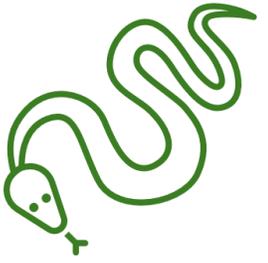


## SNAKES IN THE LIBRARY! BOOK SNAKES AND OTHER PRESERVATION-RELATED CRAFTS FOR LIBRARY OUTREACH

GABRIEL HAMER, ARTHUR HALL, SHELBY STROMMER



# nakes in the Library!

Book Snakes and Other Preservation-Related  
Crafts for Library Outreach



Gabriel Hamer  
Arthur Hall  
Shelby Strommer

# Agenda

- Why do preservation crafts?
- Three examples
  - Book Snakes
  - Stab binding
  - Pamphlet binding
- Other craft ideas
- Tips for hosting and promoting

# Why host preservation crafts?

## Why not?

- Cost
  - Low-cost, second-hand, donated, pooled supplies
- Time
  - Start short and simple, enlist help, outreach tool
- Lack of expertise
  - Start simple, the internet is full of tutorials

# Why host preservation crafts?



Connect with campus/community  
Fun during finals

JOIN THE UNIVERSITY LIBRARY FOR

## De-Stress Fest

COFFEE – WILDLIFE ANIMALS – FOOD – VR  
CRAFTS - GAMES & MORE!\*

\*WHILE SUPPLIES LAST. ACTIVITIES VARY BY LOCATION

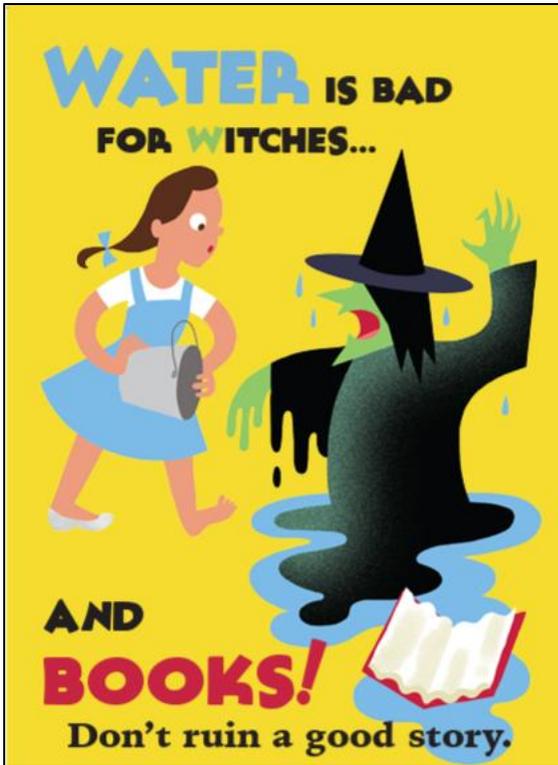
**FREE!**

FUNK ACES LIBRARY: 2PM-2AM  
GRAINGER LIBRARY: 12PM-9PM  
MAIN LIBRARY: 12PM-9PM  
SSHEL: 9AM-10PM

**THURSDAY MAY 4TH, READING DAY**

LEFT: University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign/ Fred Zwicky  
RIGHT: UIUC Library Teaching, Learning, and Academic Support

# Why host preservation crafts?

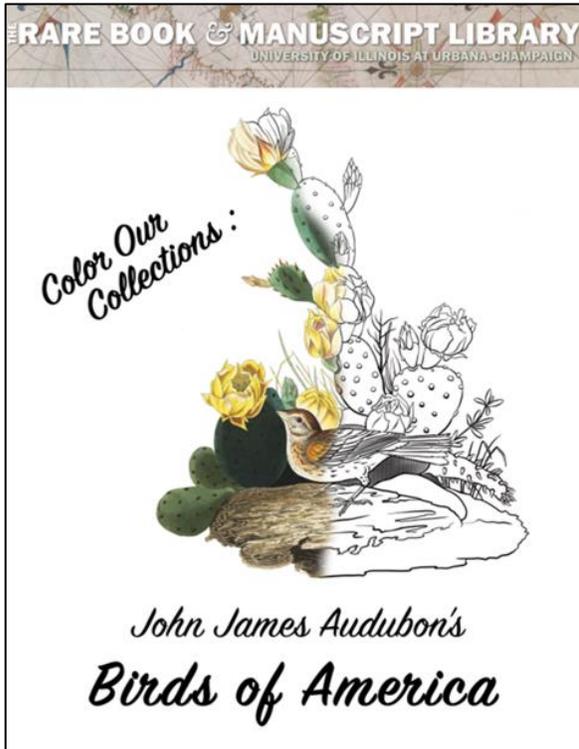


**LEFT:** Library of Congress Printable Materials:  
<https://www.loc.gov/preservation/resources/educational/bookmarks/preserveyour/index.html>  
[culturalheritage.org/caring-treasures](https://culturalheritage.org/caring-treasures)

**ABOVE:** ALA/Core Preservation Week:  
<https://preservationweek.org/>

Promote care & handling of library books  
or preservation of heirlooms & collections

# Why host preservation crafts?



Promote a collection



# Why host preservation crafts?



Poetry, artist books, zines, etc.

