Altered Books

What is an Altered Book?

The altered book is a rapidly growing art form in which the artist creates the "Art" that goes onto the page. An altered book is a book that's been recycled, rescued and then has been changed or altered by means of gluing, painting, collaging, drilling, rebinding, sewing, rubber stamping, cutting, tearing, or embellishing. It is an expression of yourself, an experiment in creativity, or a creative journal. When finished the viewer of the book interacts through the discovery of the various additions and alterations that are done to the book.

It's also an old method of recycling. In the eleventh century Italian monks recycled old vellum manuscripts by scraping off ink and adding new text and illustrations. This process also left the old text visible through the new, creating new pieces of art over old ones. This process is called Palimpsest (pal-im-sest).



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In the Victorian era there developed a practice called extra-illustration, also known as Grangerism, where illustrations were torn from one book to decorate another. The term to Grangerize was coined from Rev. J Granger's four volume Biographical, History of England in which he encouraged readers to find and insert into the book a portrait of every person mentioned.

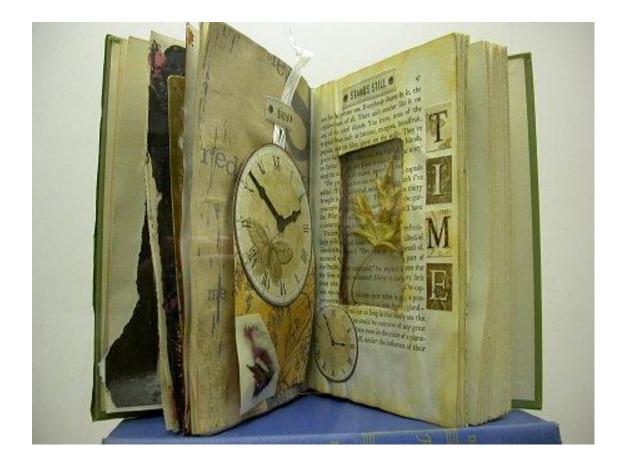
FIRST KNOWN ALTERED BOOK?

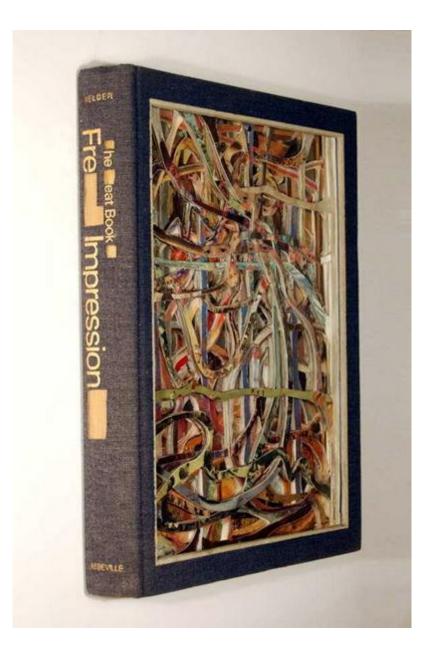
In 1969 a British artist Tom Phillips purchased an obscure Victorian novel entitled A Human Document from a secondhand bookshop. He then proceeded to "alter" it: he colored and blacked out many of the lines and even pages so that certain key words and phrases formed new images and sequences; he cut up and rearranged other pages to form new narrative passages. Miraculously, the rather bland original novel was turned into an entirely new work. The altered novel became known through literary and art magazines and quickly acquired a cult following

Today artists are exploring the form of the book along with its substance. Existing images and text become something entirely new. By covering, cutting, and changing the structure, altered books run the gamut from books that have become shrines to books that are transformed into colorful images totally unrelated to their origins.

