



## Superhero Cape Book Bundle DIY Project

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### Beneficiary: HandsOn Broward's Literacy League & Broward County Public Schools

HandsOn Broward's Literacy League is passionate about helping students develop a love and excitement for reading which will in turn help set them up for educational success throughout their schooling. During the 2022-2023 school year, Broward County Public Schools will be launching the "Broward Super Reader" initiative to support students in achieving and surpassing their grade's reading level. Superhero capes made by volunteers will be given to students during these guest reading opportunities to assist students in building their own home libraries and continue reading at home. Our hope is to inspire children to use their imaginations and encourage their love for literacy through creative play!

**SKILL LEVEL:** Easy

**CAUSE:** Early Education and Literacy

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION:** You will be creating no-sew superhero capes out of fabric to be donated with a children's book of your choice.

**THINGS TO KNOW:** This project requires you to purchase or acquire lightly used books to donate along with the superhero cape. You will be creating the superhero cape out of fabric and wrapping the cape around a book to create a literacy bundle ready for a child to receive.

**PLEASE NOTE:** Due to an overwhelming response to our monthly DIY projects, we can only accept 5 superhero cape bundles per participant. Participants will receive one (1) hour per bundle, with a maximum of 5 service hours total.

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### Supply List:

#### SUPPLIES NEEDED:

- Book of choice to donate- **Must be new or like new children's book!**
  - 1-2 books per cape
- Fabric in multiple colors
  - At least 2 different colors/ fabrics required.
- Glue
  - In these instructions, we will be using a hot glue. However, you may use other types of strong adhesives such as fabric or tacky glue.
- Scissors
- Measuring tape or ruler
- Markers
- String or Ribbon



**\*Volunteers are responsible for purchasing any materials needed for DIY opportunities.**

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## How to: Project Instruction (please read all instructions carefully)

1. **ATTENTION:** Before you continue, please express interest on the HandsOn Broward Project page.
  - If you have completed this step, please continue with the following instructions.
  - You do not need HOB staff confirmation to begin your project.
2. **Advise your network of the project.** Encourage your family, friends, and neighbors to donate their time participating in this DIY project.
3. **Purchase and/ or collect all supplies needed.** Purchase or collect books and any materials you will need to create your bundles.
  - **Suggested:** The Literacy League has created a diverse and multi-cultural book list on Amazon which can be found using this link: <https://a.co/8cr5enG>
  - When ordering, please consider using **smile.amazon.com** to make a donation in benefit of our HandsOn Broward Literacy League at no additional cost to you!

4. **Gather your 2 fabrics of choice.**

You will need one fabric to be large enough to be a cape. The second fabric can be smaller as it will be used to cut out designs/ shapes to decorate the cape.

- Tip: choose a no fray fabric like felt, fleece or polyester



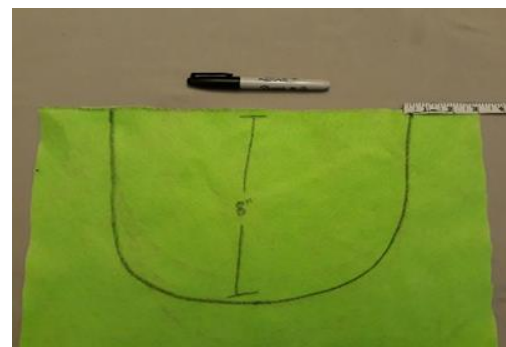
5. **Measure out a rectangle onto first fabric.** Use a measuring tape or ruler to draw a rectangle with a marker.

- Tip: We recommend a rectangle that is approximately 25" x 18" however you may adjust if you would like to make your cape larger or smaller.



6. **Cut out your rectangle.** Using your scissors, cut the marked rectangle out of your fabric.

7. **Draw a "U"-shape into the top of your fabric.** Measuring about 3 inches from both sides and 8" from the top, use your marker to draw a "U"-shape on the "top" of your cape.



8. **Cut out the U-Shape.** The 3 inch pieces of fabric on either side of the U-shape will create two long strips which will be used to tie the cape around the neck.

➤ If your strips do not look long enough to be tied around your neck, cut a deeper U-shape into your fabric to create longer strips.



9. **Draw a fun design on the bottom of your cape.**  
Grab your marker and draw any design you would like on the bottom of the cape. You can draw triangles, a scalloped edge, or a simple wavy line. This will give the bottom of the cape a fun touch!



