

Cereal Box Journal

Materials:

- Cereal Box
- Paper (5-10 Sheets)
- Hole-puncher and strings OR sewing machine

Procedure:

1. Cut out one of the large panels of a cereal box (or a similar box)
2. Fold it half. This will be your cover. You can either have your cereal box artwork be the front of the journal, or you can decorate your own.
3. Fold your pieces of paper in half also. To save paper, find some that has only been used on one side.
 - a. There are 2 options for binding your journal: Lacing: Make 3-4 hole punches along the folded edge of the cereal box. Make corresponding holes in the folded sheets of paper. It might help to put the paper inside the cereal box and trace the holes. Use some thread to weave the paper and cover together.
 - b. Sewing: This method is faster and stronger, but you will need a sewing machine. Unfold the cereal box and the paper. Place the paper on top of the box, lining up the creases. Carefully sew along the crease to make your binding. Cardboard is thick, so make sure you are using a thick needle and go slowly being careful not to bend or break it.
4. Decorate the cover, and enjoy your new journal!

Extensions/Helpful Suggestions:

If you've already made plant presses in your classroom, use some of the dried plants to decorate the cover. Have the students bring their journal along on their Lime Creek Field Trip. They can use it take notes or to reflect on their experiences. They could also use it for writing their parts-of-speech poems.

