

Creative Research Process

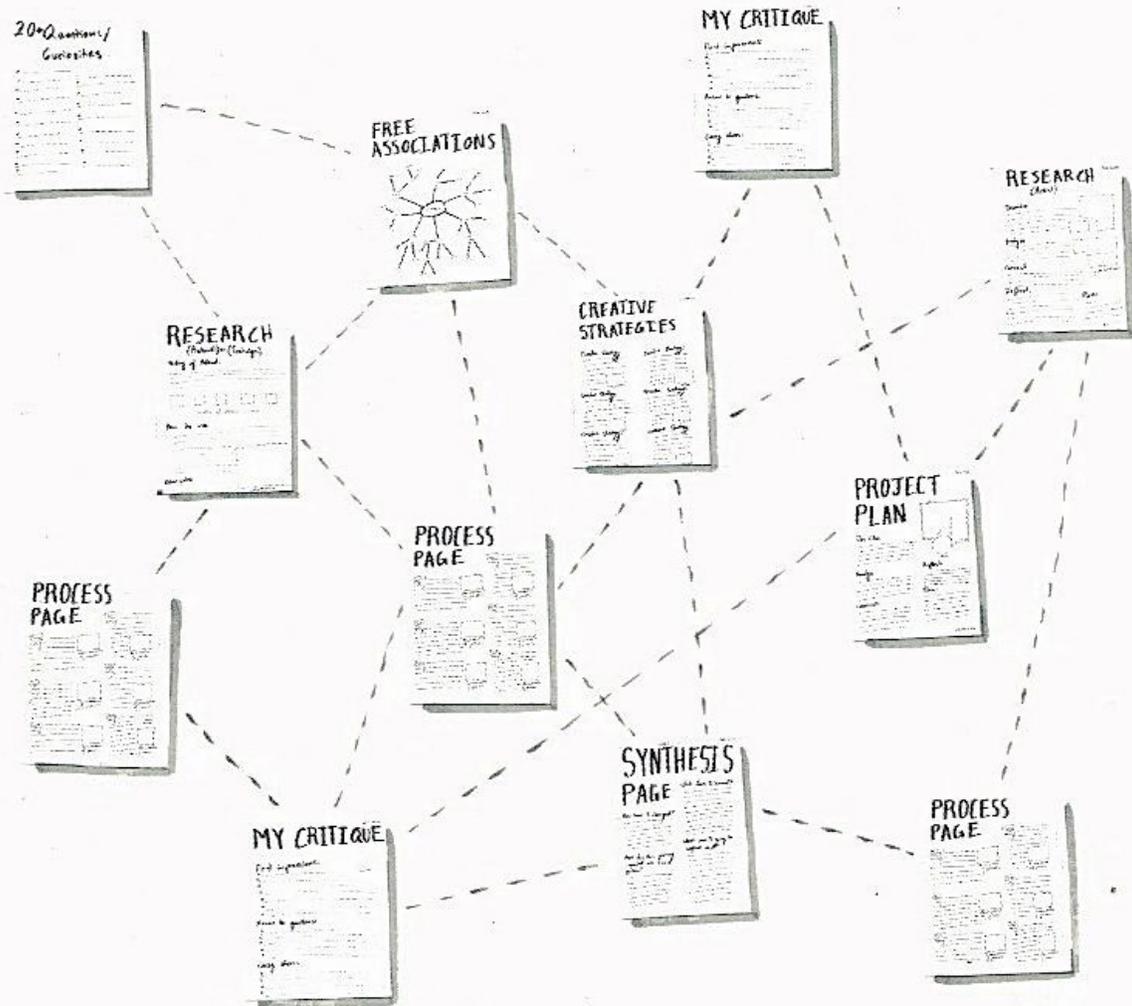
Student Guide



ILLUSTRATED BY MAGDA GOURINCHAS

Always iterative, but often non-linear for advanced learners

CREATIVE RESEARCH EVOLVED



*RESEARCH CYCLE IS TAUGHT STEP BY STEP,
BUT AS ARTISTS BECOME MORE ADEPT,
THEY ALTER, ADJUST, AND ADD TO THE
STEPS, RE-ORDER, DEVSING THEIR
OWN PROCESS