# Why host preservation crafts?



Introduce preservation-related careers

# Why host preservation crafts?



“Inreach” to library staff – promoting morale AND preservation

# Why host preservation crafts?

Advancement  
with donors,  
alumni & Friends



**FOUNDATION WEEKEND**

## The Art and Science of Preserving Our Library's Collections

Learn about how the Library preserves our collections and make your own simple books. Experts will also be on hand to answer any preservation questions about your own collections and heirlooms.

**I** | University Library

# Craft Tutorials

Book snakes – fabric book weights

Four-hole stab binding – traditional Asian binding style

Five-hole pamphlet binding – simple single-signature book

[https://mediaspace.illinois.edu/media/t/1\\_sugbtvdm](https://mediaspace.illinois.edu/media/t/1_sugbtvdm)

# Other craft ideas . . .



Button making

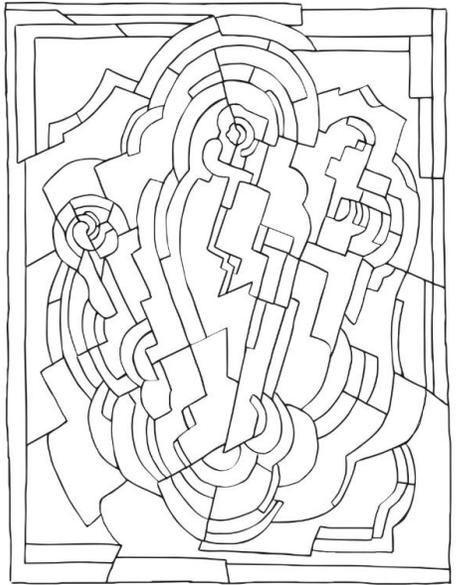


Paper marbling



Mylar dust jacket covers (BYOB)

# Other craft ideas . . .



Coloring pages



Library tech

TOP LEFT: New York Academy of Medicine  
Color Our Collections:  
<https://library.nyam.org/colorourcollections/tools-resources/>

# Other craft ideas . . .



Zine making



Upcycling  
discards/scrap paper

. . . sky's the limit!

# Tips for Hosting A Library-Craft Event





## Anticipate set up time

- Being prepared means you aren't left scrambling or twiddling your thumbs!

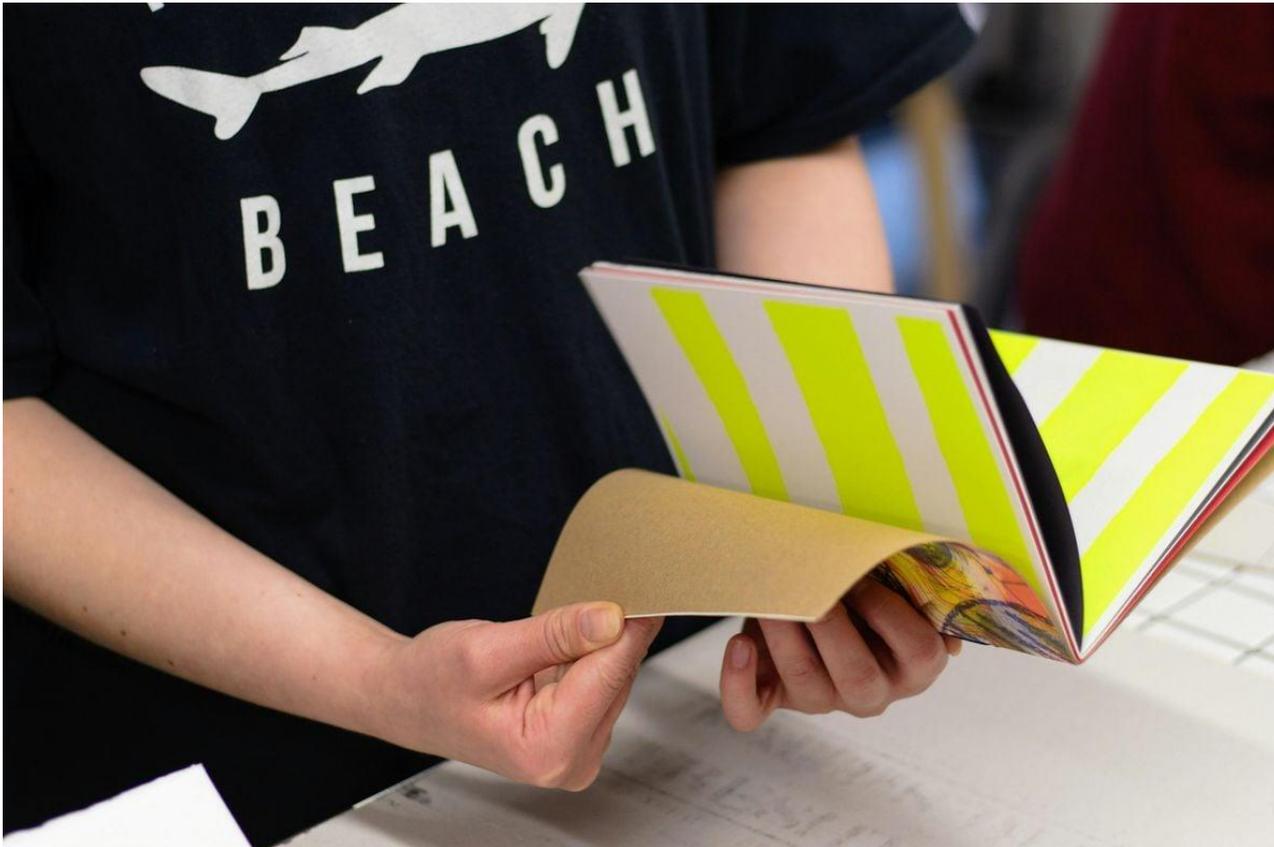
## Practice teaching – on yourself and guinea pigs!

