

Quill Pens

You may, if you choose, try out the quill pens provided. Please clean and dry them thoroughly afterwards (instructions below). This activity may not be suitable for young children.

You must provide your own paper and ink; we recommend the following:

Paper

Use a good-quality, heavier paper. Computer or copier paper is usually not suitable. Try a laid paper, available at office supply stores.

Ink

Look for ink designed for calligraphy or fountain pen refills. You can usually find bottles of ink at office supply stores, or through a number of resources on the internet. Be careful, as these types of ink usually stain.

You might wish to pour the ink into several glass jars to make it easier for several people to write at once.

Writing

Dip the pen in the ink, and wipe the excess off on the side of the ink bottle.

Use very little pressure with quill pens. Pens were cut with a slit in the end as a reservoir for holding ink, and excess pressure will split the tip.

Cleaning

After using the quill pens, clean them with soap and water and rub gently with a soft brush or cloth to remove the ink residue. A (clean) toothbrush works well. (Note: you will probably not be able to remove all traces of ink; do not worry about stains on the pens.)

Allow the pens to air-dry thoroughly before placing them back in the box.