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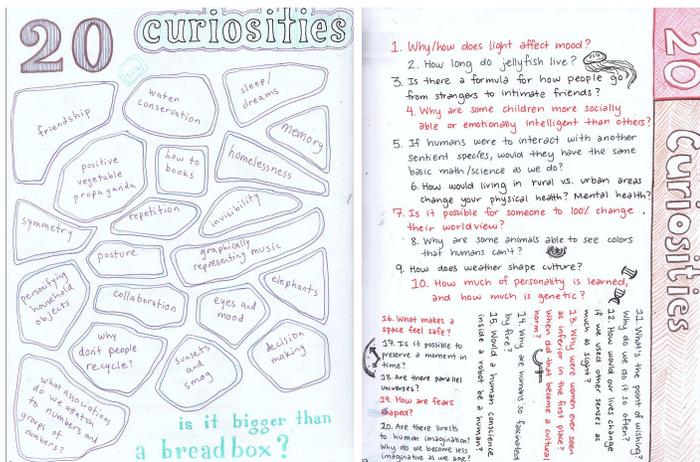
Curiosities Page

What is a curiosities page?

A curiosities page is where you list every possible topic that interests you. It a visual representation of what you want centralize you art around. This page helps you narrow down your interests.

Objectives

- Brainstorming ideas for research on an area of focus
- Can be used for investigations or individual projects
- Students will develop a deeper understanding of their interests



Guiding Questions

- What interests you?
- What confuses you?
- What inspires you?
- What do you think about a lot?
- What might you not get tired of?

Sentence Frames

- I am interested in _____.
- My favorite subject in school is _____, and I like how _____ challenges me.
- A political issue important to me is _____.
- I am curious about _____.
- An issue I want to solve is _____.

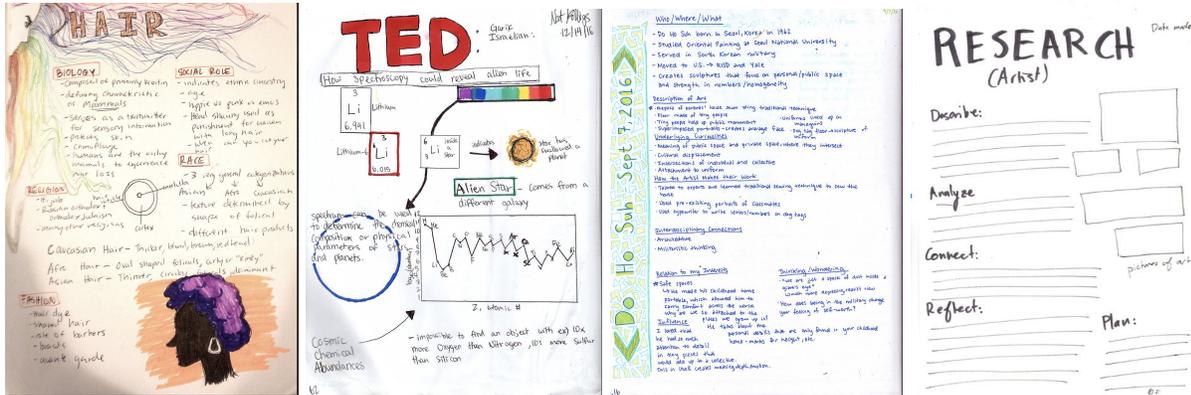
Research/DACRP Page

What is a research page?

This is the page where you investigate your subtopic. You could research anything from materials to artists, or it could be where you record an interview with an expert.

Objectives

- Preparing to create your art by understanding everything to do with your subtopic



Guiding Questions

- What do you need to research about your topic in order to create art about it?
- What confuses you about your topic?
- Is there a material you don't know how to use?

Sentence Frames

- _____ originates from _____.
- The first known use of _____ was for _____.
- Techniques for working with _____ are _____.
- The benefits/drawbacks of the materials are _____.
- One artist that uses this material is _____, and they do this by _____.
- An interdisciplinary connection to my subtopic is _____.
- One uses this material by _____.
- A useful tip when working with this material is _____.