10. **Cut out the design.** Use a scissor to cut the design into the bottom of your cape. Once you have finished this step, set your cape aside.



11. **Grab your second fabric and draw shapes.**  
Using your marker, draw a “superhero symbol” such as a lightning bolt, heart, or star onto your second fabric. You can also use this fabric to draw smaller shapes such as diamonds, stars, squares, circles, etc to decorate your cape with.



12. **Cut out your “superhero symbol” and smaller shapes.**

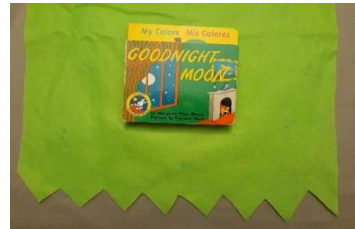


13. **Glue shapes onto cape.** Using your glue of choice, adhere your “Superhero Symbol” to the center of your cape and any other shapes you cut out.
- You are welcome to decorate your cape using any art medium, however, we do not recommend stickers, beads or any items that will be difficult to adhere to the cape and may fall off and be dangerous for young children.



14. **Allow glue to dry.**

15. Turn cape over and place book(s) inside.



16. Wrap cape around book(s).

➤ Using your ribbon of choice, secure the cape around the book(s).



17. **Optional:** You can add an extra special touch to your book bundle by including a bookmark! Get creative and try handmaking one instead of purchasing.
18. Complete DIY project by participating in self-guided reflection questions. (Find below.)
19. Fill out the DIY Documentation Form. **REQUIRED** for all participants, find link & instructions below.

**\*PLEASE NOTE:** To receive any type of verification of completion of your book bundle, the DIY Documentation Form must be filled out with a picture of your completed bundles. If a picture of completed bundle is not included, hours cannot be confirmed.

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**Reflection:** *This is a self-guided exercise that does not need to be turned in.*

A great way to remind ourselves about the purpose and importance of each month's DIY project is to practice some reflection exercises upon project completion. Below are some questions to help guide your conversation:

1. Have you heard of book deserts before? Do you know where book deserts are located around Broward County? Do some research to find out more.
  2. How many books do you currently have in your home? Do you remember have plenty of books growing up? Did you visit your local library often? How did you access new reading materials as a child? How about now?
  3. What do you know about the importance of reading at grade level by 3<sup>rd</sup> grade? Why do you think building successful reading skills at an early age is important?
  4. How can you get involved to help support early education and literacy in your local community? If you are interested in learning more about volunteering with the Broward Super Reader initiative coming in the fall, please reach out to [Jenny@handsonbroward.org](mailto:Jenny@handsonbroward.org) for more information.
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## What's Next?

1. **Take a picture of your finished Superhero Cape Bundles!** You will need to upload your photos as proof of completion to request your hours.
2. **Fill out the DIY Documentation Form.**

To fill out your DIY report, please go to the following link:

<https://form.jotform.com/220403945296154>

**Please note: This is REQUIRED of all participants.**

**Groups may complete one (1) form together.**

**If you do not complete the form, you will not receive credit for your hours.**

\*JotForm link can also be found on HandsOn Broward DIY webpage

3. **Need a verification letter or volunteer form for school/ program?** Please fill out the DIY report above to request documentation.



4. **Share your book bundles on social media!** Share with HandsOn Broward, family and friends by posting a picture and commenting on your experience. Please be sure to share with HandsOn Broward on Facebook and/ or tag us on Instagram: @handsonbroward

5. Drop off or mail in your items to us:

Upon completion of your DIY project, you can drop off your snack bags to our HandsOn Broward offices.

**5815-B North Andrews Way, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33309**

**Book Bundle collection will begin on July 20<sup>th</sup>**

**Drop off time is from 10:30 AM- 4:30 PM on the following dates:**

**Wednesday, July 20<sup>th</sup>**

**Friday, July 22<sup>nd</sup>**

**Tuesday, August 2<sup>nd</sup>**

**Thursday, August 4<sup>th</sup>**

**PLEASE READ:** Please **do not** leave your service hour verification forms with your project when you drop off or mail in. Please see below instructions and complete a DIY documentation form to receive your signed volunteer form or verification letter. No verification will be completed until form is filled out.

**The last day to drop off your book bundles is August 4<sup>th</sup>**

If you have any questions about this project, please email Carolina Bosco at [carolinab@handsonbroward.org](mailto:carolinab@handsonbroward.org)