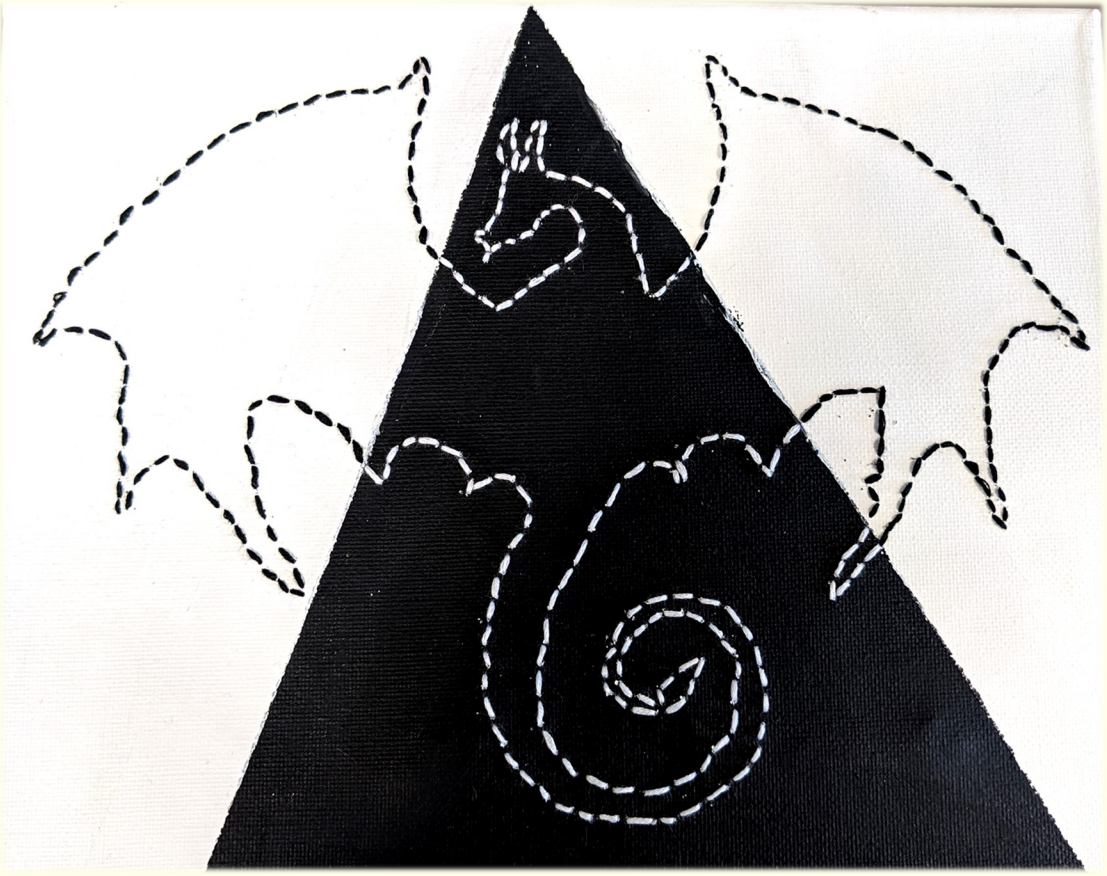
VIRGINIA BEACH PUBLIC LIBRARY

Embroidered Line Art

Activity Kit



Materials Included:

- Sample silhouettes and a template to draw your own silhouette
- 8x10 stretched canvas
- Paint brush
- Paint (black and white)
- Painter's tape
- Needle on scrap felt
- Embroidery thread (black and white)

Objective(s):

