



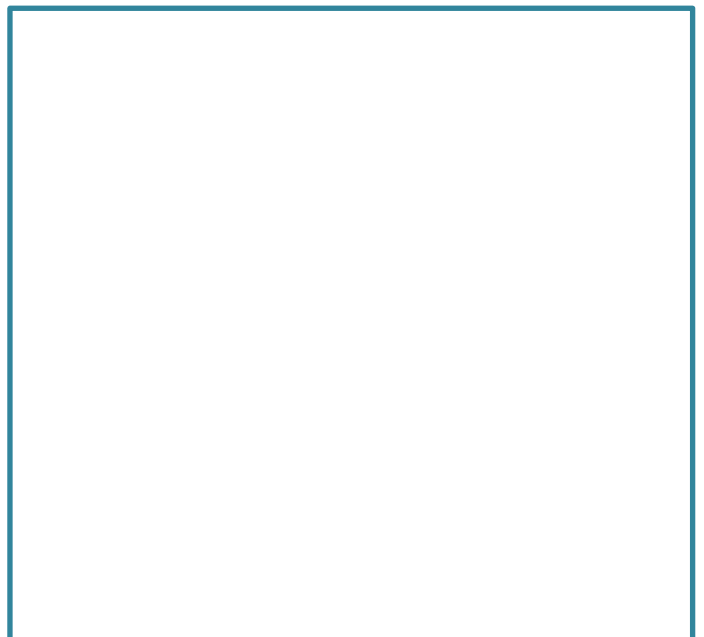
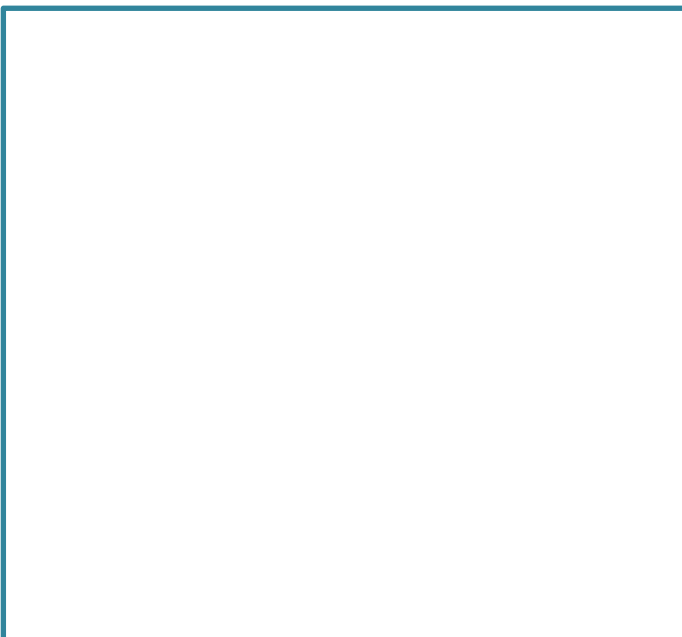
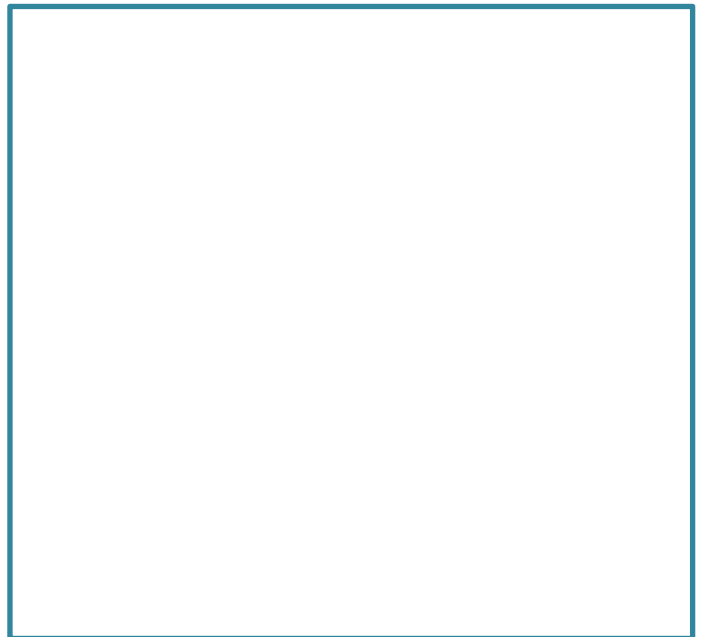
Story Quilt Art Kit

- 1. Suggested Materials:** paper quilt squares, colored construction paper, paper Mod Podge with matte finish, yarn, scissors, tape, pencil and eraser
A list for online purchase is available at
<https://www.dickblick.com/lists/wishlist/3RHH5R4XGI5R8/publicview/>
- 2.** Watch “Faith Ringgold reads her 1991 children's book Tar Beach” (available free from NPR on YouTube.com)
- 3.** Imagine four scenes from your idea of what a better world might look like. Make a very simple drawing of each of these scenes on the “Planning Your Quilt” page. Keep the drawings very simple, because you will be creating them from cut-up construction paper in step 6 of this project.
- 4.** Read the page about Faith Ringgold’s art quilts together.
- 5.** Decide how big your paper quilt will be. For younger artists, a 3x3 quilt might be best. For older artists or group quilts, a 6x6 quilt might be best. One artist can create an entire quilt her/himself, or many artists can contribute to one quilt, each making a certain number of squares which will all be sewn together with each other’s’ squares. Depending on the size of the quilt and the number of artists contributing, each artist might make one square of each of the 4 designs s/he has created, or each artist might make several copies of one or all of their designs.
- 6.** To convert a square design into a quilt square, simplify the image to its most basic shapes and cut those shapes from colored construction paper. Glue the shapes on to the quilt square using the ModPodge, layering them on top of each other, and being careful not to cover the holes for stitching the quilt together. Make each square different or create repetition by making copies of the square designs. When the ModPodge is dry, use the black Sharpies to add details. Optional: after the construction paper is assembled on the square and all details are complete, add a final layer of ModPodge to seal it.
- 7.** Wrap a piece of tape around one end of the yarn to create a point for threading it through the quilt square holes and “sew” your quilt together.



Planning Your Quilt

Imagine four scenes from your idea of what a better world might look like. Make a very simple drawing of each of these scenes in the squares below. Keep the drawings very simple!





Faith Ringgold's Art Quilts

Faith Ringgold was born in Harlem, NY in 1930. She is a painter, sculptor, performance artist, writer, teacher, and lecturer.



Ringgold has been creating art since she was a child. Her home was in the center of the Harlem arts scene, surrounded by artists, musicians, and poets. This experience with the people of Harlem and its cultural influences left Ringgold with a strong connection to visual art and political empowerment of the Harlem Renaissance.

She made her first quilt, *Echoes of Harlem*, in 1980, in collaboration with her mother, Madame Willi Posey. These paintings were not only bordered with fabric, but they were also quilted, creating a unique way of painting using quilts.

Ringgold's first story quilt *Who's Afraid of Aunt Jemima?* was written in 1983 as a way of publishing her unedited words. The addition of text to her quilts has developed into a unique medium and style all her own.

Faith Ringgold's first book, *Tar Beach*, was published in 1991.

Faith Ringgold is best known for her painted story quilts but also creates sculptures, mosaics, performance art, and children's books. She has illustrated 17 children's books and written two other books.