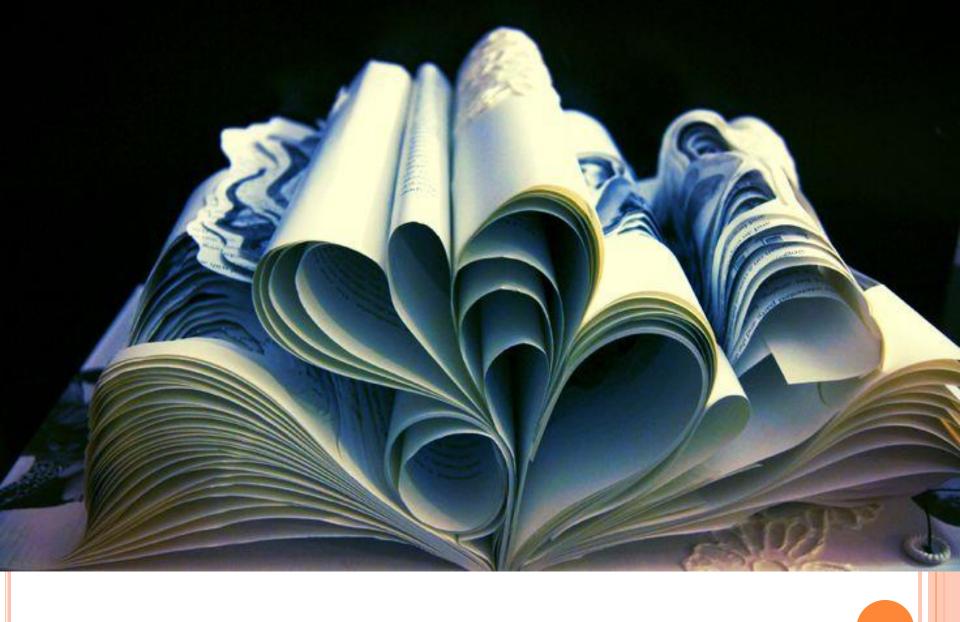




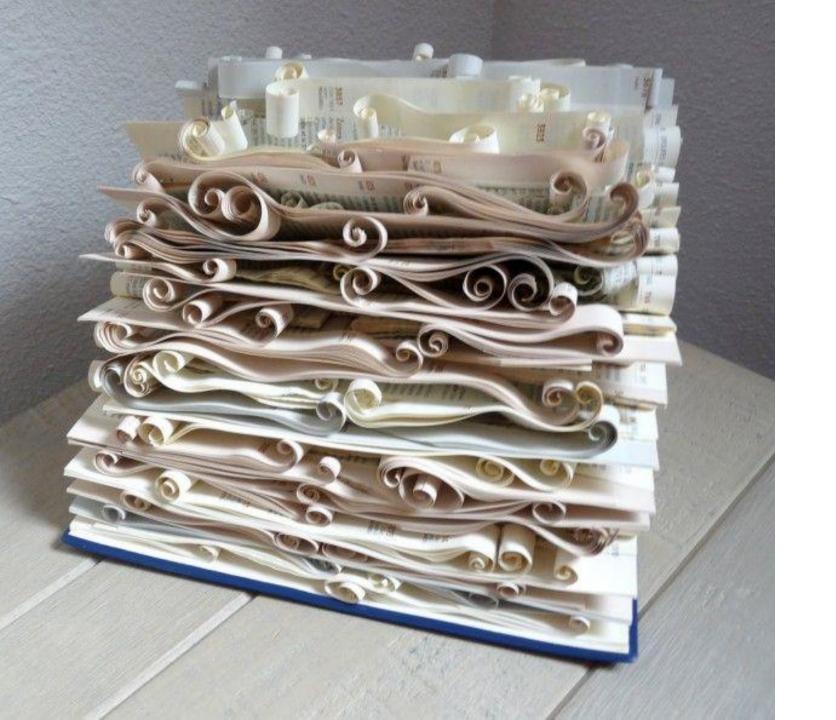


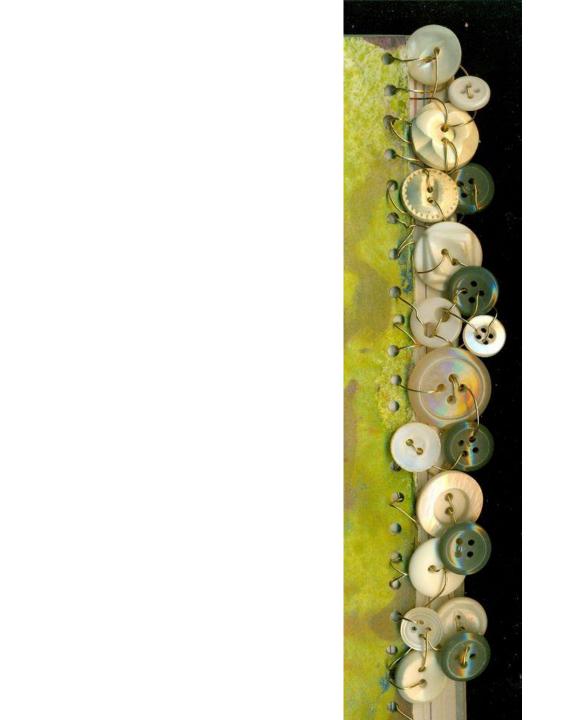


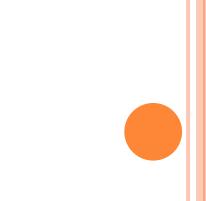


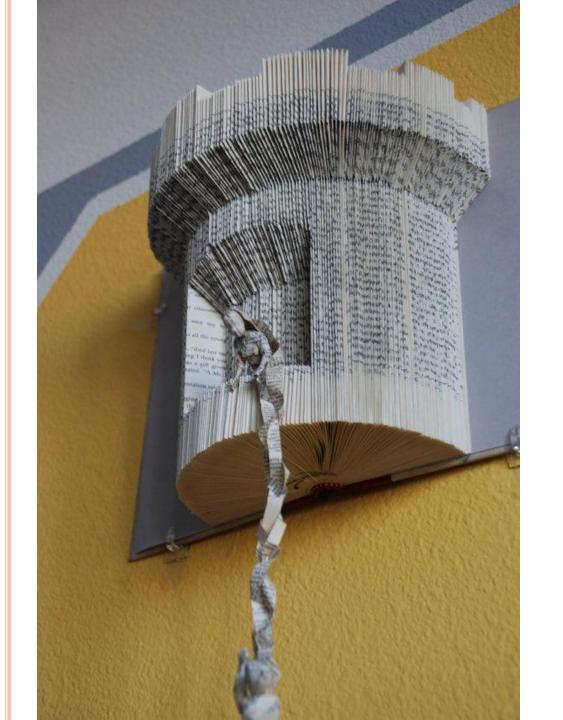


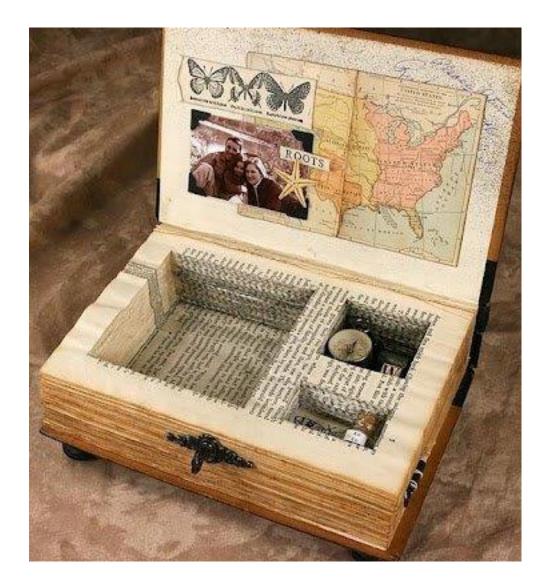




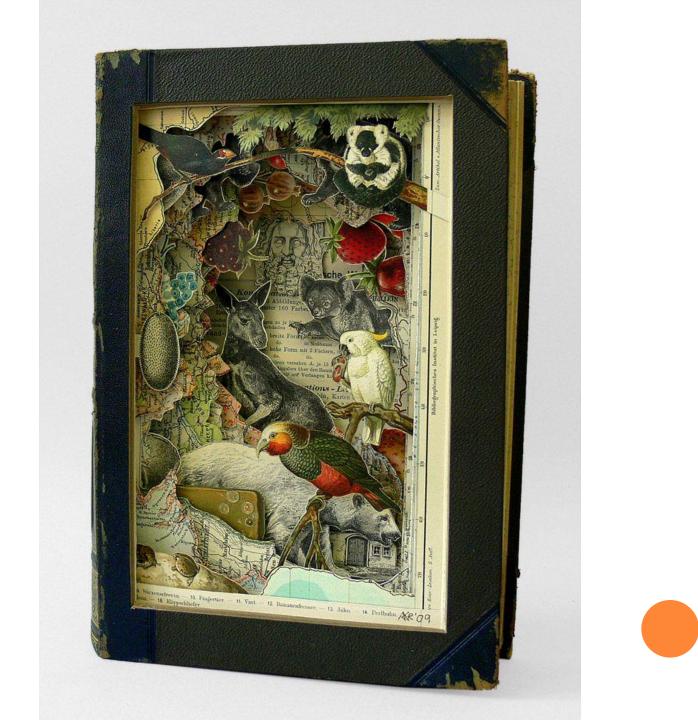


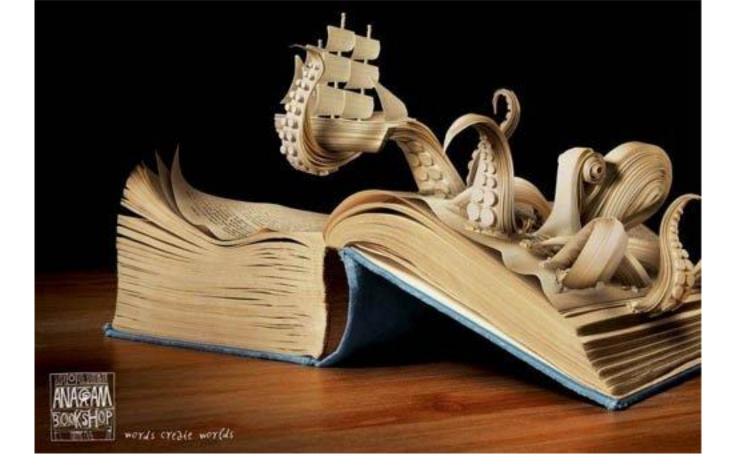




