

Little House In The Big Woods Lapbook

Lapbooks are a fantastic way to gather information and piece it together. They are a great format for themed unit studies because not only are they flexible- you can make it as simple or as involved as you chose, they can cover a wide span of ages from preschool to highschool. Supplies are minimal and inexpensive, all you need to start is a file folders- a 10 pack can even be picked up at Dollar Tree. But for durability you may want to go ahead and grab some that cost a little more for the quality, it really depends what you want to do with it.

If you dont already know how to put together a lapbook it is quite simple:

Open your file folder.

Fold both sides in half, so that the meet in the center at the fold, crease sharply.

If you are doing an extensive study and need more pages in your lapbook, simply repeat the first two steps, and staple them together by one of the outside flaps. Afterwards I lay it under a heavy book or two to flatten it better.

The next thing you need to do is choose your theme. The beauty of a themed lapbook is that it is so open ended, you can choose anything that interests your child. You can choose a specific animal like a bear or make it a lapbook about "Animals of The Forest". It can easily be added to later. One of my favorite topics for a lapbook is a book- choose a favorite book and delve into the details- use keywords from the story as vocabulary words, quotes for handwriting practice, and

So for our first lapbook we chose, Little House In The Big Woods, it seemed so fitting for our theme here on the blog and we really do love all the Little House Series. After reading the book together we gathered our lapbook supplies and got started. I have even included a couple of free printables to get you started.

What you will need:

Little House In The Big Woods

http://www.amazon.com/Little-House-Collection-Full-Color/dp/0060754281/ref=sr_1_2?ie=UTF8&qid=1408643302&sr=8-2&keywords=Little+house+in+the+big+woods

file folder

brown & green construction paper

glue stick

printables

scissors

First we decided to make our cover look like a log cabin in the woods by gluing strips of brown construction paper on the flap. Cut out simple and basic shapes-rectangles, and triangles, and

small square, let your child make a collage art piece on the front to resemble Laura's cabin and some trees. Cutting and pasting is great for fine motor development and gave us a little bit of art class in our lapbook as well. You can print the title [HERE](#). Cut out each word of the title and let your child put it together in the correct order for reading practice.

The inside center is somewhat like a book report in simplified form, since I have younger children a 2-3 page book report is too much for them, so a few lines of writing is just right. If you children are older you have them write anywhere from a paragraph to several pages summarizing the story and including details, then staple it to the inside center.

On the inside of the fold in flaps we wrote a bit more, and also drew some pictures from various chapters throughout the book. [Here](#) is another printable that we used to retell the story in our own words and drawings. Cut it straight down the center and put one half on each side. If it is too much writing for your younger ones simply leave off some of the sections, or let them dictate their answers for you and have you write them.

Some additional activities you can do while putting together your lapbook are:

Make a log cabin from Lincoln Logs

http://www.amazon.com/Lincoln-Logs-Prairie-Farmhouse-Building/dp/B002Q826EW/ref=sr_1_6?ie=UTF8&qid=1408643503&sr=8-6&keywords=lincoln+logs

Use Lincoln logs to count, skip count, do addition or subtraction.

Make Butter

<http://www.littlehouseliving.com/homemade-butter.html>

Visit a local working farm, if they allow it let the children help with some chores like milking cows, gathering eggs and feeding chickens.

Blow up a balloon and play with it as the girls did the pig bladder (gross i know)

Go to the fabric store and find calico fabric like the girls dresses were made from.