



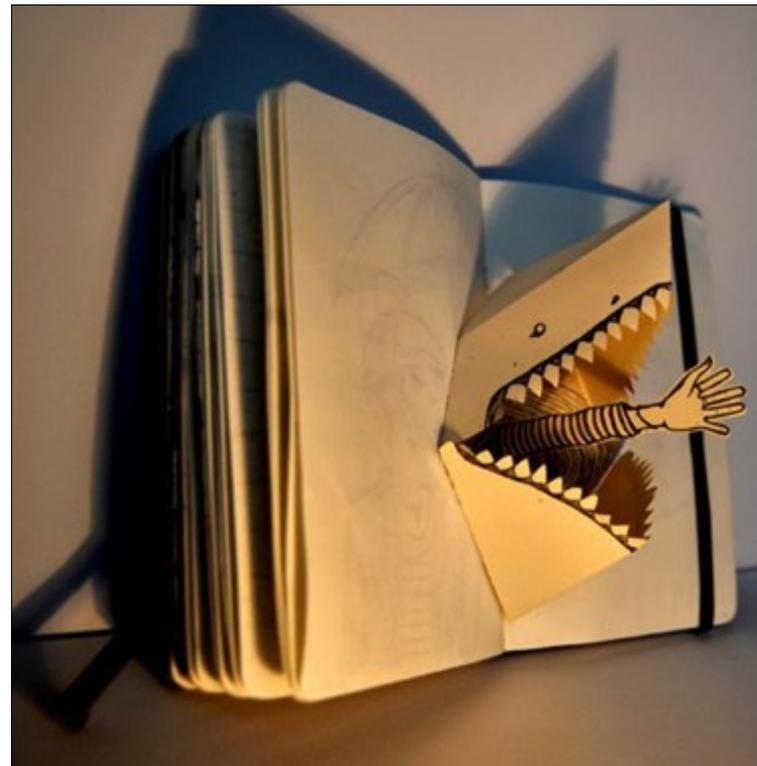
# Story Book Sculptures

Created by Eve Williams Creative Learning & Public Programs Officer  
Devonport Regional Gallery



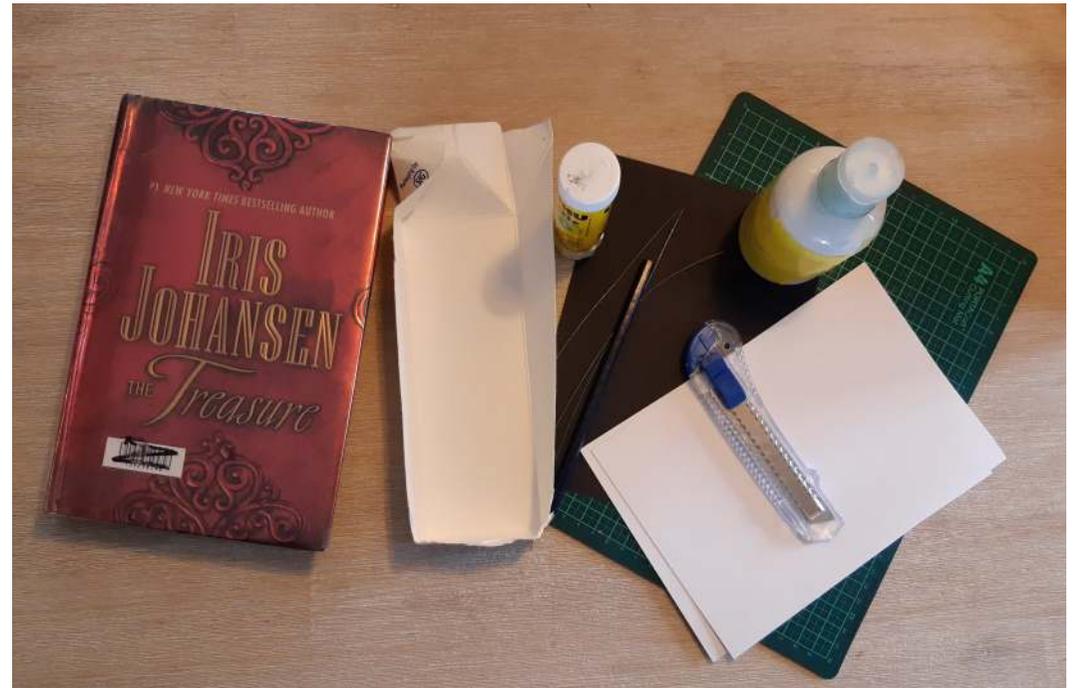
# Task:

Create a sculptural art piece based on a story you love using an old recycled book as your material to construct it and/ or display it. You could create it from the books pages and/or display it in/ on a book.



# You Will Need:

- An old book that you can cut up (available in art packs from the gallery)
- Scissors and/ or cutting knife and cutting matt
- Glue (PVA/ Glue Stick) and Paper Mache glue (optional)
- Pencil (optional)
- Paint. Coloured pencils etc. (optional)
- Black fine liner (optional)
- thick card stock or cardboard from milk container or cereal box
- Additional paper if needed
- Thin bendable wire (optional)
- Foil for creating figures and objects to Paper Mache over (optional)



Examples of others...

## Su Blackwell

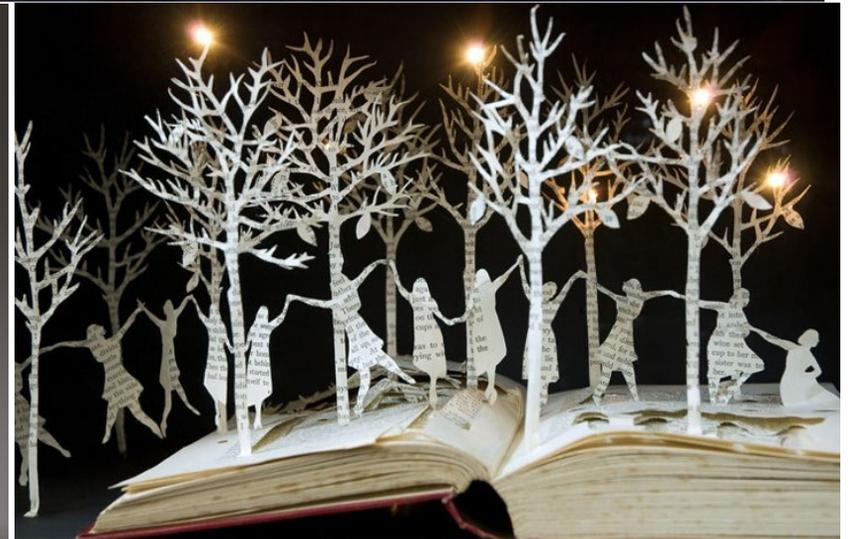


Established UK artist SU Blackwell creates intricately paper cut book sculptures depicting fairy-tale-like scenes. You can read her artists statement and see more of her work [here](#).



# Examples of others...

More of artist Su Blackwell's work...



Examples of others...