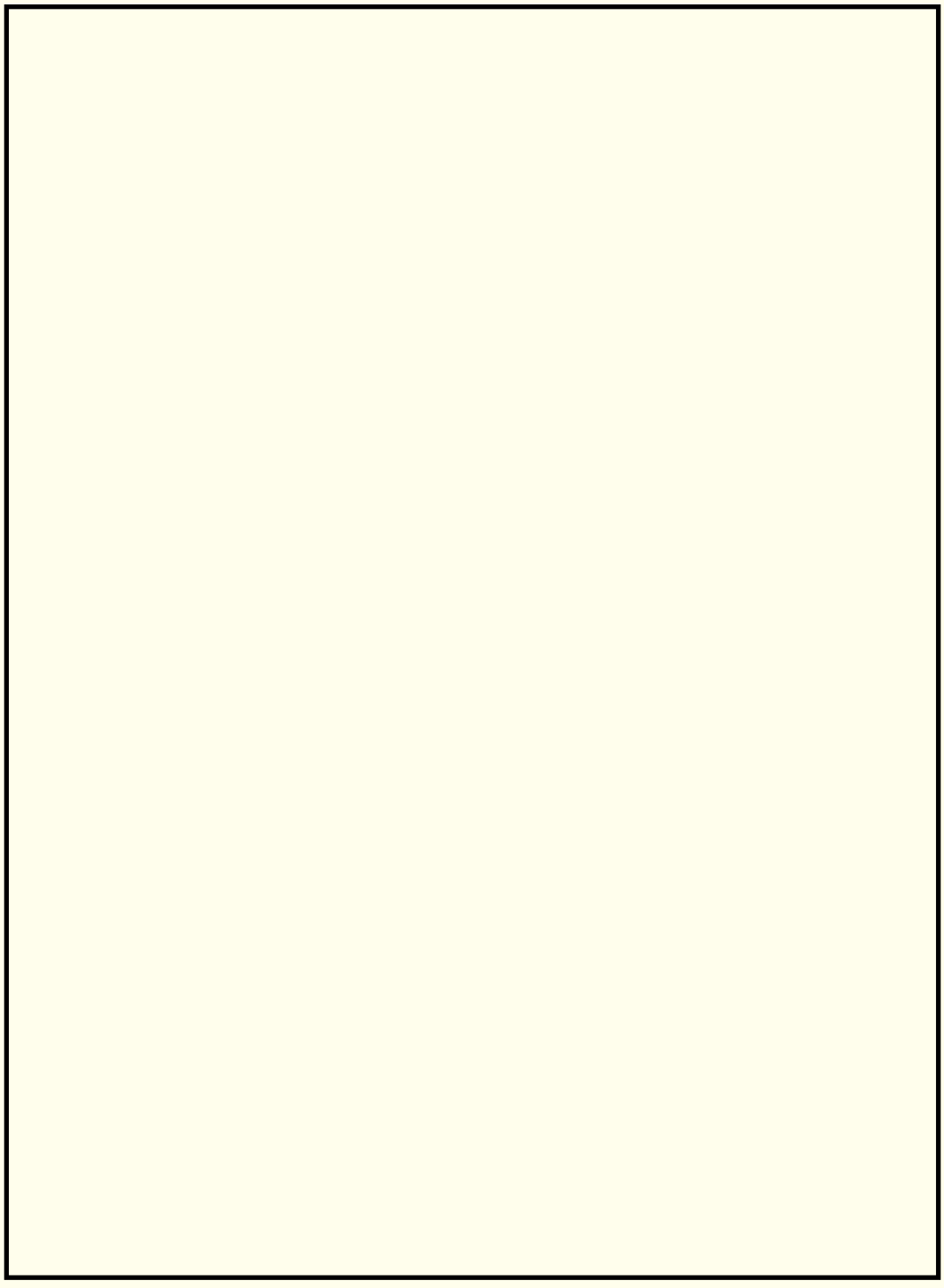
Use the craft supplies provided to learn and practice basic hand sewing, combined with paint to make a unique painting

Provide Your Own:

- Scissors
- Cup for water
- Table cover or newspaper to cover work surface
- (optional) gloves, apron,

Pattern for project

If you want to draw or find another silhouette to use, keep it within a 7.5 x 5.5” space (to avoid sewing over the frame).



