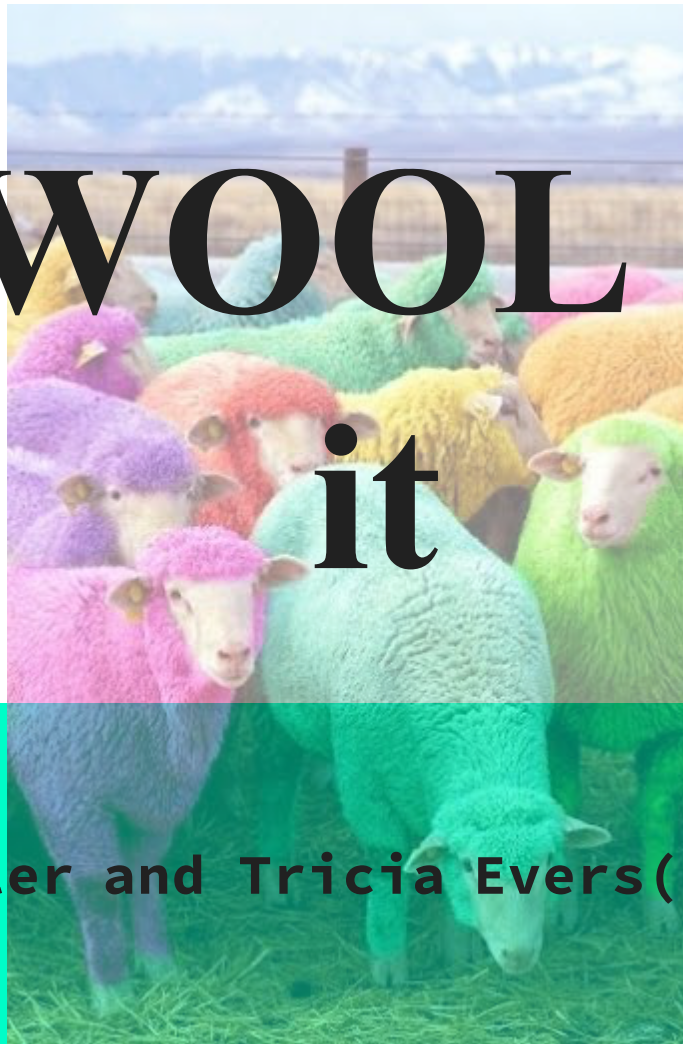


The WOOL DYE- it



Julie Miller and Tricia Evers (2 art nerds)

Intended Participants:

All age groups

Not all projects are for all ages- some of these procedures include heat or sharp objects

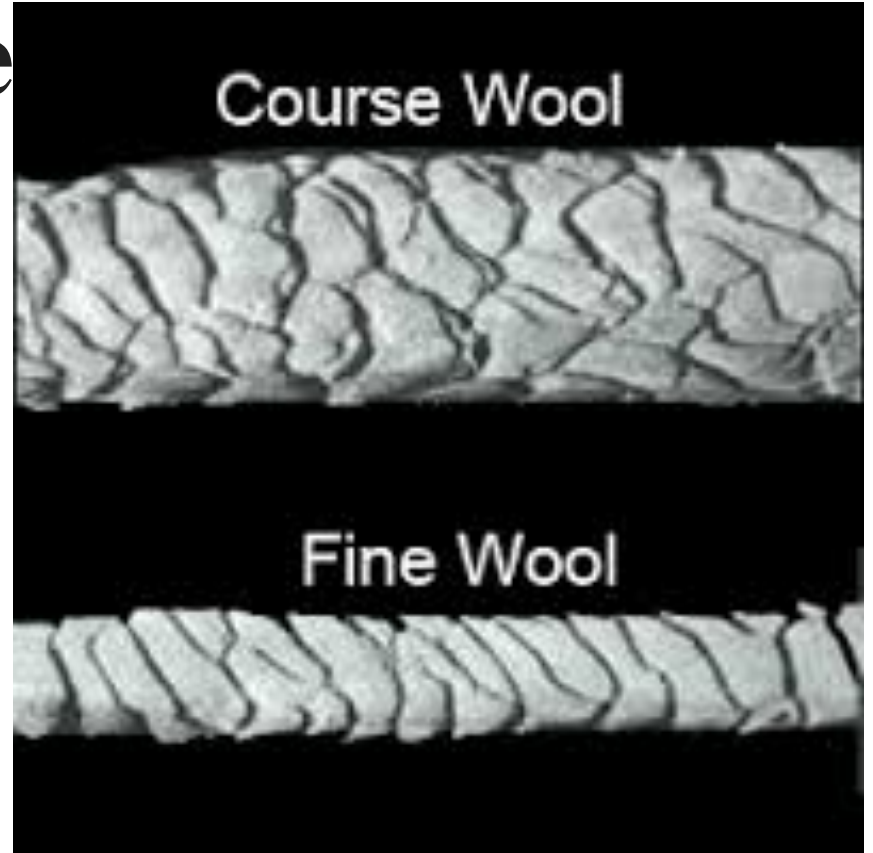
Keep in mind what is appropriate for your students and their abilities