## Ana Botezatu

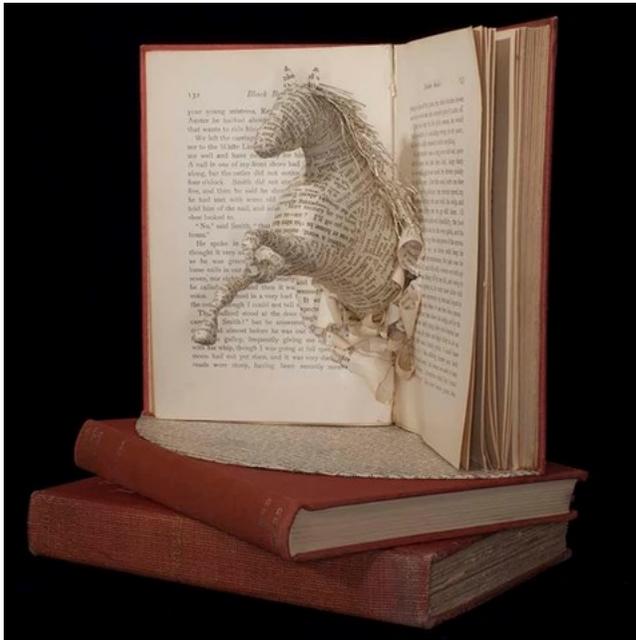


The pop-up book art of Berlin Illustrator: Ana Botezatu...

Notice the way Botezatu has done two dimensional drawings which she has cut out and stuck in standing up to create a three dimensional effect.

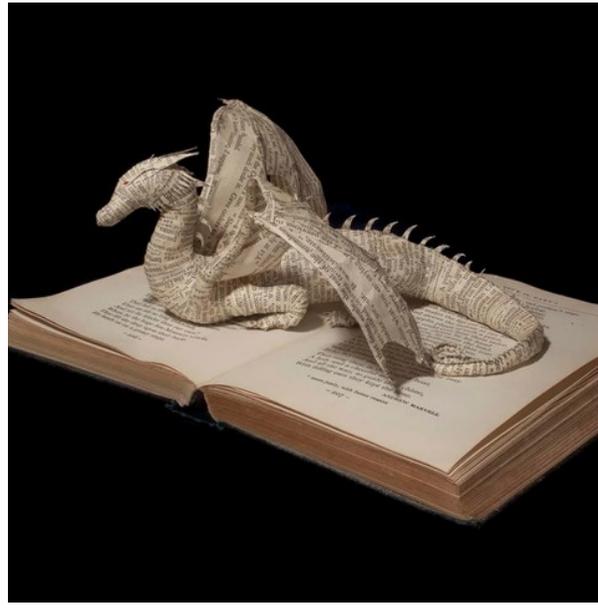


Examples of others...  
**Emma Taylor**



*The pop-up book art of Book sculpture artist: Emma Taylor.*

Taylor creates three dimensional figures and objects that are displayed in and on books using pages from the book and Paper Mache.



## Examples of others...

Here is another example of a book sculpture similar to that of artist Emma Taylors style. You might like to create a three dimensional Paper Mache figure such as this one and cover it with pages from the book so it appears as if it is coming straight out of the book as though alive!



# Examples of others...

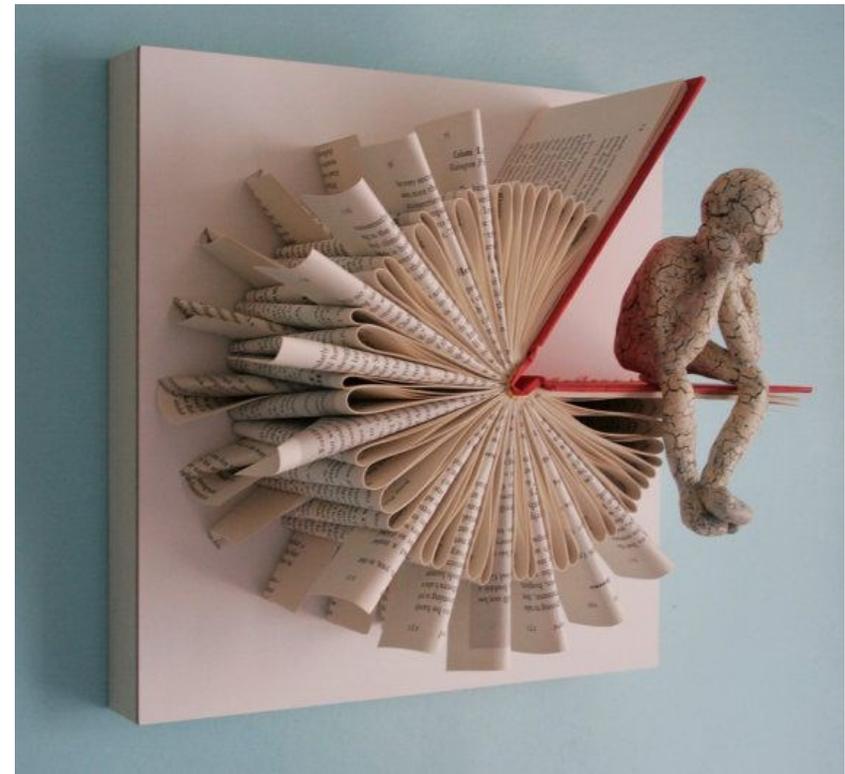


## Examples of others...

You might decide to use the cover of your book as the plinth as this artist has done here...



Here is another example of a different way of using your book to create a sculptural art piece.



## Examples of others...



An easy way to create your scene is to draw your figures on paper or pages from your book, cut them out and stick them standing upright into your book to create the illusion of depth as shown here.

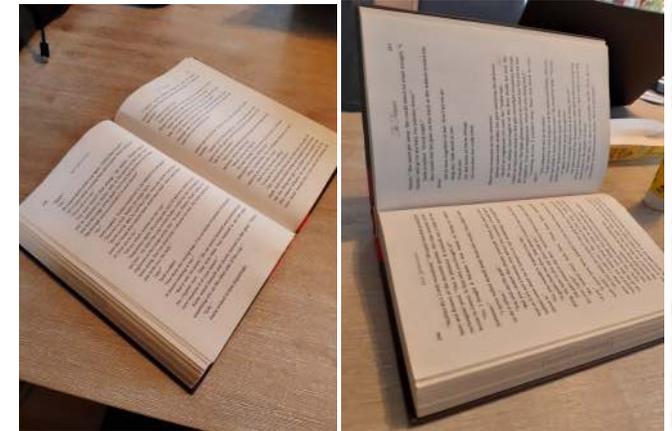




Quick idea sketch



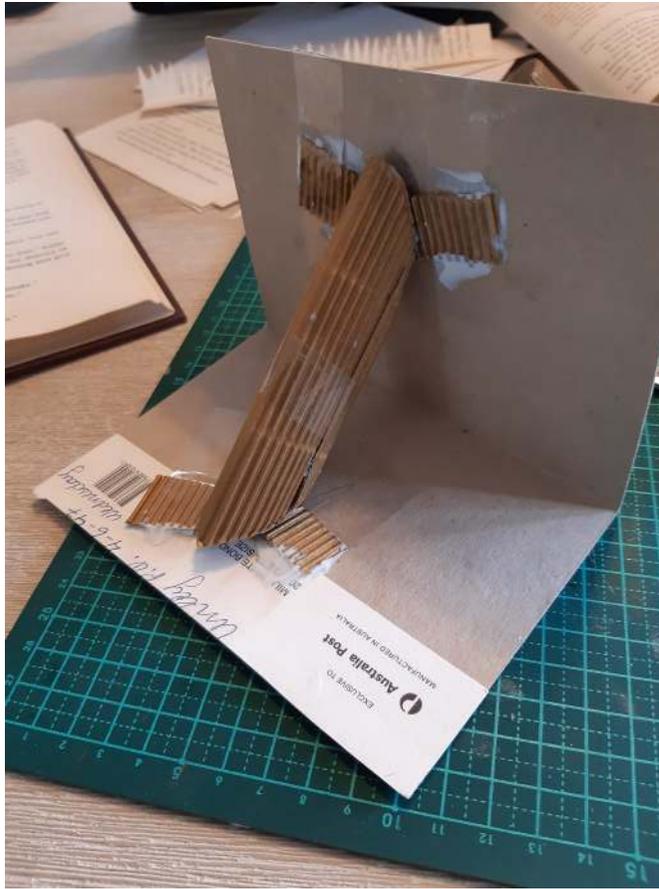
Three different ways to use your book



## Step 1:

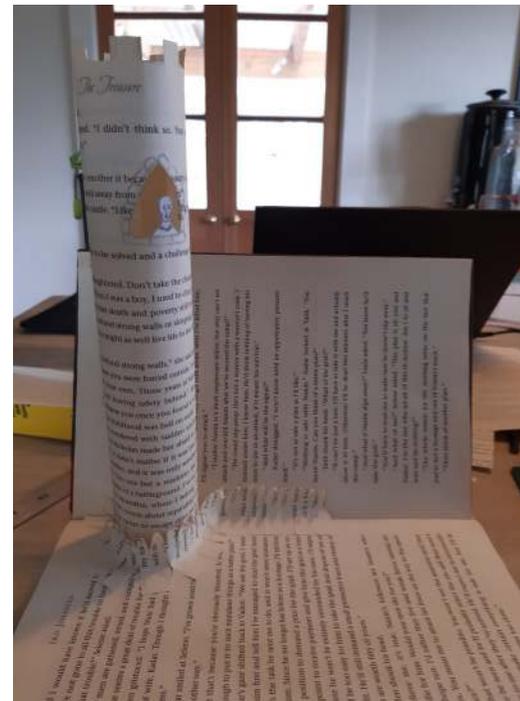
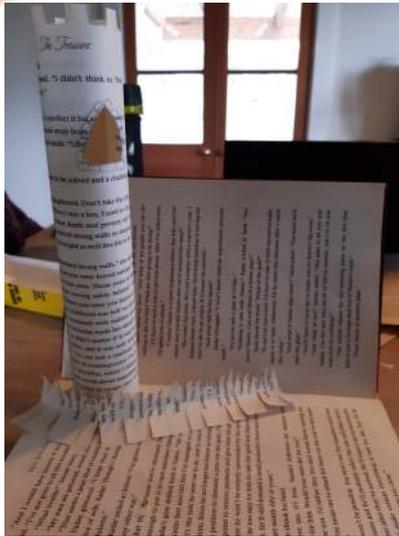
**Decide on a scene from a story you wish to recreate.**

Think about the characters and figures and their location/ background. Decide if you want to use your book cover as a plinth or to open up your book so pages are displayed. Look at your book and think about ways in which you could use it. It's a good idea to do some quick idea sketches first. You could use your book opened up and laying flat, closed as a plinth, or open with a stand behind to hold at a 90 degree angle in an upright position. *The following pages show one example of making a story book sculpture...*



## Making a stand (optional)

As I decided to use my book open on a 90 degree angle, I had to make a stand to hold the book open. A heavy object or book end can also be suitable for this job. I made my stand out of thick card and glue.



## Step 2:

### Create your figures and objects for your scene.

Once you have decided what you would like to create and how it will be displayed, this will determine how you go about creating your figures and objects.

- If you are creating three dimensional figures and objects to display in or on your book, you will need to create a supportive inner skeleton structure for your Paper Mache to go on. You can do this with foil, thick card, wire and sticky tape to create your shapes, then Paper Mache over. With paper and PVA glue.

or

- A simpler way to construct your figures and objects is to simply draw them on some pages from your book, cut them out, cut out folded tabs from card to support them and stick them in/ on your book.

