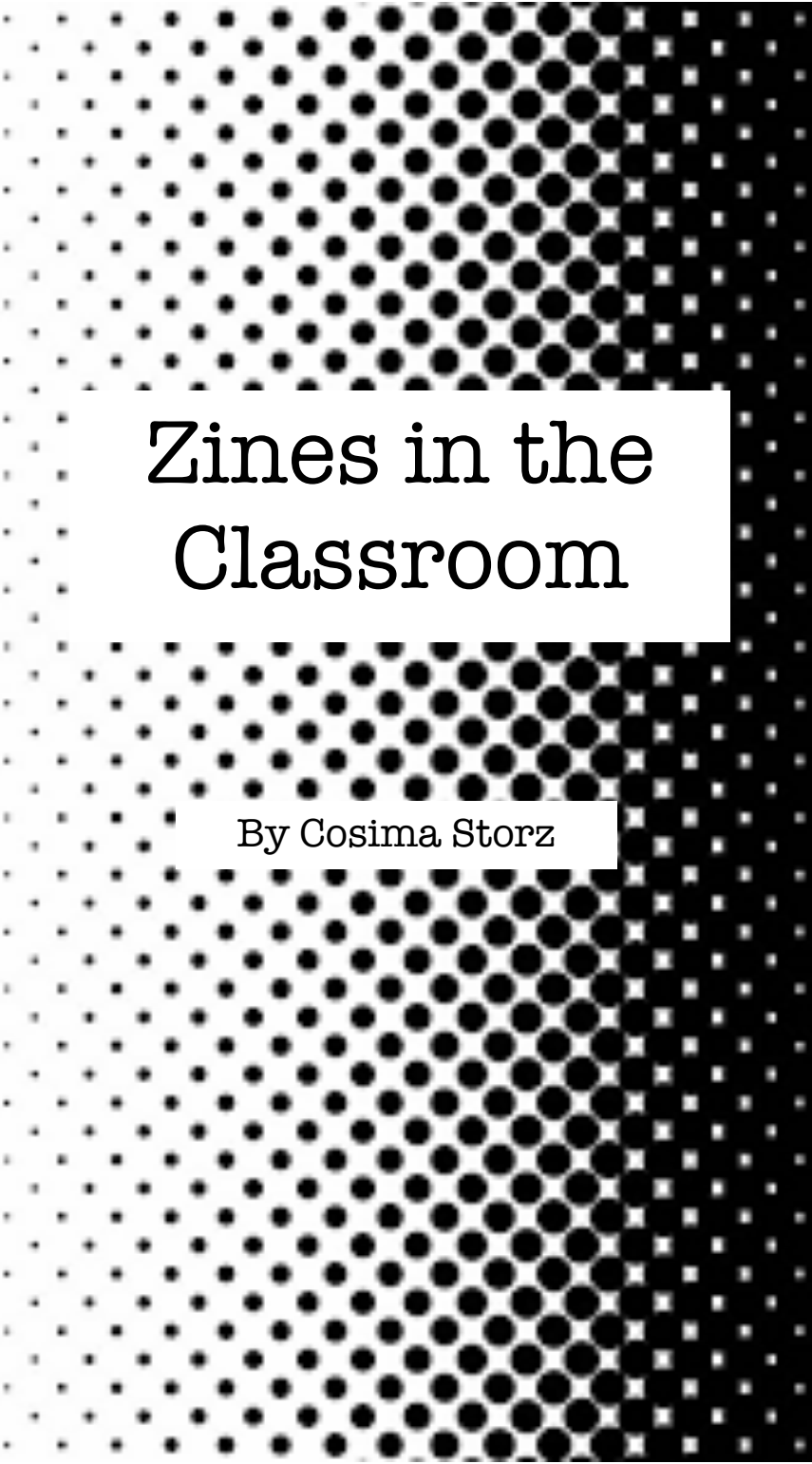


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Zines in the Classroom

By Cosima Storz

Why use zines in the classroom?

Zines (pronounced 'zeen') have always been about sharing ideas with others and existing as a counter against mass produced media. As a zine maker myself and as a teacher, I think about who gets to author ideas and who gets to put information out into the world. Zines are an exciting way to talk about a topic that a student is interested in and can easily share it.



Zines are a way for students to directly participate with ideas and information. Any opportunity for students to learn about what interests them and then to share it with others means that their ideas are valued. Students already have incredible thoughts and observations, zines are another way for them to be the researchers and the makers.

East Coast Zine Festivals

Austin, TX <http://www.lonestarzinefest.org/>
Baltimore, MD <https://diyfest.org/>
Brooklyn Zine Festival
<https://brooklynzinefest.com/>
Chicago, IL <http://chicagozinefest.org/>
Denver, CO
<https://denverzinelibrary.org/2018/03/07/2017-denver-zine-fest/>
Detroit, MI <https://www.comixparty.com/>
Los Angeles, CA <https://lazinefest.com/>
Philadelphia Zine Fest
<http://phillyzinefest.tumblr.com/>
Olympia, WA <https://olympiazinefest.org/>
Miami, FL
<https://exilebooks.com/blogs/events/19101051-open-call-miami-zine-fair>
New York Feminist Zine Festival
<https://feministzinefestnyc.wordpress.com/>
New York Queer Zine Fair
<http://bgsqd.com/events/>
Newark, NJ
<http://www.thebettys.com/blog/bettyzinefest>
New Orleans, LA <http://www.nocazfest.com/>
Portland, OR
<http://www.portlandzinesymposium.org/>
Richmond, VA <https://richmondzinefest.org/>
Seattle, WA <http://shortrun.org/>
Washington D.C. <http://dczinefest.com/>

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Online Resources

Barnard Zine Library

<https://zines.barnard.edu/about/genres>

Cult of Pedagogy

<https://www.cultofpedagogy.com/culturally-responsive-misconceptions/>

DIY resource for zines & zine culture

<http://www.stolensharpierevolution.org/>

Make an 8-page zine

<http://www.wexphotographic.com/blog/tips-and-technique/how-to-make-a-simple-eight-page-zine/>

Pioneers Press

<https://pioneerspress.com/>

POC (People of Color) Zine Project

(<https://issuu.com/poczineproject>)

Queer zine archive <http://archive.qzap.org/index.php>

Sprout Distro

<https://www.sproutdistro.com/>

Teaching with zines

<https://zines.barnard.edu/teachingwithzines>

Zines for kids

<http://zinelibraries.info/2016/08/11/zines-for-kids/>

What is a zine?

Zines started in the 1920s in the United States in response to science fiction magazines. Fans were invited to submit letters to the magazines in response to the stories published. Eventually fans started to write their own ideas and inspirations from magazines and mail them to each other. Thus, the birth of the fanzine!

The word fanzine "...was coined in an October 1940 science fiction fanzine by Russ Chauvenet and first popularized within science fiction fandom, from whom it was adopted by others." (<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fanzine>).

Definitions

Chapbook-a small paperback booklet, typically containing poems or fiction.

Distro- zine distributor, like a book publisher.

DIY-do it yourself.

Long reach stapler- a stapler that staples lengths up to 12 inches.

Zine (pronounced 'zeen')- short for fanzine. A self-produced, cheaply made publication. Often about uncommon or underground topics.

Zines as collective learning

Zines are an excellent format for collective learning. There are many studies and theories that support group learning. One of psychologist Vygotsky's ideas was that learning is not done individually, and that it happens between people. Zines are a great way for students to research and create a group made zine.

Another example is from educator Zaretta Hammond. Hammond researches culturally responsive learning and its misconceptions. Hammond says that "...most schools are centered around an individualistic orientation, keep your eyes in your own work. Pull yourself up by the bootstraps. Whereas collectivism is, I am because we are. It's interdependency."

Possible themes for zines

- All about me (great to start the year with)
- Artist who you should know (students research a not well known artist)
- Culture jamming (students collage pictures from movies, musicians, any visual elements that students find interesting and they react to those typical images)
- Art studio techniques (ex. How to make collagraph print).

Books on zine making

Syllabus: Notes from an accidental professor
By Lynda Barry

The riot grrrl collection
By Lisa Darms, Kathleen Hanna, & Johanna Fateman

Notes from underground: Zines and the politics of alternative culture
By Stephen Duncombe

How to make books: Fold, cut & stitch your way to a one-of-a-kind book
By Esther K. Smith

The guerilla art kit: Everything you need to put your message out into the world
By Keri Smith

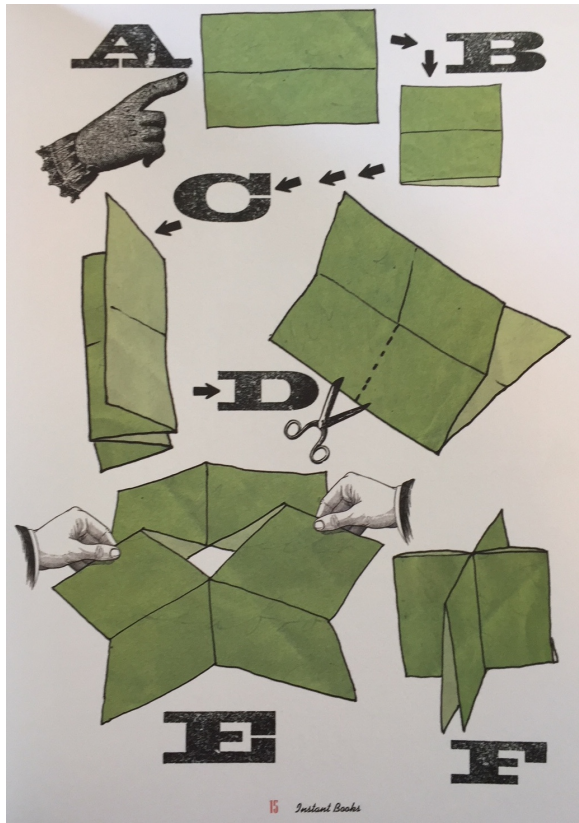
DIY: The Rise of Lo-Fi Culture
By Amy Spencer

Whatcha mean, what's a zine?
By Esther Watson & Mark Todd

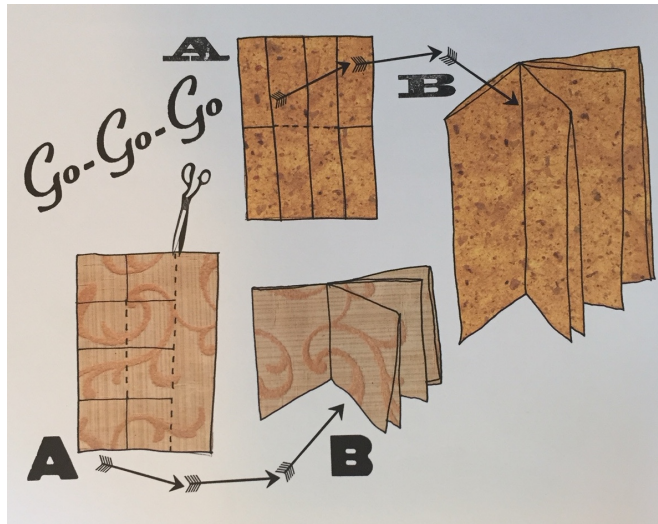
Stolen sharpie revolution: A DIY resource for zines and zine culture
By Alex Wrekk

A few materials to get started

Long reach stapler, staples, scissors, glue, markers or crayons, old magazines, paper, tape, rubber stamps, ink pads, stickers, a scanner, a photocopier or a computer printer.



8 page book



Images from: How to make books, by Esther K. Smith

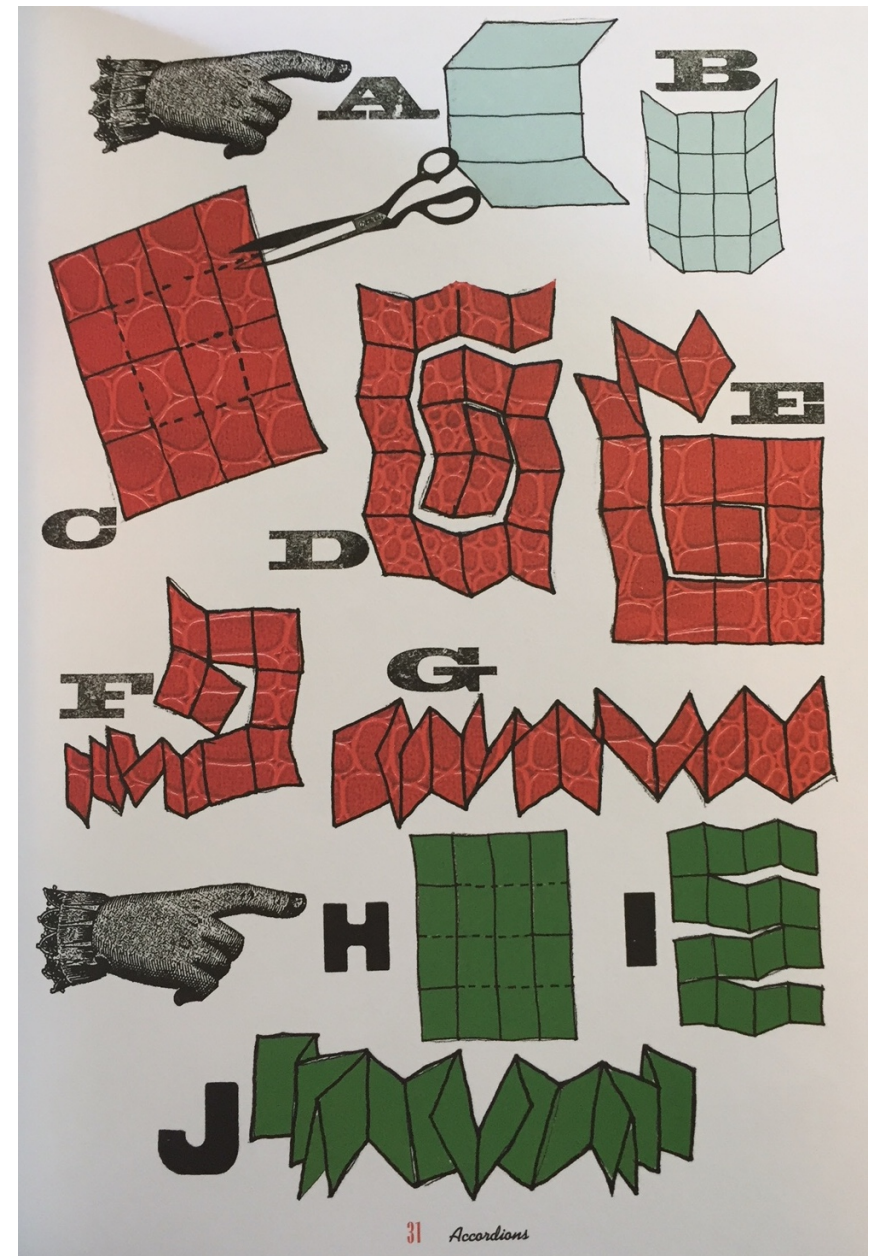


Image from: How to make books, by Esther K. Smith

What are some other items or ideas connected to zines.....