- Gives confidence in your teaching, and an assessment for sticking points and pacing



Know how much to prep (or not to prep)

- Small group with a quick demo? Let them prep!



Structure your teaching

- Come-and-go or one-off? Large or small? Single demo, stations, or multiple instructors?



Be over-familiar with your technique

- Some may work quickly and want to know more!

Don't worry over messing up!



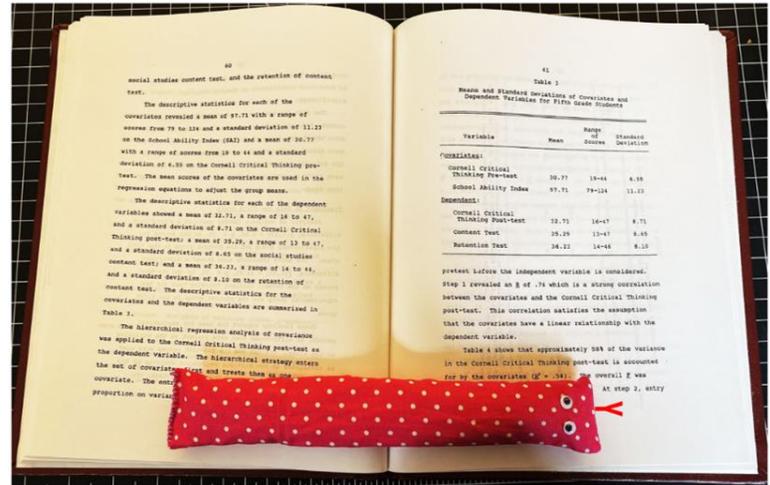
# Tips for Promotion

## Make your own book snake!



Today, 1:00-3:00pm, Orange Room

These cute study buddies gently hold open the pages of your book without breaking the spine



Learn more about Preservation Services and all our Preservation Week events



## Drop-in Bookbinding Workshop

Part of UIUC Preservation Week 2022

Monday | April 25 | 2-4 pm | 106 Main Library

Drop by to learn how to make three simple book structures. Try one or try all three!

For more information: [go.library.illinois.edu/PresWeek2022](http://go.library.illinois.edu/PresWeek2022)

University Library



# Clear messaging

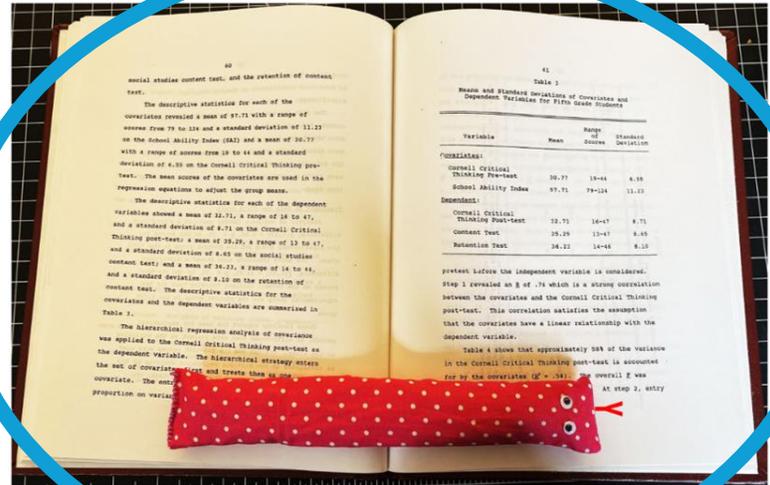
- People love free stuff (and snacks!)
- Adequate info for participants helps them come

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# Who is your audience/what are your goals?

