

**ILLUSTRATIVE HANDWORK  
FOR ELEMENTARY SCHOOL  
SUBJECTS, A DESK MANUAL  
FOR CLASSROOM TEACHERS**

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Illustrative handwork for elementary school subjects, a desk manual for classroom teachers by  
Ella Victoria Dobbs

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**ELLA VICTORIA DOBBS**

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ILLUSTRATIVE HANDWORK



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FOR

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL SUBJECTS

A DESK MANUAL

FOR

CLASSROOM TEACHERS

BY

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## PREFACE

THE studies which form the basis of this book were undertaken, not so much to prove the value of the methods, as to test the extent of their usefulness under the conditions existing in the ordinary school. Illustrative methods in various forms have, for some time, formed a regular part of the work in many progressive schools, but in some quarters the impression has prevailed that their usefulness is possible only under especially favorable conditions. A report of these studies was first submitted as a Master's Thesis in the Graduate School of the University of Missouri. Some of the principles upon which these studies are based are further discussed in a bulletin recently issued by the Manual Arts Department of the University of Missouri. The list of projects described in this book includes also many problems worked out in Columbia and other towns as a part of the everyday program and not as special studies. All of the projects here described were carried out in the regular classroom by the regular teacher under conditions common to the average school.

The suggestions offered apply to schools which are working under the limitations of restricted space, scant materials, and a more or less rigid course of study. These outlines and suggestions are offered, in the hope that it may help to bring into all classrooms greater freedom for both teacher and pupil, greater opportunity for the development of resourcefulness and independence in thought and action, and last, but by no means least, to bring the real joy of activity into some classrooms that have known before only mechanical routine. Grateful acknowledgment is here made to the teachers of the Columbia schools for their loyal support and enthusiastic coöperation, and to Dean W. W. Charters for assistance in the organization of the material.

ELLA VICTORIA DOBBS.

UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI,  
June, 1916.