

Make a Valentine Texture Book



Texture books are board books with fabric, fur, leather or other materials glued on each page. They introduce very young children to the concept of a book with pages. They also help children who are visually impaired learn early tactile skills, which are critical for understanding braille. Here are instructions for making a Valentine texture book with this popular rhyme:

Red hearts, white hearts, pink hearts too.
I love purple hearts, how about you?
Green hearts, yellow hearts, blue hearts too
I love all the hearts, how about you?

Supplies:

- Black cardstock, poster board, mat board, or craft foam sheets
- Fabric, paper, or other textured materials in red, white, pink, purple, green, yellow and blue (see ideas for materials below)
- Craft glue or a hot glue gun
- Hole puncher, craft scissors
- Avery #15264 printable labels

Instructions:

First, cut the cardstock, poster board, mat board or craft foam sheets into nine 5x7-inch pieces. We chose black because of the visual contrast, but you can use any color. With a hole puncher, make two holes on the left side (the short edge) of each piece. Make sure you punch the holes in the same place on each page so they line up for the binding.

Cut out seven hearts of equal size, one each in red, white, pink, purple, green, yellow and blue from your materials. You could use a three-inch cookie cutter to trace the shape in pen first. Use different textures for your hearts - be creative here!

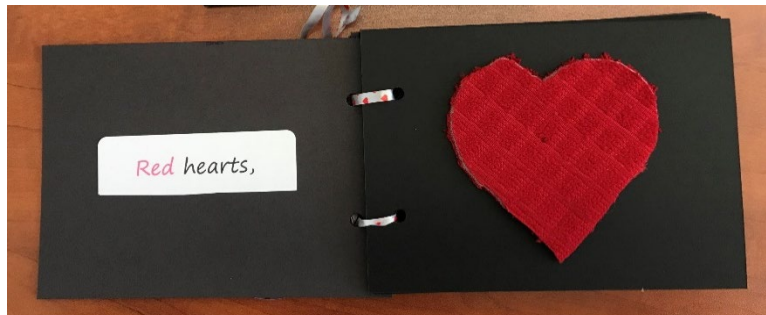
Also cut out seven mini hearts. You could cut them from the same materials that you made the big hearts, or you could use different colors or materials.

With a computer printer, print out the words to the rhyme using our template and Avery #15264 printable labels.

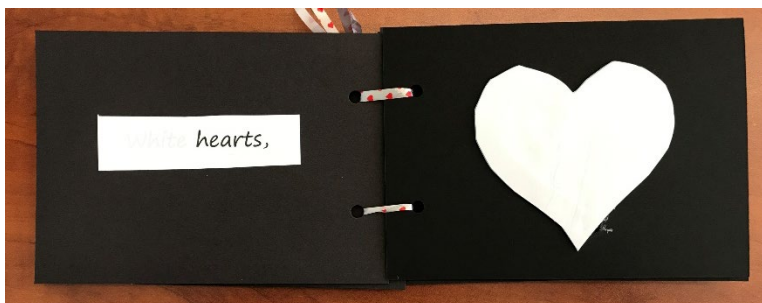
Attach the title label, "Hearts," on the cover of your book.



On the back of the cover attach the label "Red hearts." On the next page, glue on a red heart.



On the back of this page attach the label “White hearts.” On the next page, glue on a white heart.



Continue the rhyme, attaching the label on the left side and the heart on the right of your opened book.

On the back of the page with the blue heart attach the final sticker, “I love all the hearts...” and glue on seven mini hearts on the last page.



Bind your book with ribbon or yarn. Don't use metal ring binders because they can be a choking hazard.

Now, read the poem out loud to your child, turning the pages and touching the textures together. Talk about what the textures feel like and their similarities to things you have at home. You can also talk about where else you might find hearts - on a Valentine's Day card, printed on a shirt, cut out of cookie dough or even inside your body!

Ideas for Materials:

You can find different textures around your home or at the dollar store or crafts store. Here are some of our favorite materials:

- Burlap
- Sandpaper
- Paper with a raised pattern or dots
- Shiny, metallic paper or foil
- Silk
- Washcloths, towels
- Orange chamois cloth
- Wood (you can buy pre-cut wooden hearts at your crafts store)
- Felt
- Fake fur
- Corrugated cardboard
- Cotton balls
- Sponges, dish scrubbers