Pattern for project

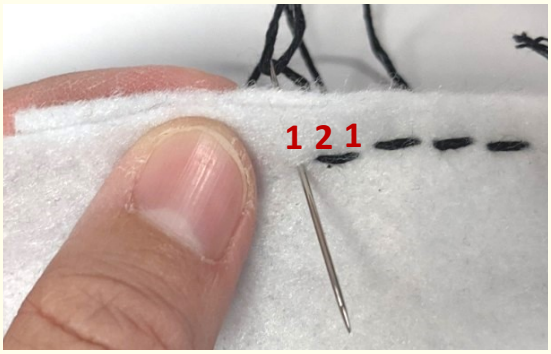
Pattern for project

Before you start

- **Please take your time, and make your stitches carefully.**
- **Be patient with yourself.**
- **Be careful with the sewing needle. They can be sharp!**

Stitch to know: Practice on the felt scrap, if needed. Feel free to check YouTube videos for tutorials on this stitch.

Running stitch

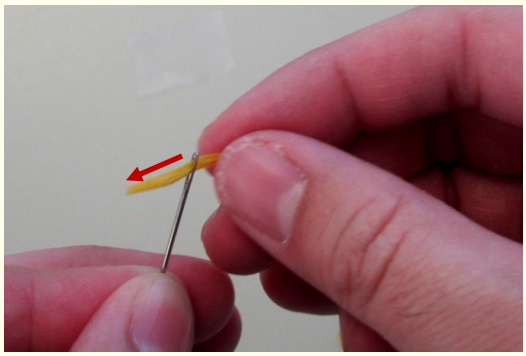


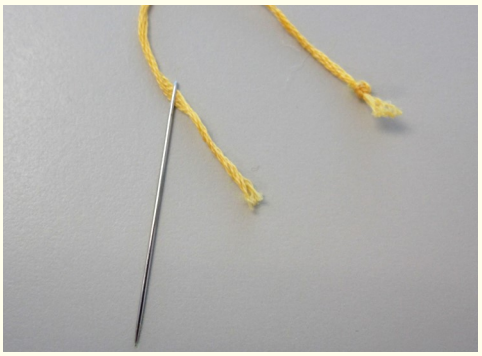
Before you start

Sewing basics

Threading a needle:

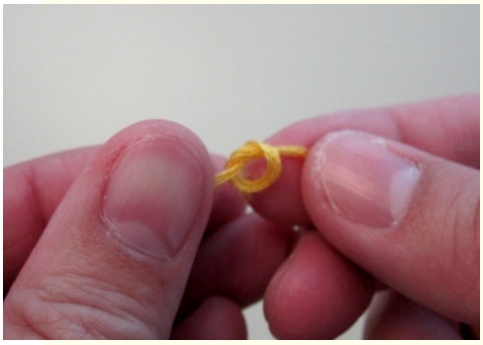
- Use a little water to dampen one end of the thread, if needed, to make it easier to go through the eye of the needle (opening).
- Hold the dampened end of the thread in one hand between finger and thumb. Use the other hand to hold the needle.
- Put the whole dampened end of the thread carefully through the eye of the needle.
- Tie 2-3 simple knots on top of each other on the tail (other end of the thread).

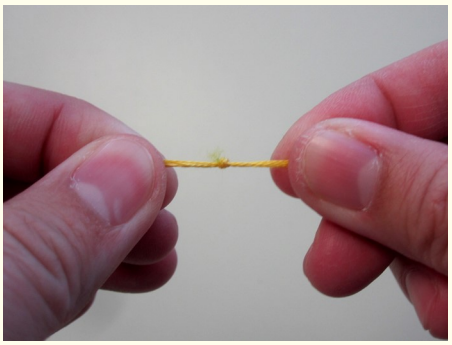


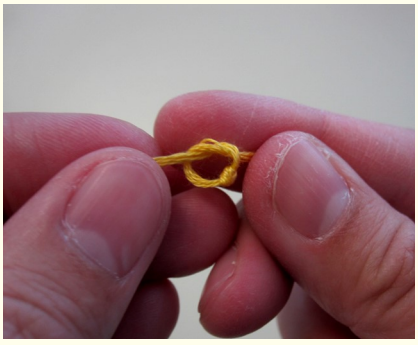


Tying a knot:

- Tie a simple knot on the tail of the thread after threading a needle or to finish a project
- It may require 2-3 knots over the same spot to make a bigger knot



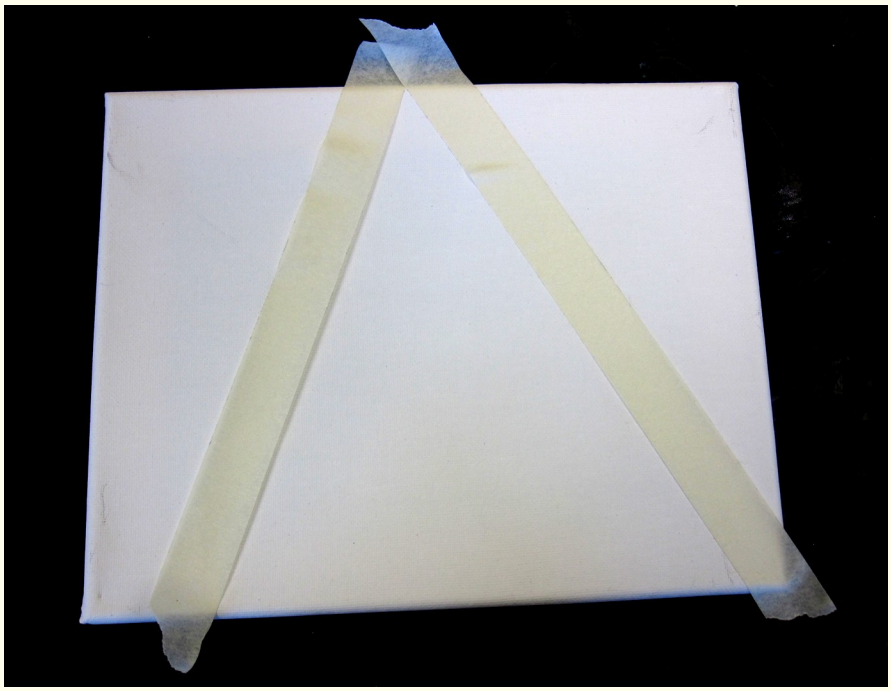




Directions:

Step 1: Getting started:

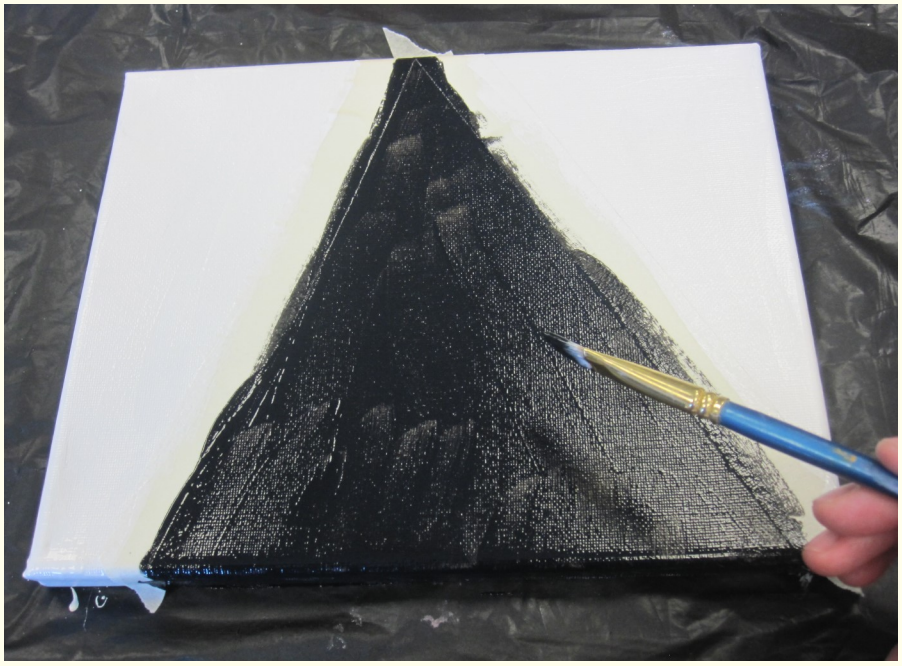
- **Choose your silhouette image. You can either use the provided images or draw/print your own within a 7.5x5.5” rectangular space. Keep images simple but distinct enough to tell what it is.**
- **Think of how you want to divide your canvas in black and white sections. You might divide in diagonal halves, thirds, quarters, either symmetrical or asymmetrical.**
- **Use the tape to divide into sections**



