

REFLECTION:

While I appreciate the motor skill, problem solving, and creative opportunities decorating a picture frame provides, the opportunities to connect a library craft with family and identity are what really excite me about the activity.

Picture frames can be connected with gift-giving and recognition holidays or used to simply boost self esteem when a child's own photo is used with the craft. Sending home a library project that has the potential to become an element on a refrigerator door and eventually a cherished family possession is a great way to build a positive connection between a library and its patrons. Such connections can create bonds between libraries and users that can span generations.



from [Class Craft \(Bracelet/Necklace & Wood Rectangular Frame\)](#)

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[Thomas Grenier](#)

Grenier_ Canvas Project

How can this project be used in a library or classroom?

Framing images is an activity with an unlimited potential to tie into anything from literature to student personal experience.

Students can create frames of favorite characters from readings or for images of applicable people in their lives.

How can you tie this activity to books or the curriculum?

Students could create images of their favorite characters from literature and then tie in decorative elements that reflect themes from the literature into their frames. Frames with thematic decorative elements could also be made to tie into a wide variety of theme months or curriculum projects.

What age group of youth would you do this project with?

This project could easily work with primary grades, but with more sophisticated thematic tie-ins, it could be used with older grades as well.

What do you think the appeal would be?

Working with glue, crayons, and fun shapes and colors are always engaging to kids. Demonstrating an understanding of literature presented through connecting decorations to story and theme is also rewarding.

Rate the project:

How easy was the project? 1=very easy, 2=easy, 3=not too easy or difficult, 4=difficult, 5=very difficult

This could be a demanding project for younger kids. I could see having to glue frames together for the younger ones to decorate and/ or staging decorations in serving cups to keep things organized. For younger kids, this could be a 3-4 level project.

Would the cost of doing this project with a group be acceptable?

Yes. There's nothing unreasonable in the supplied, many of which a children's library could have readily on-hand.

How could you "jazz up" or improve the project?

Connecting the activity with observed days like Mother's Day or making an outside scavenger hunt of finding objects to glue to the frames could be great fun.