Objective

To educate you, fellow art teachers, in the wonderful world of creating art with wool, we have assembled periodicals, tools, tricks, and techniques that we believe making working with this amazing resource fun, exciting, and different. Most students have never participated in an art experience with wool. Give them that chance!

Why is wool so great

Wool has a property unlike most fibers; the **scales** on the surface of wool allow it to magically hook to itself like velcro. If it didn't have this **surface texture**, we wouldn't be able to **felt**(verb) it. When we **felt**, we use heat, friction, and/or chemicals to hook those scales together to create a fabric called **felt** (noun).



The Mad Hatter- a little

A True Story...

In 18th and 19th century England, mercury was used in the production of felt, which was used in the manufacturing of hats common of the time. People who worked in these hat factories were exposed daily to trace amounts of the metal, which accumulated within their bodies over time, causing some workers to develop dementia caused by mercury poisoning. Thus the phrase “Mad as a Hatter” became popular as a way to refer to someone who was perceived as insane.

Archaeological evidence shows that far back in history, people discovered the tendency for fibers to mat together when warm and damp, even before they learned how to spin yarn. Some of the earliest evidence of using felt were in Turkey on wall paintings dated 3000 BC, and in a tomb in Siberia from the 5th century BC. Today Mongolian nomads live in felt tents called gers or yurts.



1st Process: Dyeing the Wool: ~~Materials~~

Wool

Kool-Aid

Hot water

spoon or old paintbrush

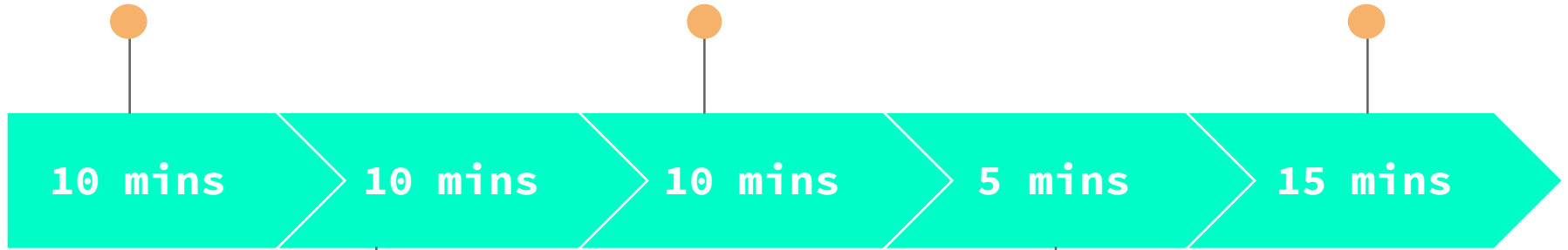
Heat source

Procedure:
Smell!
Color mixing!
Ooo!

Heat water for jars and hot water bath

Insert jar into hot water bath

Strain water from **wool**, and allow **wool** to cool



Assemble a jar with hot water, color choices of Kool-Aid, and **wool**

When dye has become **exhausted**, remove jar from hot water bath

Warning:

for the remainder of the procedures, you will need to card the wool you have just dyed in order for felting to happen. We like dog brushes or a drum carder for this process. Please proceed to the carding station Immediately.