- How many people do you want/can you accommodate?
- Internal outreach? Students? Community members?

PRESERVATION WEEK 2023

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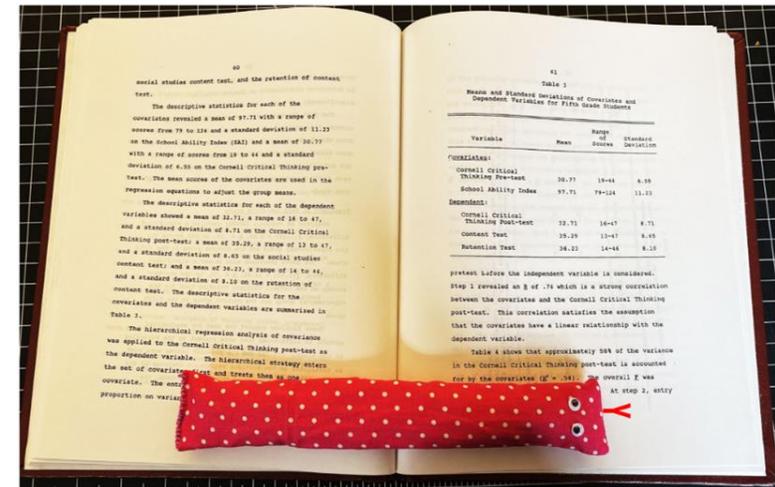
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# Find areas of overlap

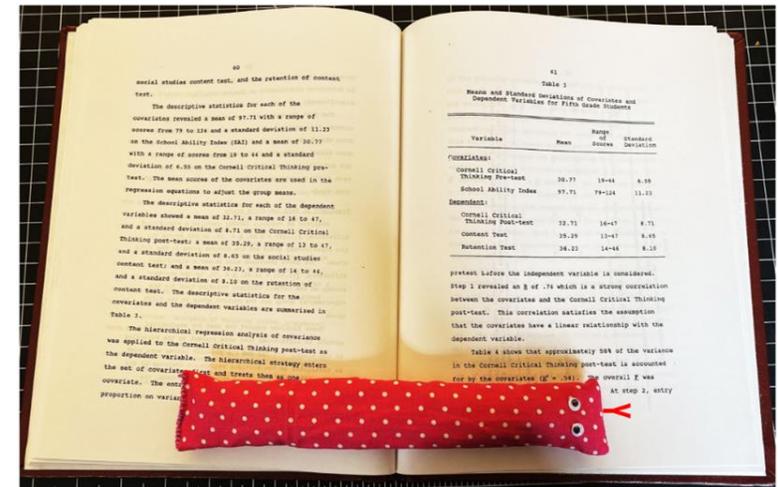
- Piggybacking other events (finals, holidays, library-wide events?)

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# Timing

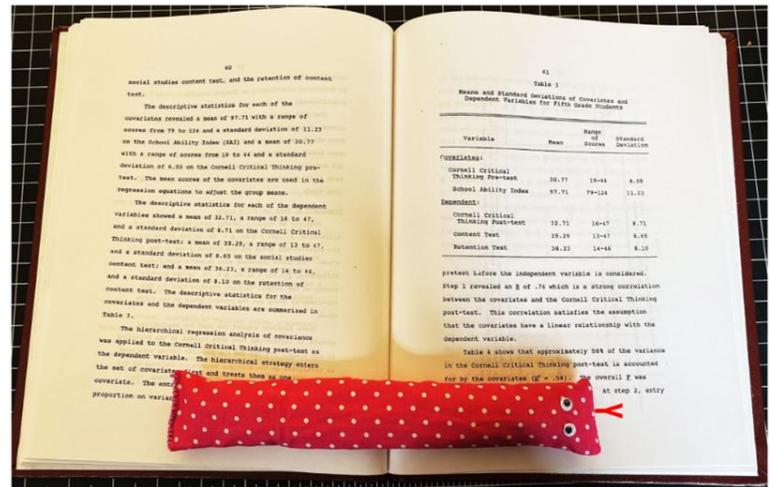
- Promote early, promote often

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# Questions?

## Contact us:

Gabriel Hamer, [hamerg@newberry.org](mailto:hamerg@newberry.org)

Arthur Hall, [lh7@illinois.edu](mailto:lh7@illinois.edu)

Shelby Strommer, [strommer@illinois.edu](mailto:strommer@illinois.edu)

# Thank you!

