

The decorated initial H above is from a page in a book (on the left). An unknown French artist painted Inhabited Initial H in about 1170-1180.





Make your own bookmarks like these!

Hundreds of years ago books were made entirely by hand! An artist would paint the decorations on each page. Sometimes, they would paint fanciful designs or even entire stories in individual letters, like the ones you see above.

In this activity, you can make a bookmark with your own decorated letter inspired by those made for old books.

WHAT YOU'LL NEED:

Scissors, tape, cardstock or heavy paper, and something to color with (like crayons or markers).

WHAT TO DO:

Step 1 Cut your bookmark out from the next page. Or, for a sturdier bookmark,

cut out a rectangle of the same size from a piece of heavy paper or

cardstock.

Step 2 Choose a letter for your bookmark. You could choose a letter from a

person's name, maybe even yours!



Step 3	From the following pages, cut out the box with the letter you have

chosen, using the dotted lines to guide you.

Step 4 Glue the letter onto your bookmark and wait for it to dry.

Step 5 Decorate your letter! Take a look at the examples on the first page and

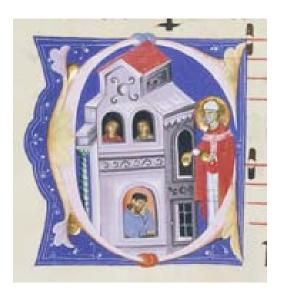
below to get ideas.

NEED MORE IDEAS?

Check out these examples of some other letters.



This image is from a page in a book and depicts David Before Saul inside of an initial Q. It was painted after 1205 by a French artist known as the Master of the Ingeborg Psalter.



This image is from a page in a book and depicts Saint Nicholas inside of an initial C. It was painted in the late 1200s by an Italian artist known as the Master of Gerona.

CUT OUT YOUR BOOKMARK

http://www.getty.edu/gettygames/



CHOOSE A LETTER FOR YOUR BOOKMARK

