

Make Your Own Flannel Boards -

Large flannel boards:

Flannel boards can be made out of cardboard, plywood or masonite (found at Home Depot). Buy enough felt to cover the board and fold over the back. I recommend using darker colors such as blue or black because lighter colors tend to get dirty too fast. Batting may be put between the felt and the board for a softer surface. Attach the flannel by folding the edges tightly and using hot glue for cardboard or a staple gun for wood or masonite.

File folder flannel boards:

These are handy because you can use them to store the flannel pieces, and the children can use the felt to retell the stories while sitting at a table.

1. Paste the words to the story on the front of the file folder
2. Laminate the entire folder for more durability. (If you don't have access to a large laminator, take it to a teacher supply store such as Lakeshore or Learning Rainbow, or cover it with clear contact paper.)
3. Hot glue a felt square to the inside of the folder, and place the story pieces inside. Label the name of the story on the file tab.

Flannel board pieces:

Story pieces can be made from anything that will stick to the felt or flannel material. This can be felt pieces decorated with fabric paint, pella (found at fabric stores), suede, or velvet. Poster board and construction paper can be used with a strip of Velcro on the back. Laminate these first for more durability.

There are several web sites that offer ideas and resources for flannel board materials. Two good ones are: www.feltfantasies.com and <http://literacy.kent.edu/Oasis/PACT/flannelboardbox.html>