

# Illuminated Letters

Illuminated letters are hand-drawn, intricately decorated letters, usually the first letter in a book or chapter of a book. These are often found in recordings of historical events to add interest and make them look more important.

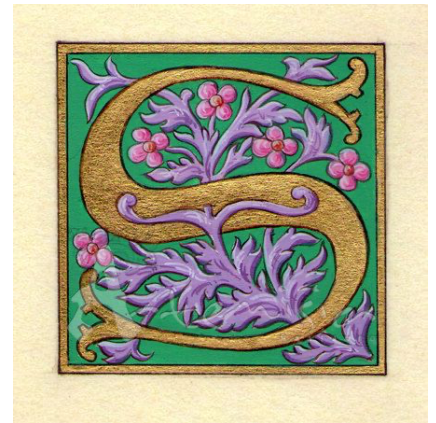
This week you'll be creating your own illuminated letters - you could choose your first initial, or even create a story to publish in a manuscript (a handwritten book) of your own.



The term, Illumination comes from the term **Illuminate**, or to fill with light. This effect was achieved with the application of gold leaf, which reflects light and appears to glow.



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## Here's some examples for inspiration...