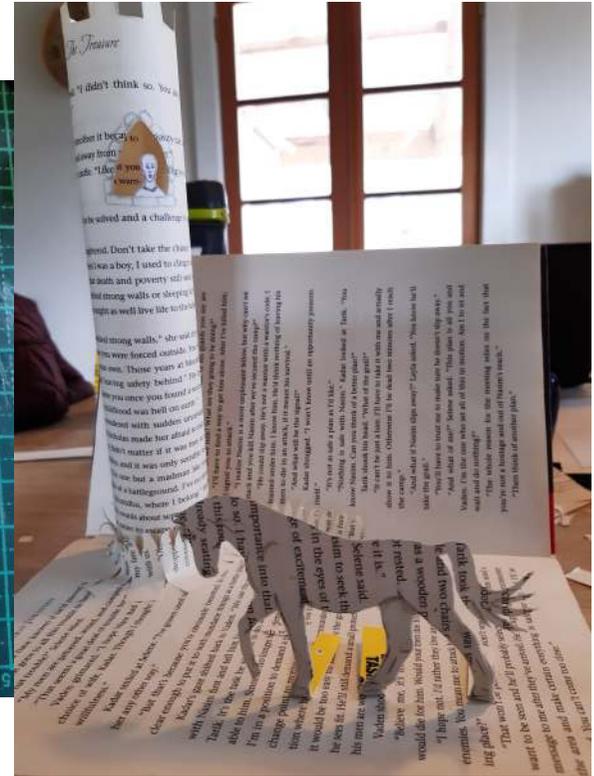
First I added the tower...

I glued my book pages down so they sat flat and how I wanted.

To construct the tower I rolled up some pages and stuck a card tab on the bottom. I stuck this to the book so it stood upright.

I then cut out some grass to put around the base of the tower and cut Rapunzel's head out of plain paper to show the face details and help it stand out against all the text.

Then I added the horse...



I found a simple picture of a horse I had and used it to trace onto a page from the book. I then cut this out.

I Glued on some thick card to the back and created some tabs that can be folded over to help it stand up (as pictured). A milk carton or cereal box cardboard works well for this.

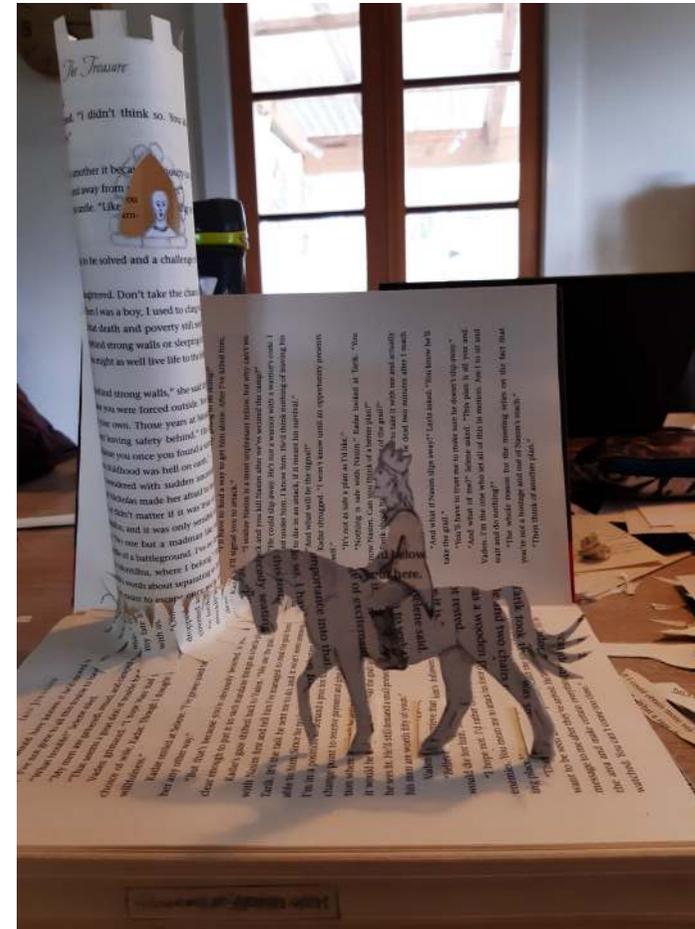
### Step 3: Putting it all together.

Once you have constructed your figures and objects, stick them onto your book to finish off your story sculpture creation! This can be done as you go along, creating each object and figure and placing them on your book as you go.

Next I added the prince...