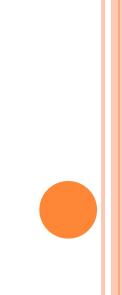










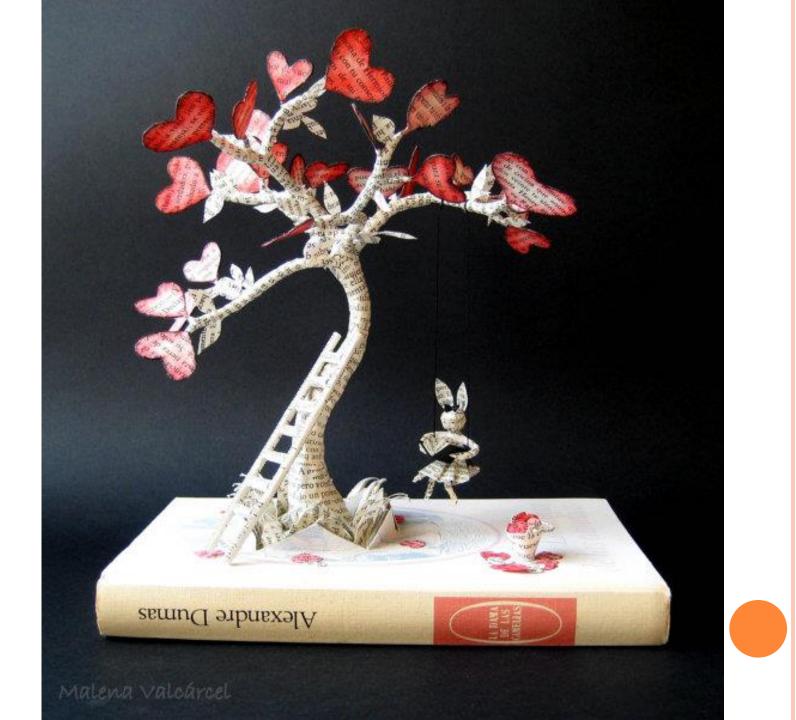


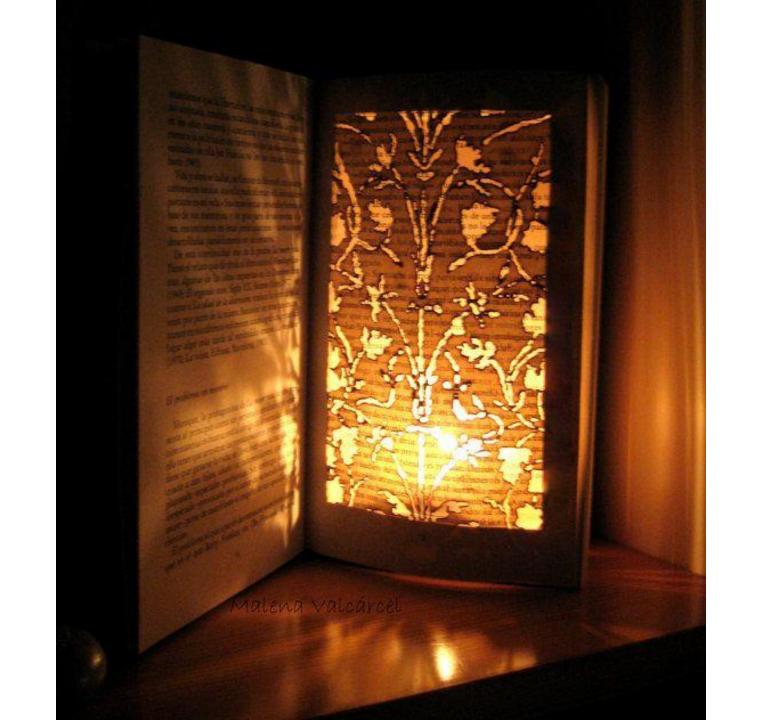






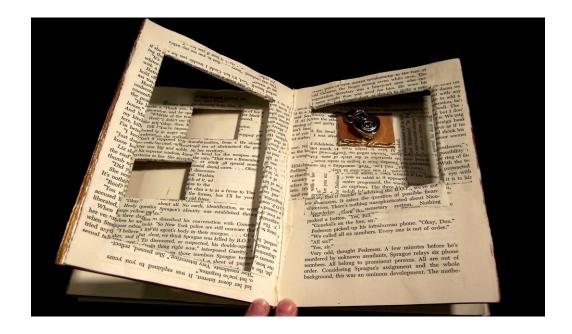






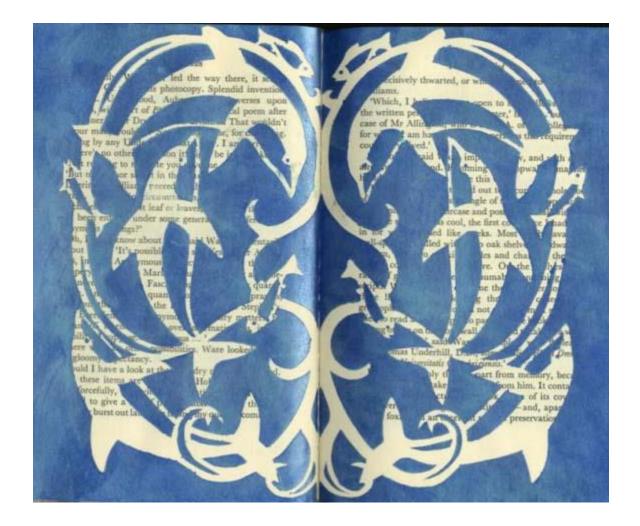




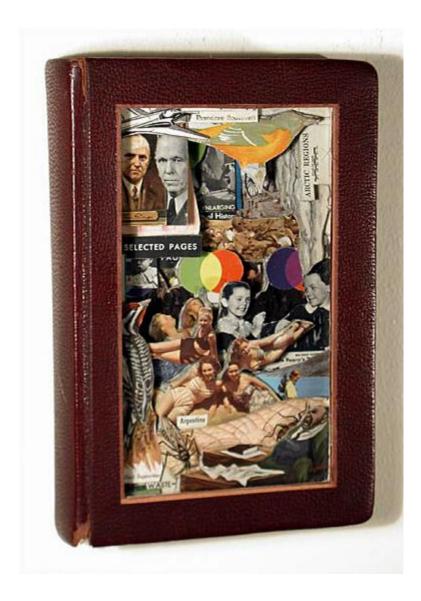


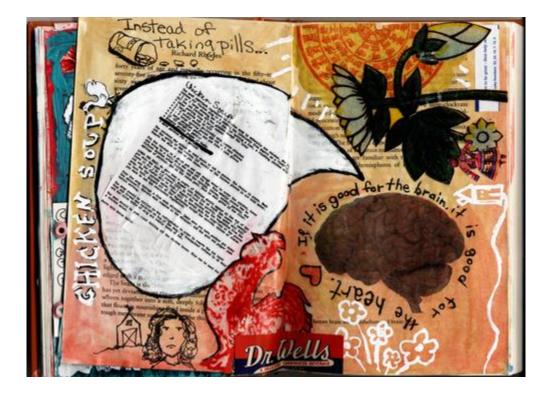






