

# Ames Public Library @HOME Activities

## Quilts

Quilts are warm bedcovering made by stitching three layers a top, padding or batting, and backing together with thread. Quilts were also a way to reuse old fabric to make something beautiful. To learn more see a related video on the Library's YouTube Channel at <http://bit.ly/APLvideos>.

### Books and Media:

Title	Author / Performer	Call Number
<i>The Quilt Story</i>	Johnston, Tony	E JOH
<i>Eight Hands Round: A Patchwork Alphabet</i>	Paul, Ann Whitford	E PAU
<i>Show Way</i>	Woodson, Jacqueline	E WOO
<i>Art Lab for Kids: 52 Creative Adventures in Drawing, Painting, Printmaking, Paper, and Mixed Media-For Budding Artists of All Ages</i>	Schwake, Susan	J 702.8 SCH
<i>The Quilting Bee</i>	Gibbons, Gail	J 746.46 GIB
<i>The Seasons Sewn: A Year in Patchwork</i>	Paul, Ann Whitford	J 746.46 PAU
<i>Kids Can Quilt: Fun and Easy Projects for Your Small Quilter</i>	Stapleton, Dorothy	J 746.46 STA
<i>Quilting</i>	Stroms, Biz	J 746.46 STO
<i>Pieces: A Year in Poems &amp; Quilts</i>	Hines, Anna Grossnickle	J 811 HIN
<i>The Underground Railroad for Kids: From Slavery to Freedom with 21 Activities</i>	Carson, Mary Kay	J 937.7 CAR
<i>Sew It!</i>	Nicoll, Allison	e-book

### Websites:

URL	Notes
<a href="https://quiltmuseum.org/">https://quiltmuseum.org/</a>	<i>This museum has some amazing quilts in their collection.</i>

## Take Away Kit: Quilt

### Bag Contents:

- 1 – Four patch quilt square
- 1 fabric marker

To learn more about quilts and this week's activity watch the @Home Activity video on the Library's YouTube Channel at <http://bit.ly/APLvideos>.

For this week's activity you can design your own special quilt pattern on the four patch provided, use the fabric marker to draw a pattern, and add interesting details to make your very own quilt block.

Quilts are made by cultures all over the world. In America quilts have deep historical roots, and some of the blocks have special meaning as well. For instance, the enslaved people who were escaping slavery used specific quilt patterns to communicate among themselves. Some of the patterns used were:

Monkey Wrench – Get ready and gather tools needed

Log Cabin – Safe House

North Star – Follow the North Star

Tumbling Boxes – Pack up and get ready to go

Quilts are also made to celebrate special events like weddings, graduation, and anniversaries. A special quilt block could be designed to mark an event that would be put together to form a quilt. Quilting can also be a social activity, for instance Quilting Bees are social gatherings where participants meet and make quilts together.

## Vocabulary

Applique – This is cutting out fabric pieces and attaching them to another fabric in the shape of a design.

Backing – Fabric used on the back of a quilt. Linen and cotton are most commonly used.

Batting / wadding – A layer kept between the quilt top and the backing to give a quilt dimension and extra warmth.

Block – The individual units with which the quilt is made, they can be made in different sizes, designs, and fabrics.

Borders – A quilt top usually has a border that is sewed on to the main quilt.

Chain piecing – This is an easy way to stitch patch work pieces for a quilt – with this method of sewing the fabric pieces are sewn without cutting the thread in between. This method saves time and is a fast way to put together a quilt.

Four patch – A popular quilt block made by joining four equal sized square fabric pieces.

Layout of a quilt – Arrangement of quilt blocks to form the whole quilt unit.

Patchwork – The stitching technique in which you join different sizes and shapes of fabric pieces to form a design.

Piecing – Stitching various fabric pieces together to create a big piece of fabric.

Quilt sandwich – This is the term for the three layers that make up a quilt: the quilt top, batting, and backing.

Tying – This is another way to hold the quilt sandwich together. The quilt sandwich is tied in spaced intervals all over the quilt, instead of making quilting stitches all over.

Source: *Quilting vocabulary: What you need to know before you start making quilts.*  
Retrieved from <https://sewguide.com/quilting-vocabulary-terms/>