

“Magic” Reading Carpets

education.01

Creating a “Magic” reading carpet is a great way to excite young students and encourage them to read.

Volunteers working with older youth will create “magic” reading carpets that will be used in elementary classes, school libraries and multi-purpose rooms.

Suggested Age Group: children, teens

Suggested No. of Volunteers: 5-7

Skill Level: Easy, Moderate

Prep Time: 30 min

Activity Time: 1-3 hours



Hands On
NETWORK

Recipe

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Materials Needed:

- Children’s books
- 3’ x 5’ cotton rugs
- Primer (for darker carpets)
- Small light colored carpets (2’ x 2’ or 2’ x 4’)
- Drop cloth or butcher paper to cover painting areas
- Permanent markers
- Roller brush/roller cage for primer

Prep Instructions:

1. Cover paint area with drop cloth or butcher paper.
2. Place all the materials you will use for the project on the table, so that youth will be able to clearly see all the materials available for painting their carpets.

Activity Instructions:

1. Youth and volunteers use permanent markers to draw images directly onto carpets.
2. Children’s books can be used for inspiration. Volunteers should encourage youth to think of images that will inspire younger students to read.
3. After sketching out images volunteers and/or youth can paint the images, using any or all of the paint and additional art supplies and materials.
4. Use glitter pens, paint sponges, glitter, and markers.

*** If you are unable to find light colored carpet, darker carpets can be primed the day before for this project. If there are a large number of carpets to be primed, you will find it helpful to purchase more than one roller brush and roller cage.**