Directions:

Step 2: Paint in the white and black sections, including the edge of the canvas.

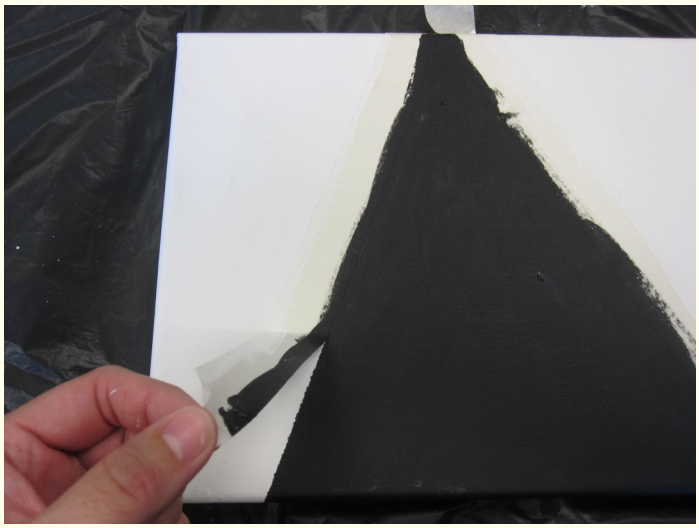
- **Dampen flat brush (not dripping wet)**
- **Start with one paint color and fill in the section(s) with that color**
- **Put the brush in the water cup and clean off paint. Pat it dry with a paper towel, so it is not dripping wet**
- **Use the other paint color for the other section(s).**
- **Let dry.**
- **Repeat above to paint a second layer of both paints.**

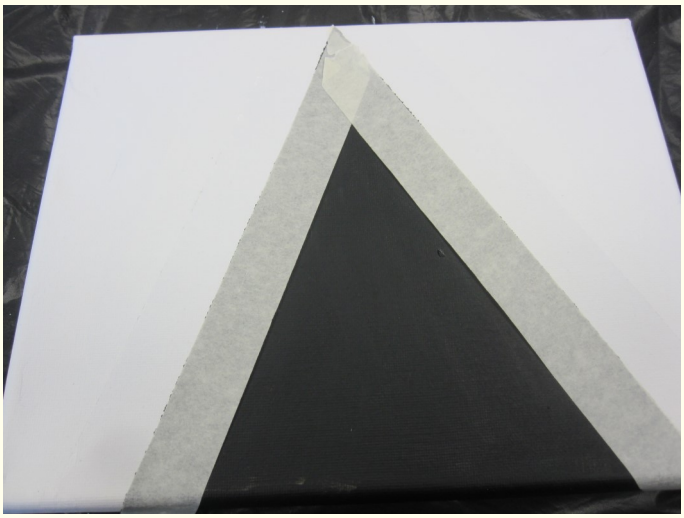


Directions:

Step 3: Once the paint dries, carefully remove the tape. The canvas that had tape on it has to be painted.

