



## **School Year in Review Mini Book**

### **Designer: Janna Wilson**

If you need to catch up on your school days memory keeping, take an afternoon to put together this “classy” project. Its fun, it’s crafty and you can make one for each grade as your child progresses through school. Keep it simple by including the highlights from the year: first day of school, party snapshots, teeth lost, sports or activity photos, friends, and an end of the year photo. With a fabric covered chipboard cover, you can dress your design up as much as you’d like or leave it simple and striking. There are also lots of choices when binding this project also...if you have a personal binding system you can use that. You could also use 2-3 loose leaf binder rings or tie ribbon through punched holes. Let me show you how I put my book together!

### **Supplies:**

Fiskars Brands: 94817797 No. 5 Micro-Tip® Scissors

Fiskars Brands: 12-99027097 Desktop Rotary Trimmer

Fiskars Brands: 93807097 Circle Cutter

Fiskars Brands: 12-73297097 Corner Squeeze Punch –

Fiskars Brands: Large Round N’ Round Squeeze Punch

Fiskars Brands: 01-004596 Scallop Sentiment Border Punch

Fiskars Brands: 01-004656 Wishes All Around 4 x 8 clear stamps

Fiskars Brands: 01-003097 High Density Pigment Ink – Still of the Night

Fiskars Brands: 92017097 Scallop Paper Edgers

Heidi Grace Designs: Reagan’s Closet alphabet stamps

Heidi Grace Designs: We Are Family alphabet stickers

Other: Jillibean Designs red dot paper, Scenic Route notebook style paper, Scarlet Lime green floral paper, Kaiser Crafts red gems, American Crafts Thickers (green glitter), Adorn It/Carolee Creations mini alphabet stickers, Creative Imaginations felt trim, sewing machine/thread, red felt, assorted buttons, Staz On permanent ink, stapler, black pen



Create the fabric covered front and back cover first:

1. Cut two- 4" x 8" pieces of heavy chipboard.

*TIP: The Fiskars Desktop Rotary trimmer makes cutting chipboard a breeze!*

2. Cut two pieces of unbleached cotton (you could use any medium to heavy weight fabric you like) about 7" x 11."



3. Apply Mod Podge (or other decoupage medium) sparingly with a brush to one side of the chipboard pieces and adhere center of fabric squares. Smooth fabric and make sure there are no wrinkles. Snip bulk at corners as seen in the image and prepare to wrap excess fabric around to the back side.





4. Apply adhesive to edge of chipboard a fold over two opposite sides. Continue adding adhesive and adhere the remaining two sides.



5. Cut a 3 ¼" x 7 ¾" piece of patterned paper (red dots) or cardstock and attach to the inside of each of the covers.

*note: I found that a generous amount of glue stick works best for this application*



6. For my cover draw some simple shapes and cut them out with micro-tip scissors. Start by cutting an apple cut from felt. Then add grade/title with chipboard letters and smaller alphabet letters. Add a few gems to make it fun and interesting. Top the apple off with a stem and leaf (cut from patterned paper and stitched).

*Note: Create a simple cover design that you can replicate for each year to have a cohesive set of mini books for your child's school career.*



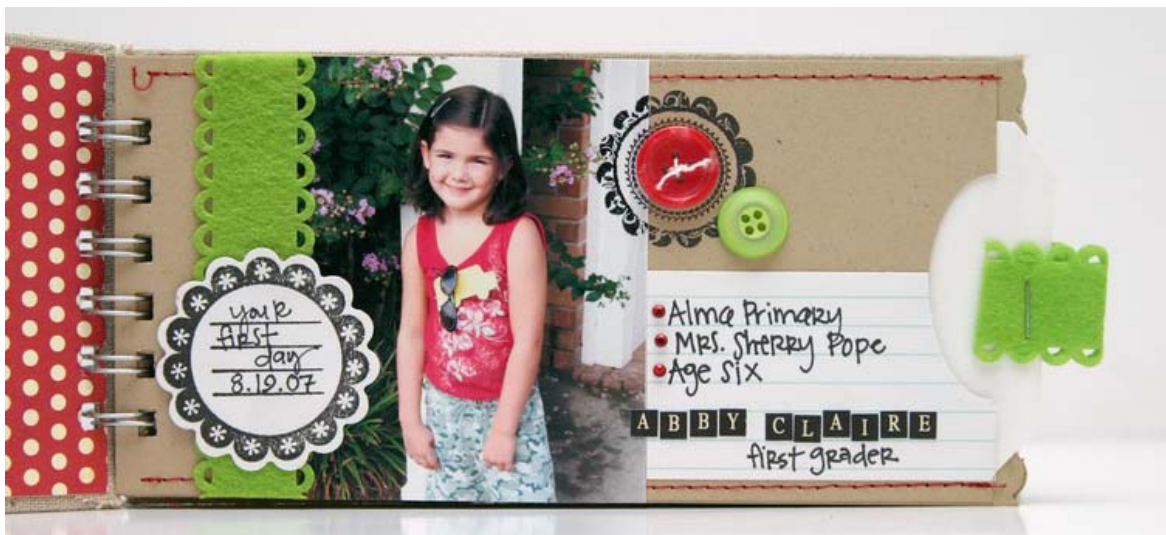
Make the pages for inside of book:

1. Cut inside pages (I made six) 3 3/4" x 8" and punch one of the short ends with the Scallop Sentiment Border Punch.

2. Punch holes for the binding now—this will ensure that your page designs don't interfere with the binding.

*NOTE: The type of binding you use will determine how many pages your book will be able to accommodate. I used a book binding tool to bind the book, but a hole punch or other styles will work as well.*

Now you're ready to begin creating the inside pages. I find that keeping the pages fairly simple and streamlined keeps the focus on my photos while introducing elements of color and texture. I used only two patterned papers in conjunction with a notebook style paper for journaling and titles. Recreate your page designs/sketches throughout the book to make this project even quicker!



Page 1:

1. Add a 3 3/4" x 3" photo to the left side of the page.

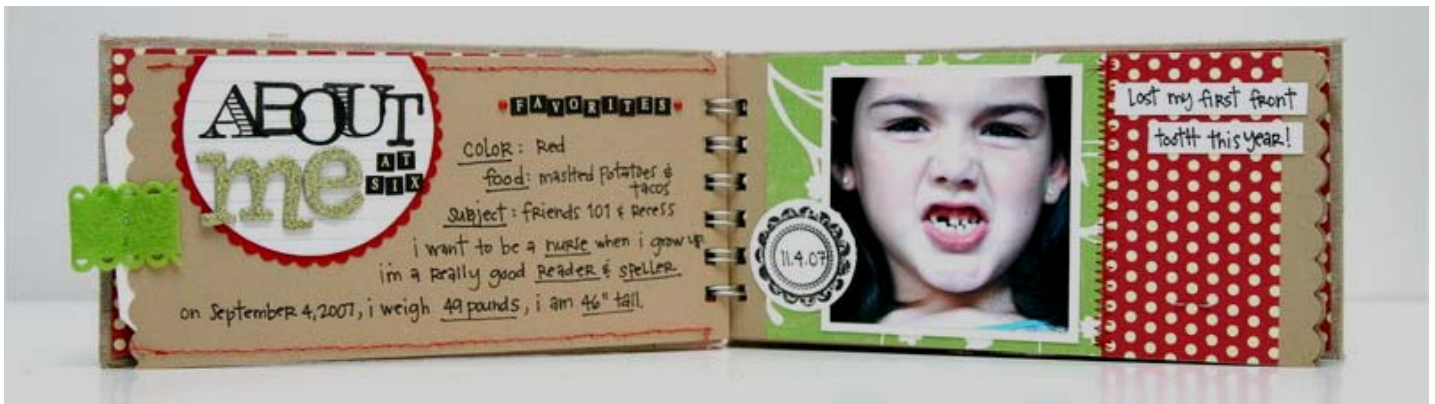
2. Affix felt trim to accent left edge of photo.

*Note: if you don't have felt trim the Apron Lace border punch used on cardstock would work great!*

- Stamp scallop journaling note design onto white cardstock and punch with Seal of Approval Squeeze Punch.
- Stamp smaller scallop design (using Staz On ink) overlapping upper right edge of photo; embellish center of stamp with a button.
- Add another green button just to the lower right of the stamped embellishment.  
Add a bit of notebook paper to the lower right of page to jot down school info, teacher name, age, etc.

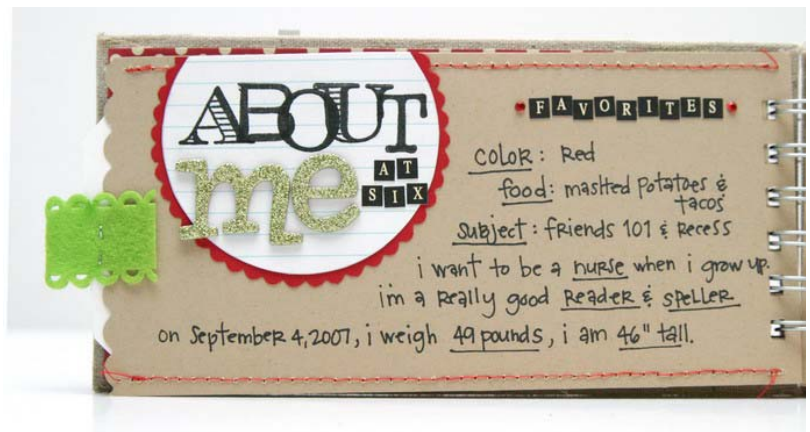


- Kick this page design up a notch by creating a pocket with TWO of the pages you precut. Trim one of the pages slightly shorter and punch with an oval or circle punch to create a notch in the end. Stitch (or use a thin bead of glue/adhesive) along the top and bottom edge of the page to secure the pocket. Add a tag for your child to add their own memories of the school year.



1. Cut a 3" circle from notebook patterned paper and mount it onto red cardstock. Trim around the circle with Scallop Paper Edgers to create a scallop matted edge.

2. Add this to the page toward the upper left hand corner. Trim off a portion of the top edge of the circle (about 1/2" to 1")



3. Create title "ABOUT ME at six" on the circle using a mix of stamps, chipboard letters and small alphabet stickers. Then journal favorites, memories, and child's stats on the page.



1. Add two bits of patterned papers (large piece is 3 3/4" x 4 1/2"; smaller piece is 3 3/4" x 2") to the page and zig zag stitch along seam where papers meet.

2. Add a 2 3/4" square photo (matted on white cardstock) to the larger section of paper. Add a stamped/punched circle to the lower left corner of photo to record date.

3. Journal on strips of white cardstock and affix to the upper right hand corner of the page.



*TIP! Create a mirror image design that flows nicely across a two page spread. It's simple, it's striking and it's super quick!*

1. Attach 3" x 4" matted photos toward inside/binding end of the page.
2. Cut two - 2 ½" x 3 ¼" pieces of patterned paper and punch with Corner Punch to round the two outside corners. Add to the end of the photo.
3. Add a ¾" x 3 ½" contrasting strip of patterned paper vertically to cover the seam where the paper block and photo meet.
4. On the left page, add a chipboard title and subtitle (mounted on a white cardstock tab—create this by rounding the upper two corners of a ½" x 2 ¾" strip of cardstock).



5. On the right page add a scallop journaling note design (punched with Seal of Approval Squeeze Punch) to the upper right portion of the page.