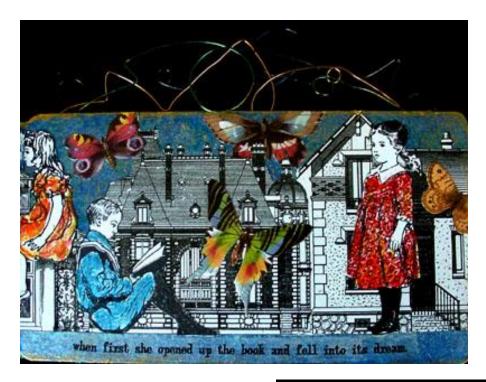














The new a world before her that she drew the way she wished, and everything she found there-- birds, butterfiles, and fish-- Yas just as she'd inspined and semetimes even more, and each page as she turned it was a window or a deer. Look at these links:

• <u>http://chippedteacup.hubpages.com/hub/altered-books-</u> <u>inspiration-and-ideas</u>

• <u>http://www.allthingspaper.net/2011/03/paper-stitch.html</u>

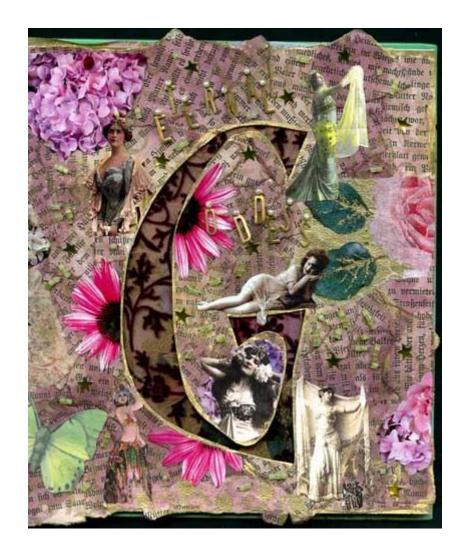
• <u>http://weburbanist.com/2012/04/13/book-art-31-sculptures-</u> worth-reading-about/

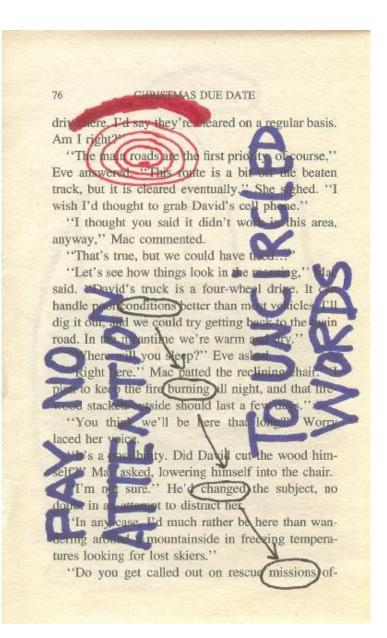
Things to avoid...

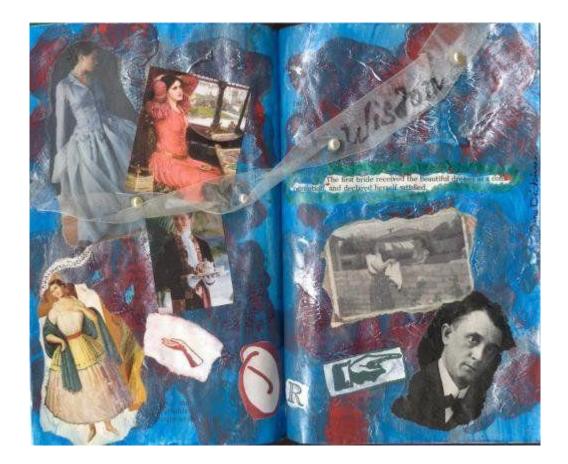


















OBJECTIVES:

- 1. Students will research and create an altered book based on the local history of the Mohicans.
- 2. Students will use at least one primary resource to support meaning in their book.
- 3. Students will select appropriate materials and techniques for their book.
- 4. Students will use at least 3 alteration methods: