



Make your own faux-watercolor card and brighten someone's day! This is a fun and easy craft that uses items you probably already have. Teen Librarian Hallie will show you all the steps to make your own card. Remember, this doesn't have to be perfect! Your special someone will just be happy to have a handmade card!

Gather your supplies:

- cardstock/thick paper
- Sharpie or printed quote
- washable markers
- ziploc/plastic bag
- spray bottle and water
- napkin

Step 1: You can use a printer to print a phrase on a card or hand write something yourself. Make sure to use cardstock or a heavier paper and black permanent ink. I decided to make a card to send to my best friend so I wrote "I miss you" in black Sharpie on a piece of folded cardstock. I trimmed the cardstock some to make sure it would fit into the envelope I had.



Step 2: Place the plastic bag directly on top of the card.



Step 3: Color directly on the plastic bag. Use several different colors and color in sections. Since you can see your card through the bag, you can make sure the colors will cover the surface of the card. Don't worry if the colors on the plastic bag are hard to see, they will be bolder on your paper. Make sure to use washable markers so the colors will run once you use the spray bottle.



Step 4: Use your spray bottle to very lightly spray water directly onto the colors on the plastic bag. You need very little water for this step. Flip the plastic bag over so the water and color side is face-down and place it onto your design. Lightly press the colors into the paper and smooth down the water. The colors will start to blend immediately. You can blend them as much or as little as you want.



Step 5: Peel up the plastic bag. You can reposition the plastic bag again on the paper if you have blank spaces where you want more color. Look for areas where there is still a lot of water (like where my finger is pointing) and blot those with a napkin.



Step 6: Use a napkin to blot areas with excess water. You can also use the napkin to add texture and redistribute color throughout the print. Wipe off the plastic bag with the napkin and you can reuse the same plastic bag for another print.



Step 7: Step back and admire your creation while letting it dry. Send it to a friend to make them smile!