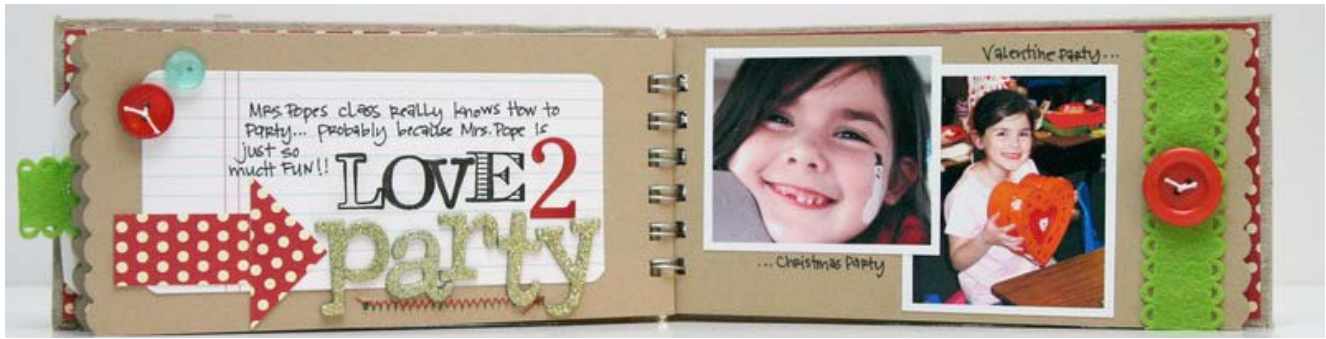
1. Cut paper (green) to 2" x 5" and punch two corners with Round the Corner corner punch.
2. Cut a strip of notebook style paper about 1" x 5" and punch two corners with Round the Corner corner punch.
3. Add the two pieces to the left side of the page fitting the straight sides together.



4. Add a strip of  $\frac{1}{2}$ " x  $3\frac{1}{2}$ " strip of accent paper (red) and a tied button to finish the look.  
*Tip: If you need more room for journaling just switch the paper styles.*



5. Now work on the right side page. First cut strips of patterned paper and add to the lower right of the page (red is 1" x  $6\frac{1}{2}$ "; green is  $\frac{1}{2}$ " x 2"). Trim one edge of papers with decorative Paper Edgers. Stitch a section of the lower paper strip with a zig zag contrasting thread.
6. Add photo (3" x 4") and flower to lower right corner of photo. Stamp title to left of photo.



1. Cut notebook style paper to about 2 ¾" x 6" and punch corners with Round the Corner Squeeze Punch. Add paper to center of page.

2. Add title with chipboard letters, sticker (2) and stamps.

3. Punch a square (red paper) with the Chip Off the Old Block XLarge Squeeze Punch and cut it diagonally. Cut a 7/8" x 1 ½" piece of red paper. Assemble these two pieces to the left of the title to create an arrow.



4. Finish embellishing page with buttons and add journaling.

5. Keep the right side simple on this page to balance the busier design on the left. Just add photos and a bit of felt trim topped with a button.



1. Another simple page featuring two photos. Just add a title/journaling block (1 ½" x 2 ½") with stamped title. Jazz it up with gems and alphabet stickers.



*note: Notice anything familiar about this page? It's a repeat of the first page design- repeating designs in a book is a great way to re-use a fun layout and keep a consistent look in your mini book.*

2. Add photo to right side of page and accent edge of photo with felt trim.

3. Cut a 2" x 3" piece of notebook paper for a journaling block; punch two left corners with Round the Corner corner punch; add flush to lower left side of photo.

4. Stamp smaller scallop design (using Staz On ink) overlapping upper left edge of photo; embellish center of stamp with a tied button. Finish by adding another button just to the lower left of the stamped embellishment.

This is such a fun project and one that your kiddo would love to help with too! You can add as many pages as you'd like to create your book. Have your child add their own memories, handwritten, of course! Perhaps you could have them sign their name (if you're working current) or find a paper that has their printed name from that particular grade. If you are lacking photos from a particular year, no problem! Include a self portrait, report cards (scan and reduce the size) or even scan and print images from the year book. You could even use a portion of some of the artwork or papers as a background on your pages. You'll feel as accomplished as you're an A+ student after completing this cute mini memory book!