TEXTILE EXPLORATION
EMBROIDERED PATCHES

SUMMARY
Participants will learn basic embroidery stitches by making a felt patch

VOCAB
Embroidery: decorative stitching using a needle and thread
Running Stitch: a simple needlework stitch consisting of a line of small even stitches without overlapping
Back Stitch: a simple needlework stitch consisting of a stitch going backward

SOCIAL JUSTICE PROJECT
Creating embroidered patches with social justice symbols that can be adhered to a community board or to a personal belonging.

Age Range: 5 +

TOPICS OF DISCUSSION
Social Justice: advocating for a society in which everyone has equal access to resources and are treated with equality regardless of their race, gender, religion, sexuality, income level or disability.

Activist: a person who promotes some kind of change and is actively involved in a political or social cause.

Symbol: a mark, sign, or word that represents an idea.

SOCIAL JUSTICE ARTISTS
Chilean Arpilleristas

Brightly-colored patchwork stitched with stories of the life of the poor and oppressed in Chile in the 1970s-80s during the totalitarian military regime of General Augusto Pinochet Ugarte. They were embroidered by poor women whose husbands, sons and brothers were killed or imprisoned by the government. Their embroidered work told the outside world their messages of protest: hunger, fear, unemployment, housing shortages and missing men often referred as the “dissapeared”.

MATERIALS
For 12 participants

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Supplies</th>
<th>Vendor</th>
<th>Aprox. Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Embroidery small hoops</td>
<td>Amazon</td>
<td>$12.99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Embroidery transfer pen</td>
<td>Amazon</td>
<td>$9.99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peel and stick fabric fuse sheets</td>
<td>Amazon</td>
<td>$9.14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Embroidery thread</td>
<td>Amazon</td>
<td>$12.97</td>
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<tr>
<td>Scissors</td>
<td>Amazon</td>
<td>$13.89</td>
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<tr>
<td>Felt</td>
<td>Amazon</td>
<td>$17.98</td>
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<tr>
<td>Embroidery needles</td>
<td>Amazon</td>
<td>$9.98</td>
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**Aprox. Project Cost** $86.94
INSTRUCTIONS
Embroidery

**Step 1:** Draw a design directly onto the felt with an embroidery transfer pen making sure it will fit in the embroidery hoop.

**Step 2:** Place the felt in the embroidery hoop with the design centered. Tighten the hoop so it feels tight like a drum skin, trim away excess felt.

**Step 3:** Thread needle using an arms-length of embroidery floss (use tapestry needles for little kids). Knot the end.

**Step 4:** Starting on the back of your design, stitch along your pen line. Use a basic backstitch or running stitch to outline the design on your felt and decorate it with 2-3 colors.
INSTRUCTIONS

Fabric Fuse Sheets

**Step 1:** Once finished, take it out of the hoop and cut around your stitching leaving a 1 - 2cm border around the design.

**Step 2:** Trace your cut-out embroidered design on the peel-and-stick fabric fuse sheet (on the smooth side). Cut out the traced shape.

**Step 3:** Peel the smooth paper backing away and stick it directly to the back of your patch. Trim away any excess fuse sheet that’s showing. Peel off the other side and stick it somewhere!

VIEW VIDEO TUTORIAL AT: 
WWW.TODAYSPARENT.COM

IMAGE CREDITS
- Todaysparent.com
- benton.uconn.edu
INSTRUCTIONS

Social Justice Symbols

Below are examples of symbols used for social justice that kids can use for reference.

Image: Todaysparent.com

Image: Human Rights Equality