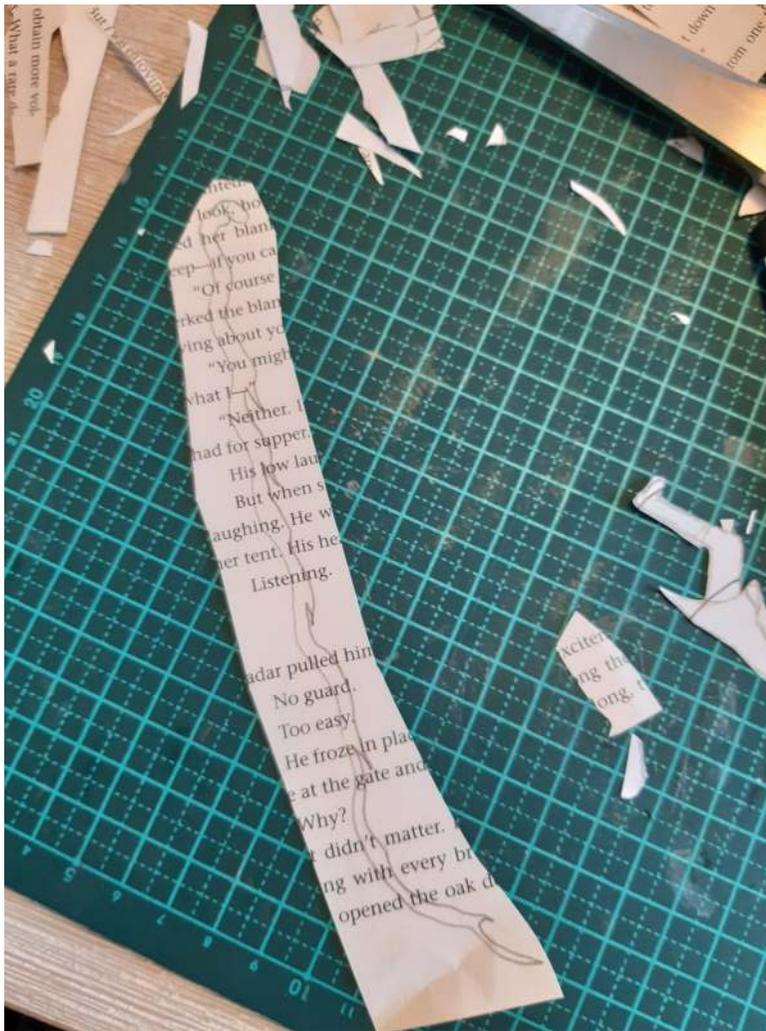


To get the prince's size and shape right I first drew him on the horse picture I had used then cut him out, glued him onto a book page and cut it out again.

