

Dallin Maybee (Northern Arapaho/Seneca, b. 1974), *Beniseiht*, 2011, ledger art. Billie Jane Baguley Library and Archives Collection, Heard Museum.



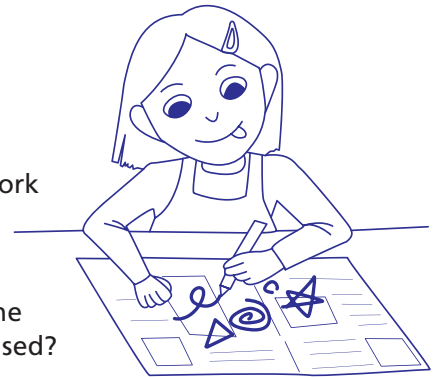
WHAT IS LEDGER ART?

American Indians of the Great Plains began to draw on paper in the late 1800s and early 1900s. Drawing on paper was new for the artists, who had been painting stories and designs on animal hides and rock walls for centuries. Some of the first paper they were given to use was lined paper from ledger books, which were used by shop owners to record the items they sold. These drawings were called ledger art.



LOOKING AT ART:

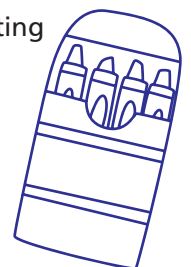
- ◆ What do you see?
- ◆ What do you think this artwork is about?
- ◆ What does the writing say?
- ◆ What do you notice about the type of materials the artist used?



CREATE YOUR OWN DRAWING THAT TELLS A STORY.

Materials: newspaper, colored pencils, pen, scratch paper, markers

- ◆ Storytellers use scenes like this one to tell a story. Sketch a scene that tells a story you've heard from a relative or friend.
- ◆ Transfer it onto newspaper with markers. Fill newspaper with your scene, allowing bits of writing to show through.
- ◆ Fill in your drawing using colored pencils with bold colors.
- ◆ Finally, use a pen to add a sentence that helps tell a portion of your story.



Activity based on the following Arizona Academic Primary School Standards in Visual Arts VA.CN.10.K; VA.CR.1.1; VA.CN.10.2; VA.CR.1.3a; VA.CN.10.4