Okay, now you can Proceed with the regularly scheduled weirdness

2nd Process:

Dry felting:

Materials

Wool

Felting needle

sponge or upholstery foam

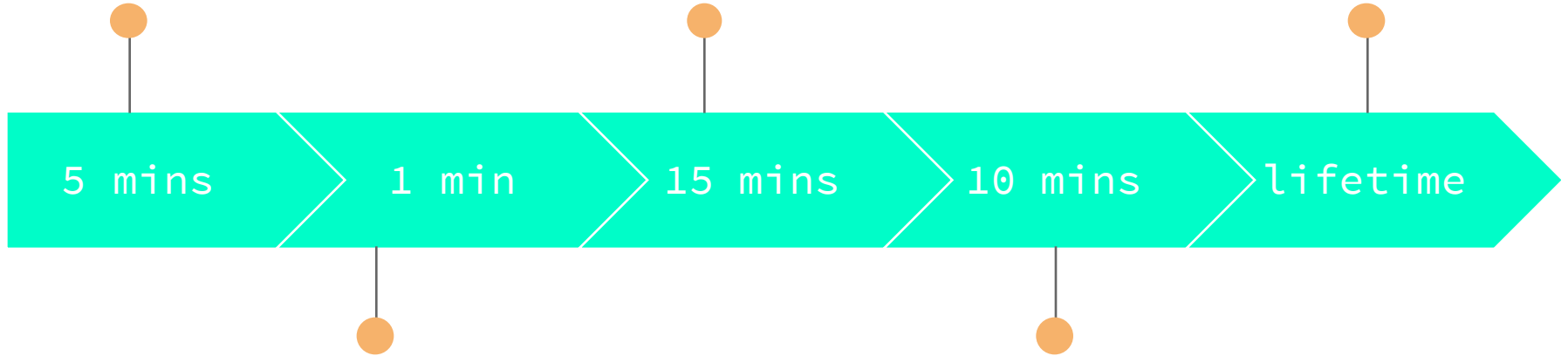
Procedure:

Poke, Poke, P

roll wool in a clump with your fingers

begin pushing needle through the wool and into the foam

use the felt you have made



place wool on the upholstery foam

turn the wool periodically to shape

3rd Process: Wet Felting: Materials

Wool

warm(as you can stand it) water

soap(dish soap in a pinch, but
Murphy's oil soap is the best)

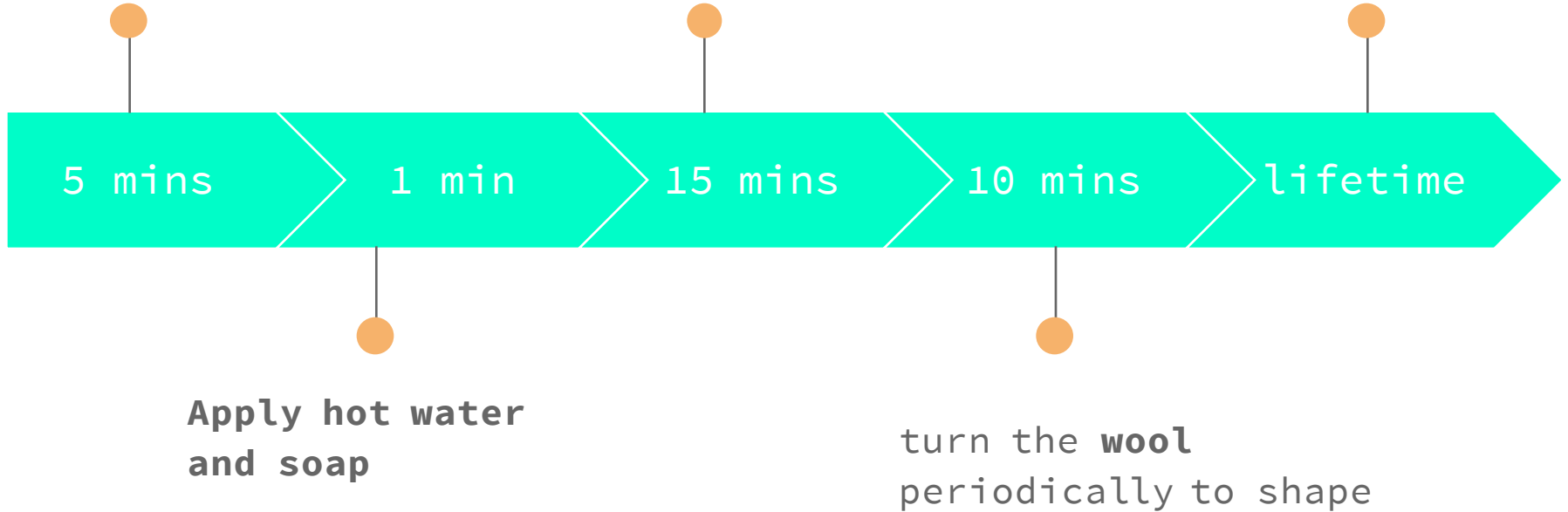
container, sushi mat, or form to
felt around

Procedure:
**It's all about the
friction, people!**

card wool or
start with
carded wool

Add **friction** to
hook those
scales together

use the **felt** you
have made



4th Process:

Machine

Felting:

Materials

washing machine

soap(dish soap in a pinch, but
Murphy's oil soap is the best)

form to felt around (plastic
containers, old cds, wood,bones,
legos etc.)

