

Tom Bennett Art and Environmental Science Contest 2009  
San Bernardino County Museum Association  
**Birds of a Feather**

---

## **Scrapbook Layout Guidelines and Art Media Ideas**

### **Scrapbook Layout**

Your class will produce a single scrapbook for this contest. The scrapbook can be made from any media, but tagboard and/or construction paper are suggested for the foundation and covers. The over-all size of your compiled scrapbook should be no larger than 24" x 18". Do not laminate individual pages of the scrapbook. Make sure all your materials are securely attached so they will not fall off the pages during judging. **Paperclip** your Entry Form on the inside front cover of the scrapbook. Entry forms will be removed, and scrapbooks coded, for double-blind judging.

Each student's work goes on a two-page spread, with the written elements on the left side and the illustration on the right side. Thus, one student's written work is attached to the back of another student's illustration. Narratives may be hand written or type written, and students can use lined paper or any other appropriate paper. All elements – spelling, penmanship, paragraph structure, etc. – will be judged for grade-level appropriateness. Be sure that students include their name, and grades if a multi-grade class, on their written work. An assessment rubric will be used to judge based on grade-level criteria.

It works well to use binder rings to compile the student pages into the scrapbook. Keep in mind that the book must be easily opened and pages **MUST** lay flat when opened. Each two-page spread must be viewable as a unit, although there may be pop-up or other interactive pieces on the pages, if they contribute to the over-all design of the scrapbook. You may create a cover for the scrapbook. Some grade requirements specify the title you should give you scrapbook. Others may give it an original title, or call it **Birds of a Feather**, the theme of this year's contest.

### **Art Media Requirements**

While student artworks may include collage, ink-jet print or photo media, they must also contain some element of original student work. See Art Media Ideas for ways students may combine media. Any medium or mixed media is acceptable, as long as it goes into the book-like scrapbook format and is securely fastened. Student work must be original, and their own. Do not submit scrapbooks where all student pages are identical. Depending on the subject for each page, scrapbooks look more cohesive when all pages use the same media and similar layouts, similar to the way a children's book looks. Try to obtain the best paper for your chosen medium; for example, use watercolor paper for painting, sketch paper for pencil or charcoal drawings, pastel or charcoal paper for pastels, etc.

## Art Media Ideas

- ∨ Use watercolors to make a thin wash for the background; markers and color pencils contrast nicely for foreground subjects
- ∨ Draw, color and cut-out plant and animal subjects, add small tabs of foam tape to the backs, and tape them to the two-dimensional background for a three-dimensional effect
- ∨ Chalk pastels make dramatic pictures but must be sprayed with fixative to prevent smudging
- ∨ Color or black pencil drawings offer lots of opportunity for detail
- ∨ Use torn tissue paper to achieve texture and a range of colors for the background; add pencil or marker-drawn subjects in the foreground
- ∨ Pop-up, slide, and pull-out elements must be securely fastened so they do not come apart when the pages are turned
- ∨ Have students create stencils of plants and animals, then use toothbrushes with a splattering technique to achieve texture in the stenciled results
- ∨ Sensory descriptions are important in writing for all grade levels; consider having students use various materials to add texture and color to student pages, such as fabrics, or items from nature such as leaves, seeds, soil, twigs, feathers, etc.
- ∨ Make collage backgrounds with digital photos, and add hand-drawn animals and plants to the foreground (requires use of copyright-free digital photos, available from many website, some of which are listed on the Birds and Habitats Resources page in this program guide)
- ∨ Many kinds of computer and scanner art forms are emerging; you may experiment within one of these media (see caution below); using photo enhancement software on student-generated photos is acceptable
- ∨ Create hand-made stamps from cork, foam or soap to stamp onto backgrounds
- ∨ Be creative!

### **CAUTION:**

If you are planning to use photos, line drawings or electronic images in your artwork, remember that STUDENTS MUST USE COPYRIGHT-FREE PHOTOS and must ADD AN ORIGINAL ELEMENT TO THE WORK. For example, students may capture a copyright-free or public domain photo from a website, add original elements to it, and incorporate it into an original background. If you are not sure about a certain choice of media or method, please call the Museum Education Division at 909-307-2669 x 252, or e-mail [jredvale@sbcm.sbcounty.gov](mailto:jredvale@sbcm.sbcounty.gov) to discuss your ideas