prefer, or will they order the same format? This can be a good classroom discussion: the answer may depend on your project. (TIP: It's easier for you to manage if they all make exactly the same format.)

3) **Create the art**. 8 ½" x 11" paper is easiest. Set aside some dedicated class time for creation.

4) **Scan the art**: Enlist a parent to help (if your students are older, a student).

5) **Collect the money**: as long as you have 20 notebooks or more in your order, you know it will be either $4 or $5 per book, depending on the notebook size chosen. On average, add $1 per book for shipping.

6) **Upload the art on the My Skoobi website and order your books.** In two weeks they'll be at your door.

Have fun. This applies at every stage! When the notebooks arrive, give each student their notebook and original art at the same time. This always makes a big impression.

Visit our website for more ideas and examples. Or, if you need an answer to a specific question, please email the My Skoobi team at helpdesk@myskoobi.com. We are here to help.

Thanks, and have fun!
Lisa Stevens
www.myskoobi.com

Every Story is a Cover Story!

Creative Ideas for Student Projects

These are tried and true, but anything goes! The students will have their own great ideas:

- **Art Projects:** Students can design a family crest, paint a self-portrait, or sketch a caricature of their pet. My Skoobi notebooks are a great way to preserve any special 2D artwork you've created in class, from poster paint hand prints in Kindergarten to still life pastels by accomplished art students. For students pursuing a career in Fine Art or Graphic Design, My Skoobi notebooks are a wonderful portfolio item.

- **Notebooks for class work:** Students design notebooks that will house specific projects that they work on over the year or semester such as a personal journal, creative writing book, practise book for multiplication tables, log for social studies or science projects, a sketch book for art class, or a physical activity and healthy eating record.

- **Gifts for Friends and Family:** Students create notebooks to give as gifts for family members at Christmas, Mother's Day, Father's Day, etc. Students may want to create an artistic image, or design a specific notebook with a title such as "Mom's Diary" or "Dad's To-Do List" or "Our Family Summer Journal 2011".

Creative Tips

Choosing Paper: White paper is fine, and yes, you can use every day office/printer paper for great results! It's best to stick to 8 ½" x 11" because it fits on any standard scanning bed. Use one sheet in landscape orientation, or use portrait orientation to make one piece of art for both covers or two different pieces of art, one for front and another for back. Textured paper can look really cool.

Choosing Art Supplies: Like anything, you get out what you put in. It's best to stay away from very light pencils and pencil crayons because the lighter the original, the lighter your notebook art will be. Bold is better! Felt pens, pastels, crayons, poster paints, finger paints, collage, watercolours, and oils all work wonderfully well. Remember, professional artists are also using My Skoobi to make notebooks from the art they sell in their galleries: the detail and color quality is excellent. Digital art made on a computer also works great (save your digital files as jpegs and then you don't even have to scan*). **Don't use glitter because it won't shine when it's printed (and it might damage your scanner).**

Format: Hand out a guideline or draw one on the board to remind students not to put anything important 1cm/ half an inch from the paper edge, in the middle/on the spine for landscape drawings that will wrap around, or near the My Skoobi logo (middle bottom of back cover). If you can, play the My Skoobi Design Tips YouTube video for your students.