



Trout & Salmon in the Classroom Quilt Square Project Instructions 2021

This year's quilt theme is TROUT ARE MADE OF TREES.

Trout are Made of Trees is a children's book by April Sayer in which two children explore the life of a stream and discover how a leaf can become a trout. Students will create quilt squares reflecting this theme of food webs and interconnectedness that they have learned thus far in Trout/Salmon in the Classroom, Steelhead in the Classroom, and/or Adopt-a-Trout.

The finished fabric art squares, along with a correspondence letter, will be sent to other classes who are participating in the project. The result and outcome—after sewn together—will be a beautiful, colorful quilt! (*This project was inspired, in part, by the JASON project.*) **More detailed instructions below on page 2!**

1. **Each participating group/classroom should have students create 25 squares.** Many classes will create more and keep some of their own. Squares are sent out to the schools on the MAILING LIST spreadsheet you will receive via email. Send one square and one letter per school on your mailing list.

Note: You may have less than 25 schools on your mailing list, that means you are able to keep squares for your own quilt!

2. **Send Squares & Letters in the mail by May 31, 2021.** Participating schools are responsible for postage costs. Most squares and letters can fit in a standard envelope.

COVID, distance-learning adjustments: If your class is meeting virtually, here are a couple of suggestions for ways to participate in the Quilt Project.

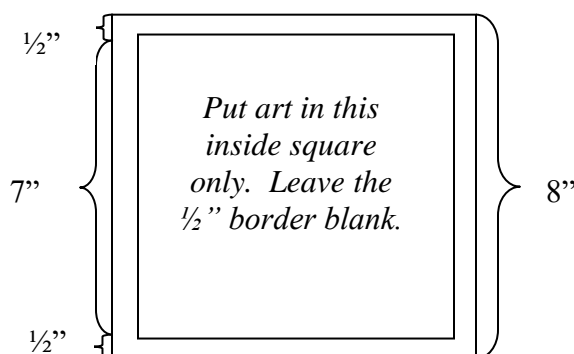
1. Students use a digital drawing software (ex, Google Drawings) to create their 8-inch square (leaving 1/2" around the edges for border to be sewn). In Google Drawings go to "Format>Format Options>Size and Rotation" and change the height and width to 8.0" by 8.0" to make the right size square. Students can insert graphic art or pictures to create a collage or drawing. Students submit squares to teachers. Teachers print each square on printable fabric to mail to other participating classrooms before the post mark date.

Note: This eliminates the need for getting materials to each student since everything is done on the computer. Only the teacher is responsible for material, printing and mailing.

2. Send your students pre-made squares and materials in the mail or for pick-up at school (if possible). Have them create squares at home using art supplies that are available to them around the theme. Students mail or drop off the squares to teacher who then sends them out to other participating schools before the postmark date.

Square Requirements:

Each square must be 8 inches. There **MUST** be a $\frac{1}{2}$ inch border around the edge for seam allowance when sewn. Therefore, all work must be done inside the border (a 7" x 7" workspace).



The base material should be a cotton or cotton blend material. It can be a new quilting fabric, a recycled bedsheet, old t-shirts, or any other lightweight (but not too thin!) cotton-based material.

The design or picture should reflect the theme Trout Are Made of Trees, foodwebs, and the interconnectedness of living and non-living things!

Not into buying fabric and cutting the squares yourself? Here's a quick tip: you can purchase pre-cut 8" fabric squares online from kits like this one: <https://www.ssw.com/item/color-me-quilt-FA3393/>

Please put students' first name(s) **ONLY** and school location on the front of squares. This is so that each school's completed quilt reflects the diversity of schools that participated in the project.

SUGGESTIONS FOR MATERIALS YOU CAN USE:

- fabric paint
- colored thread embroidery floss (can be used to make a design or used to secure sequins, beads, etc.)
- appliqués, patches
- fabric markers, permanent markers
- fabric crayons (draw on paper and then transfer with a hot iron)
- tie-dye or ink
- Ribbons, buttons, notions, etc...

Letter Requirements:

Letters should be sent along with squares to explain projects being worked on, special things about your local watershed, exciting experiences, etc. You may make multiple copies of a single class letter, have individual students write separate letters, or compile multiple students' work into one letter.

SUGGESTIONS FOR THE WRITTEN COMPONENT:

- essays excerpts, short notes
- include description of stream, tank, experiences, etc...
- can include illustrations or diagrams
- poems, short stories, jokes, anything goes

Mailing Instructions:

You will send one square and one letter to each participating class on you MAILING LIST, and in return you will receive one square and one letter from each class.

You can make your squares any time between now and May 30 (postmark squares by May 31). Make as many as you like, just be sure to send one each to the classrooms on your mailing list.

Participating schools are responsible for postage costs. Most squares and letters can fit in a standard envelope.

Questions? Please contact Tara Granke at tgranke@tu.org.