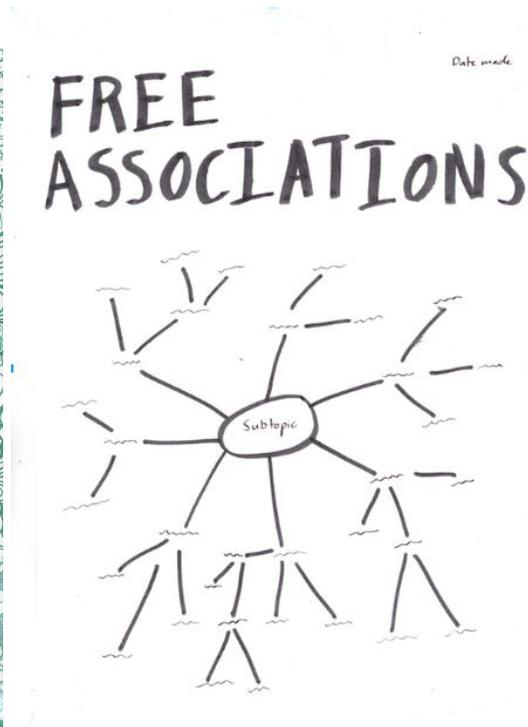
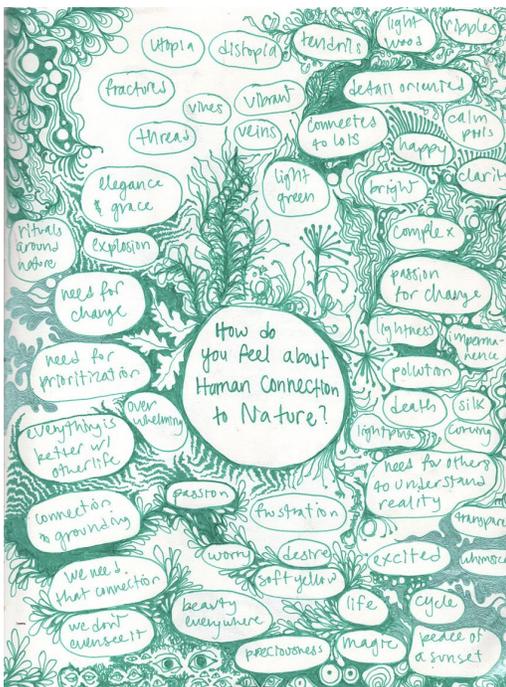
Free Association Page

What is a Free Association page?

This page is where you choose one subtopic from your subtopic page and brainstorm all possible associations with this subtopic. For example, colors, feelings, textures, smells, sounds are all possible connection for the subtopic. This page will help give you a better idea of what you want to create around this subtopic.

Objectives

- Understanding your topic more
- Getting an idea of what elements you want to add to your art



Guiding Questions

- How does your topic make you feel?
- What does your subtopic remind you of?

Sentence Frames

- When I hear my subtopic, I think of _____.
- Feelings I associate with my subtopic are _____.
- Materials I associate with my subtopic are _____.
- Textures/tastes/sounds/smells I associate with my subtopic are _____.

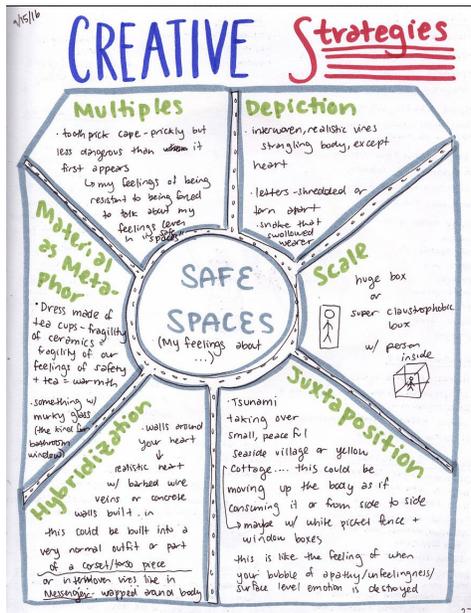
Creative Strategies Page

What is a Creative Strategies page?

This page will help you to clearly communicate your subtopic by giving you specific artistic strategies. Using 5 different strategies, you will come up with 5 different project ideas that will fulfill your subtopic. Creative strategies include material as metaphor, hybridization, replication, scale, juxtaposition, mimicry, intervention, interactivity, reformatting, miniatures, and time.

Objectives

- Brainstorming different ways to communicate your subtopic
- Learning intentional strategies to depict your subtopic



Guiding Questions

- What are ways in which I can communicate my subtopic?

Sentence Frames

- One thing essential to communicate my topic is _____.
- I want to use _____ method to communicate my subtopic through my art.
- Within my art, I want to compare _____.
- I can blend _____ and _____ to communicate subtopic.

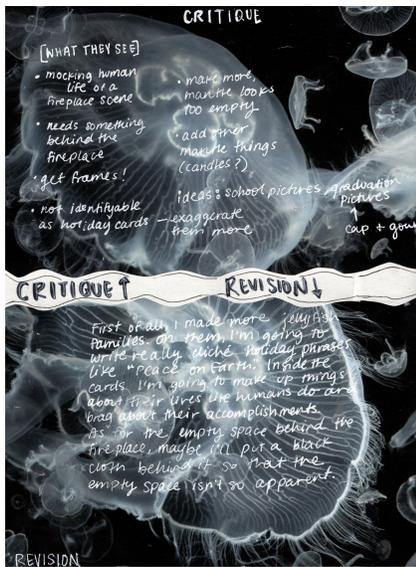
Process Critique Notes

What are process critique notes?

Here you will write notes from your process critiques with idea or suggestions as to how to help your classmates.

Objectives

- Get constructive criticism from your peers
- Problem solve issues you are having
- Build team working skills



Guiding Questions

- Have I communicated my subtopic clearly?
- What is missing from your research?
- How is your artwork coming together?
- What solutions do you have to solve problems you encounter?

Sentence Frames/Questions

- I need help with _____.
- One thing I don't know what to do with _____.
- What should I do next with _____?

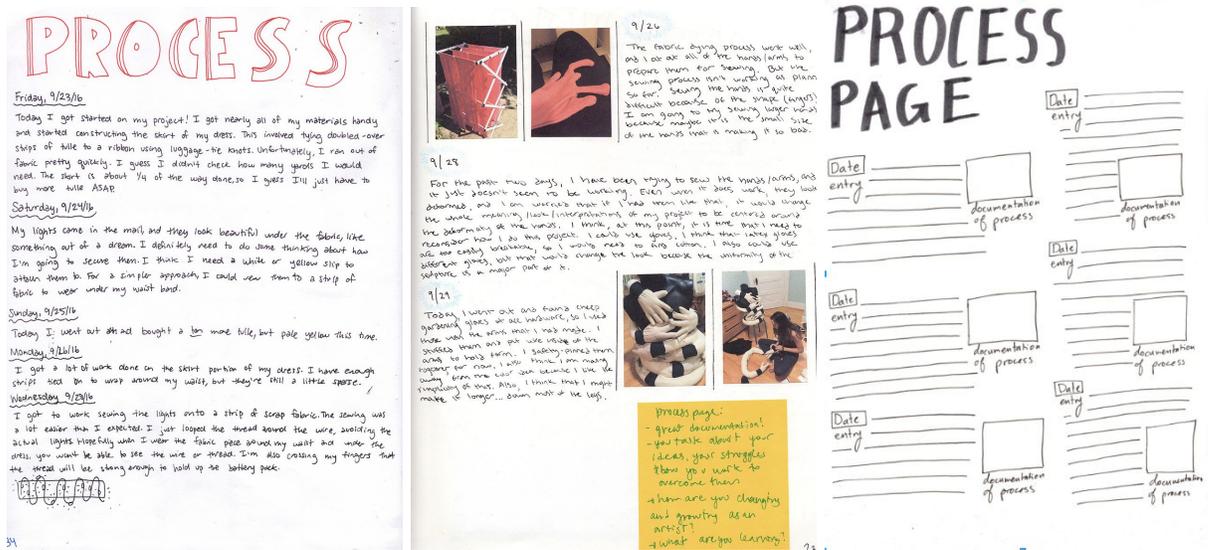
Process Journal

What is a process journal?

This page is where you will document your artistic process. Here you will write down any struggles, realizations and thoughts as your project progresses. Throughout one research cycle, you should do at least three of these in your workbook. You should also take photos of yourself in the process of making art in order to document your entire process.

Objectives

- Document your process using drawings or pictures
- Reflect on concerns about your piece and research
- Explore how your artistic voice is changing as you make art and do research
- Document materials



Guiding Questions

- How is your research shifting the way your project unfolds?
- What you learning about how your materials work?
- How is your understanding changing during the process?
- What is/isn't working?
- How is the artwork coming together?
- How is the process impacting your artistic goals and voice?

Sentence Frames

- I have struggled with _____.
- I worked on _____ today.
- I fixed _____ by _____.
- My art has evolved by _____.
- I have grown as an artist by _____.
- I learned _____.

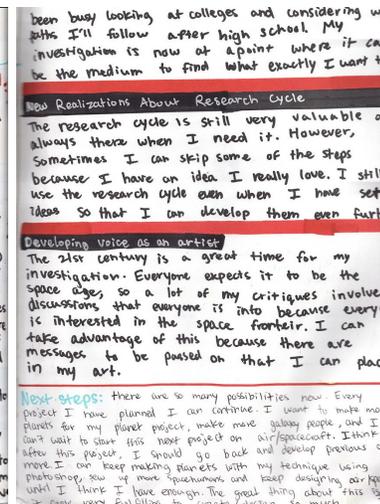
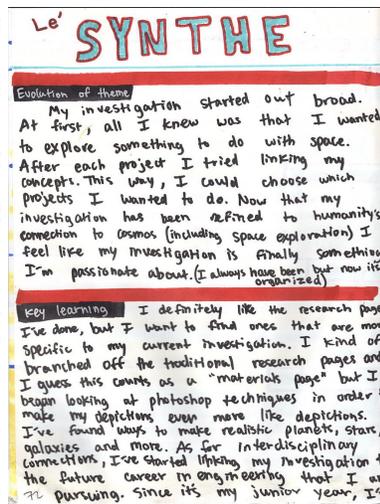
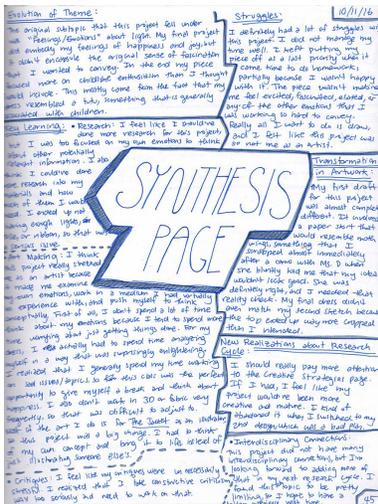
Synthesis Page(s)

What is a synthesis page?

Probably the most important stage of your learning, this is the final page in the research cycle. Ideally, it will take up two pages, including pictures, sketches, and writing. In this page, you will reflect deeply on your process. Review how the project impacted you and let you grow.

Objectives

- Looking back on what you've done so far in the project
- Coming to new conclusions from thinking/research
- Making new connections in your research
- Thinking of how old art can transform new art
- Reflecting on your growth as an artist and learner



Guiding Questions

- What was my initial goal?
- What did I learn along the way?
- Has this changed me as an artist/thinker?
- What do I want to explore next?

Sentence Frames

- My theme has evolved by _____.
- I learned _____ about the research process.
- Research critical to my work was _____.
- Interdisciplinary connections to my art include _____.
- I struggled with _____.
- My artwork transformed by _____.
- My work developed my voice as an artist by _____.