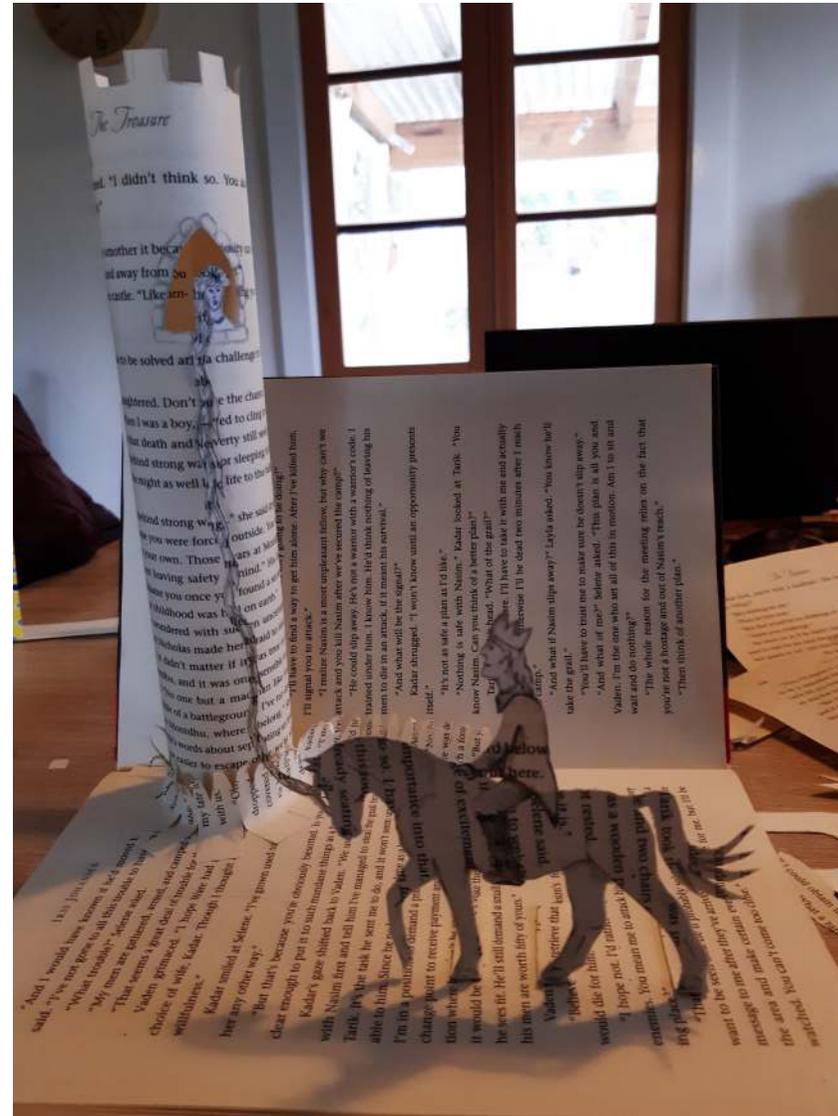


I left the prince's head on plain white paper so details of face can be seen. His head was glued onto his body then he was glued onto the horse.

Next I added Rapunzel's hair...



I drew the shape onto a book page...

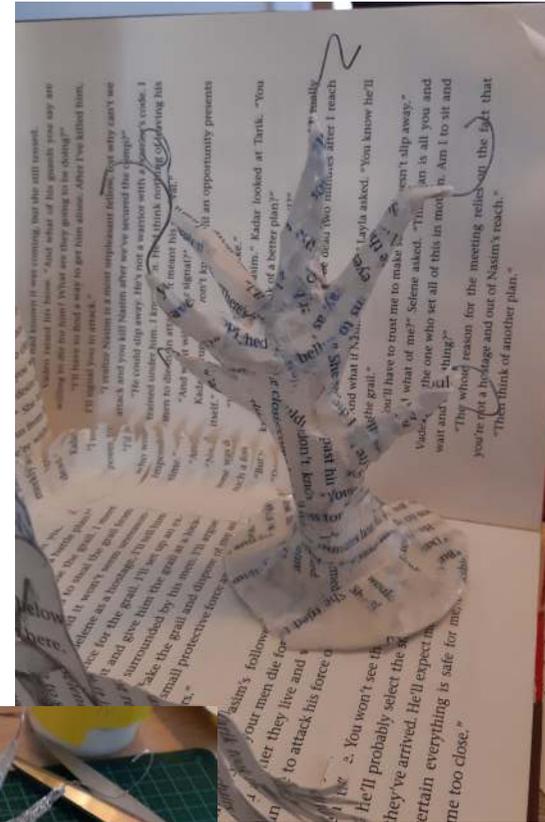


Cut it out and stuck it on.

Lastly I made a tree...



I used foil, wire and sticky tape and bent them into the shape I wanted....



Then using pages from the book and PVA glue I covered the tree.



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HOME IS WHERE THE 'ART IS

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Open to anyone who has or who would like to create works as part of the on-line art workshops available at: [paranapleartscentre.com.au/devonport-regional-gallery/public-programs-creative-learning/](https://paranapleartscentre.com.au/devonport-regional-gallery/public-programs-creative-learning/)

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