ART ACTIVITY

EMBROIDERED IMAGES

Artists tell stories and capture memories through thread in expressive embroidery work. Tell your own stories by embroidering on images.

Age/Grade 6–12

Materials
- Printed or found image
- Needle
- Thread (Embroidery floss, yarn, sewing thread)
- Scissors
- Optional: Beads, pom poms, sequins

Activity Ideas

Expressive Threads // Experiment with showing emotions through threads by changing colors and lines. Are you angry? Excited? How can you show this by changing colors and types of stitches?

Stories in Thread // Choose an image of a special person, place, or thing to embroider on. Add colors and patterns that show how you feel about that person, place, or thing.

Embroidery Hoop Hack // To stitch on fabric or clothing without an embroidery hoop, rubber band your fabric around a roll of duct tape.

Resources

Local artist Mary Starke also tells stories in thread by embroidering scenes and memories onto vintage heirlooms. View the video on her work to learn more about her process.

See how artist Victoria Villasana embroiders colorful and patterned designs onto portraits to bring attention to social issues and tell people’s stories.

Share your creations with us! Tag us: @artspacenc #ArtspaceAtHome
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**Embroidery Basics**

1. Choose an image to embroider on. **Ideas:** Postcards, calendar images, photos.

2. Stitch through the paper to create an expressive, embellished image. **Tip:** Lightly draw designs where you want to embroider as a guide for your stitches.

Learn more basic embroidery stitches to play with in this tutorial from Art Bar!

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