



# Resources for Parents & Educators

*Binding Your Own Book*



This activity was created in conjunction with our Special Collections Exhibition, ***Cover to Cover: How People Bind Their Books.***

*Pequot Library Special Collections*

*November 7, 2019 -  
February 9, 2020*

# What do books mean to us?

Exploring the materiality of books allows us to appreciate the roles that they play as art objects, vehicles for personal expression, examples of technological achievements and design trends, and, of course, as functional pieces of information technology. It's no wonder that throughout history, so much time and care have gone into the process of creating bindings for these precious objects!

There are as many ways to bind a book as there are books and readers. Today, Pequot Library is asking:  
**"How would you bind *your* favorite book?"**

Follow along to create a binding for a book that inspires you. Then share your creation with us by posting your project on [Instagram](#), [Facebook](#), or [Twitter](#)! Be sure to tag **@PequotLibrary #PequotBookbinding!**

To learn more about the history of bookbinding, check out our guide to Pequot Library's recent Special Collections exhibition, [\*Cover to Cover: How People Bind their Books\*](#)

# Materials

- Cardstock, heavy construction paper, or craft paper for binding
- 4 sheets of paper (copy, lined, or graph) for pages
- Yarn, cord, or string, 3 times as long as the height of the folder paper
- Scissors
- Glue stick
- Decorative touches: markers, colored pencils, crayons, paint, stamps, scrap paper, stickers, beads, paint – anything that sparks your creativity!

# Instructions:

1. Fold cardstock or heavy paper in half to make binding (if you don't have this type of paper, just use what you have! Even copy paper is fine)
2. Fold copy paper in half and nestle into folded cardstock/heavy paper
3. Snip away top and bottom corners of the spine
4. Cut a small triangle in the middle of the spine
5. From the outside of the book, lace the cord/ribbon/tape through the center hole, leaving about a 4" tail.
6. Let the long end hang down free from the center of the book.
7. From the bottom, wrap the long end of the string around the outside spine, all the way to the top edge, and then back inside the pamphlet.
8. Lace the string into the center hole, exiting to the outside of the pamphlet.
9. Position the ends of the string so that they are on opposite sides of the long wraparound stitch.
10. Tie the ends of the cord together the same way as tying shoelaces, with a knot or a bow.

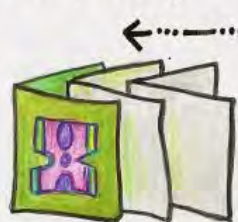
# Modified Pamphlet Stitch

## no-needle, simple wrap-around

Paula Beardell Krieg  
<http://bookzoompa.wordpress.com>

### Materials:

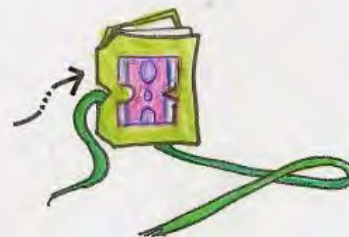
- Several (2 - 8) sheets of Paper, folded in half
- Cord or yarn, 3 times as long as the height of the folded paper
- Scissors



1. Nest folded papers together.



2. Snip away top and bottom corners of the spine. Cut a triangular hole from the middle of the spine.



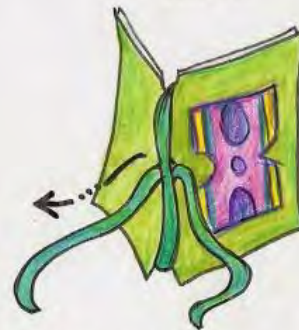
3. From the outside of the pamphlet lace the string through the center hole, leaving about a 4" tail. Let the long end hang down free from the center of the pamphlet.



4. From the bottom, wrap the long end of the string around the outside spine, all the way to the top edge, and then back inside the pamphlet.



5. Lace the string into the center hole, exiting to the outside of the pamphlet.



6. Position the ends of the string so that they are on opposite sides of the long wrap around stitch.



7. Tie the ends of the cord together the same way as tying shoelaces. Make a bow if you like.

Source:

<https://bookzoompa.files.wordpress.com/2010/04/modified-pamphletcolordoc.jpg>



[www.pequotlibrary.org](http://www.pequotlibrary.org)