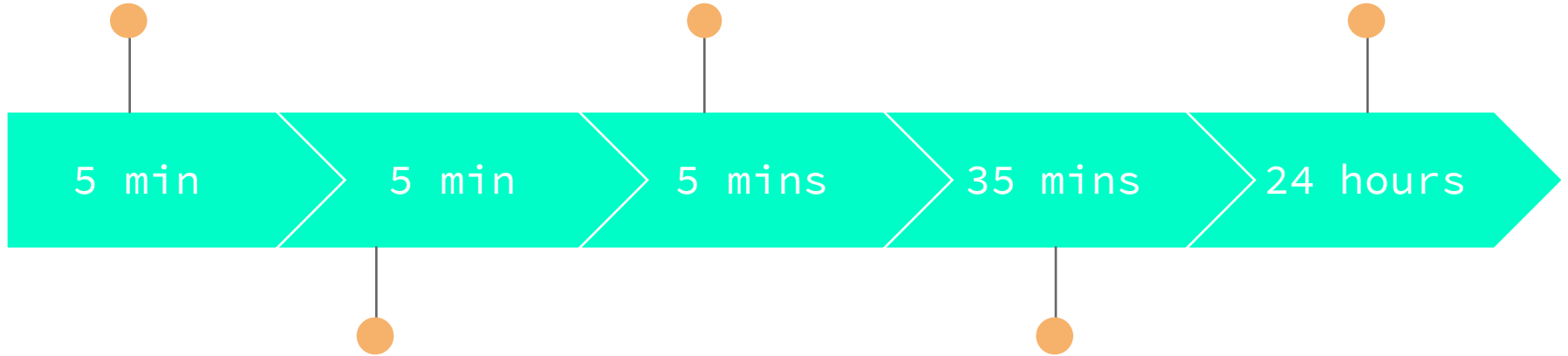
old nylon stocking or net material

Procedure:
Let the washer
do the work

card wool or
start with
carded wool

insert into a
nylon stocking
and tie closed

Untie and allow
felt to dry. Cut
strategically to
release form



Wrap **wool** around
form; use multiple
batts in different
directions

put stocking in the
washer on hottest
setting with some
Murphy's Oil
Soap: cold rinse

Vocabulary

Card(ing)-combing wool to make the fibers go in the same direction

Dye-a natural or synthetic substance used to add a color to or change the color of something.

Exhaust(ed)-use up (resources or reserves) completely.

Felt- wool that has been worked in such a way that its scales have hooked tightly together

Friction-the action of one surface or object rubbing against another.

Surface texture-how the outside part of something feels

Wool-the fine soft hair forming the coat of a sheep, goat, or alpaca, especially when shorn and prepared for use in making cloth or yarn.

Wool Batt- wool that has been carded

Resources

Courtney Woolen Mills-Wool

301 E Water St, Appleton, WI 54911

(920) 734-3447

Woodman's Grocery- Best resource for
Kool-Aid(lots of flavors and often on
sale!)

The Biography of Wool by Carrie Gleason

ISBN-13:978-0778725329

Charlie Needs a Cloak by Tomie DePaola

ISBN-13: 978-0671664671

Fibers by Irving and Ruth Adler

ISBN:978-0234771136

Woolbur by Leslie Helakoski

ISBN-13: 978-0060847265

Extra Information

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<https://www.pinterest.com/notjos3/felting/>

Felting music

Wooly Bully-

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KZJiGu6Gz8E>

Love never Felt so Good-

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oG08ukJPtR8>

Last time I felt like this-

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XF4slaNK9aA>

You can't pull the Wool Over my eyes-

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lVfvfeS7l4c>

Felt Good on my Lips-

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7lDMh3PSBAk>

Joan Jett- Wooly Bully

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YL7LdURzteI>

Felt Like Love-

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=v0h0acsEk50>

Dyed in the Wool-

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Rqs_sCc_uBQs