THE RUBIN TALES: BOOKBINDING

MATERIALS

1. Paper (white and/or color, ruled or unruled)
2. Cardboard or other thick paper material x 2
3. Yarn
4. Hole punch
5. Shears/scissors
6. Wooden dowel, stick, or chopstick
7. Rubber bands, medium thick (⅛ inch), about 2½ inches long
8. (Optional) fabric and glue

ABOUT

Build a book to tell your transcendent tales! Our May project involves the ancient art of bookbinding, reminding us of the Rubin’s exploration of the Second Buddha Padmasambhava’s legacy of storytelling. Just as Padmasambhava left great writings to find in the future, you can create your own journal for great writings in the future.
INSTRUCTIONS
VERSION 1: CLOTH COVER

Step 1
Optional first step: Cover both pieces of cardboard with fabric and glue in place.

Step 2
Punch 3 holes in left side of the cardboard pieces.

Step 3
Punch 3 holes in the left side of several sheets of paper cut the same size or slightly smaller than the covers. The sheets can be ruled or unruled, and use many as fits comfortably for you (10, 20, 30). Place the sheets between the covers so the holes all align.

Step 4
Cut an arm’s length of yarn.

Step 5
Thread yarn through the holes in the cardboard and paper, fastening the paper and the two covers together.
INSTRUCTIONS
VERSION 2: COVERED NOTE PAGES

Step 1
For the pages, fold sheets of note paper (ruled or unruled) in half.

Step 2
For the covers, measure and cut two pieces of construction paper or cardstock, cut the same size or slightly larger than the inside sheets.

Step 3
Place the folded pages between the two covers, with the fold on the left side. Punch 2 holes, evenly spaced, on the left side.

Step 4
Place a bamboo stick or chopstick along the left side of the front cover, over the holes. If the stick is too long, trim it with garden shears. Take one of the rubber bands, loop one end around the stick near the top hole, then pull the other end of the rubber band through the top hole to the back cover.

Step 5
Pull the rubber band down the back cover and through the bottom hole, then loop the end of the rubber band around the stick. The stick and rubber band will hold the covers and pages together!
INSTRUCTIONS
VERSION 3: MULTI-COLORS

Step 1
Take 5 or 6 sets of different colored paper, 5 or 6 pages each. Fold each set of paper in half lengthwise.

Step 2
At the folded edge, snip off the top and bottom corners by making a small diagonal cut.

Step 3
Join two sections by placing them next to each other. Take one of the rubber bands and place it around the joined sections, in the middle, so the second half of the first set and the first half of the second set are joined.

Step 4
Repeat—join the first half of the third set to the second half of the second set with a rubber band. The top and bottom notches help hold the rubber band in place. Continue until all sets are joined.