



Caveman Glassworks

Student Handout: Suncatcher Workshop

Welcome

Thank you for joining the **Suncatcher Workshop!** This handout will guide you in what to expect when attending the workshop. This class is designed for beginners and hobbyists who want a hands-on introduction to stained glass. By the end of the workshop, you will leave with a finished stained-glass suncatcher to display or give as a gift.

Class Flow & Outline

1. Arrival & Setup

- Arrive on time.
- Sign and turn in your **Release of Liability Form**.
- Submit class payment (if not already handled).

2. Pattern Selection

- Choose **one of five available suncatcher patterns**.
- Each pattern includes **pre-cut paper templates** for glass pieces.

3. Glass Selection

- Select your **glass colors** for your chosen pattern.
- Keep in mind color balance and how the light will shine through your piece.

4. Tool Introduction & Safety

Your instructor will introduce and demonstrate the following tools:

1. **Scoring Tool** – Scores glass along the pattern lines.
2. **Running Pliers** – Breaks glass cleanly along the score.
3. **Grinder** – Smooths and shapes glass edges to fit your pattern.
4. **Foil** – Wraps each piece in copper foil for soldering.

Safety Reminders:

- Always wear safety glasses.
- Handle glass carefully (sharp edges).
- Follow tool instructions closely.

5. Demonstrations

The instructor will show you how to:

- Score glass properly.
- Break glass using running pliers.
- Grind pieces to the right shape.
- Apply copper foil neatly around each piece.

You'll practice each step with guidance.

6. Soldering Basics

- **Safety First:**
 - Keep the soldering iron tip clean using a brass Brillo pad or Sal Ammoniac.
 - Use flux sparingly (too much or too little causes problems).
 - Be aware of flux fumes—do not inhale directly. Work in a ventilated space.
- **Demonstration:**
 - Apply flux to foiled seams.
 - Use **60/40 lead-tin solder** to join glass pieces.
 - Practice soldering two pieces together before moving on to your project.

7. Finishing

- Once soldering is complete:
 - **Clean your piece** thoroughly.
 - Apply **patina** (if desired).
 - Polish for a professional finish.

What You'll Learn

- Safety procedures for glass, flux, solder, and tools.
- How to score, break, and grind glass.
- Proper foiling techniques.
- Basics of soldering and finishing stained-glass projects.

End of Class

You'll leave with:

- A completed **stained-glass suncatcher**.
- Confidence in basic stained-glass techniques.
- Knowledge of safety practices to use in future projects.

 **Congratulations!** You've created your first stained-glass suncatcher with Caveman Glassworks.