- **Get a new strip of tape, and carefully place it just inside the edge of the painted section, so it does not get painted on.**
- **Repeat step 2 for painting.**
- **Once the paint dries, carefully remove the tape**





Directions:

Step 4: Once the paint is dry, position the image over the canvas, and place tape in the corners to hold it in place.

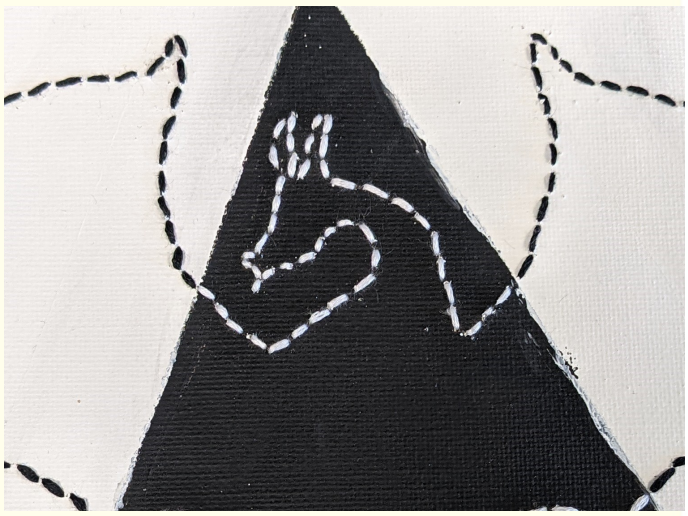
- **Keep the image within a 7.5x5.5” space if you draw or print a silhouette.**
- **You do not need to cut the shape out, just the rectangle around the shape.**
- **Avoid placing the image over the wooden frame (it is harder to sew over the frame)**

Step 5: Use the sewing needle to poke holes through the canvas, outlining the whole design with holes about 1/4” to 1/2” apart. (1 pinky tip’s width) Carefully remove the paper of the image (keep nearby for reference, as needed).

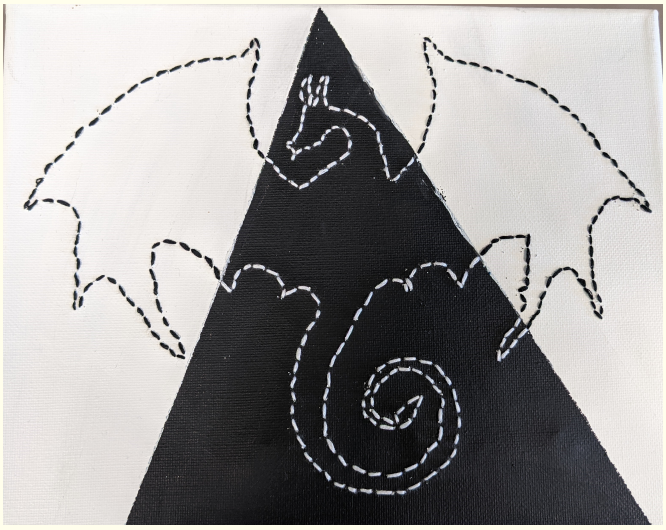
Directions:

Step 6: Embroider the image using the running stitch. Use white thread on the black part of the canvas and black thread on the white part of the canvas.

- **Thread the needle with appropriate color thread and tie a new knot. Keep the knot on the back of the canvas. Use a running stitch to sew around the border of the silhouette. Keep stitches even and neat.**
- **Re-thread and re-knot as necessary.**
- **Tie a knot when you finish. Trim excess thread.**



You are finished!



Additional Resources:

Find live programs, on-demand programs, and downloadable activity kits at **VBgov.com/library-programs.**

Please share your photos of these activities with us on social media.

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Thank you!

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