Simple Watercolor Cards with CBTV Live

Chapter 1 - Chapter 1
Watercolor Cards
(upbeat music) - Hey everybody, welcome to Creativebug! We are coming to you live like we always do on Thursdays, and this is an extra special week because Creativebug turns seven! Seven years old! I think that would make us in the second grade, is that right? We could definitely read by now. It's very exciting times to be here in the seventh year. So much has happened and changed and grown in the seven years, I've been here since the beginning. Thank you guys all for being part of the journey. It's just mind blowing, I can't believe it. I turned 37 this month, Creativebug turned seven, it feels like a milestone year for me. And to celebrate, I thought I would show you some very easy birthday cards that you can make using watercolor, even if you don't have a lot of painting skill, these are quick and easy to do. I personally have a lot of friends who have May birthdays, so it's handy to have this in your belt for when you have a birthday party to go to and you forgot to go purchase a card. What's better than a handmade card? I've got some materials here. I've got watercolor paper cut down to five by seven. You can make this in whatever size you like. I've got a couple of sets of watercolor. I'm using the Prima ones 'cause I'm really liking those right now. You can pick them up online. They have them at joann.com and you can find them other places as well. And I've got some watercolor brushes, just really inexpensive ones. This one is a round, this is what I normally use for watercolor. But I'm also gonna show you a couple of techniques using a flat brush. This one's a size 10. Sometimes they're measured in their width, this is about a half inch. I also have some pens, if you wanna add lettering or some doodles. These watercolor cards are gonna be really easy because you can add some drawing on top. These are the Pigma pens in the medium brush and the bold brush, and then Microns in the PN. And this is my favorite tip. Let me show it to you. PN stands for plastic nib. I am terrible with my Microns 'cause I press really hard and so the plastic nib is really nice because it withstands that extra pressure 'cause I'm kind of heavy handed when I draw with them. And because we're live, you can ask questions but also feel free to share some of your Creativebug memories. There are probably a handful of you at least who have been here for the entire journey. Alright, let's start with the easiest of all watercolor cards. This is just sort of mark making, which I love because it frees you up. And we're just gonna make little marks, dots, dashes, sort of like confetti and this is gonna be a celebration card. Start by dipping my round brush into some water, pick up my sunset color, and I want it to be a little bit paler, so I'm adding more water. And we'll start by just making some marks. I'm gonna go right off the edge of the page 'cause that helps it look more professional. And you can see I'm working on some scratch paper to catch my extra paint. I paint pretty often, I've been in a little bit of a slump recently, so this kind of a project makes it really easy for me to get back into painting because there's not the pressure of making something perfect looking. I'm just gonna pick another color that I think will go with this and I'm using this orange color, which is called Hibiscus in this set. And let's try a different mark. I'm still using my round brush. Instead of kind of pressing on the side how I was doing the first one, let's do something a little bit more flat like little marks. Almost like little sprinkles. And you can see I'm rotating my brush in different ways. Still going off the page. And I'm just placing the color all over, a nice even distribution. Alright let's do this ocean color, this is pretty. Maybe I'll do more little dots. Sort of irregular flat dots. And this doesn't have to just be a birthday card, this could be any kind of greeting card, just a thinking of you card. Add some yellow. Let's do some longer kind of confetti

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marks. I'm also excited about this month because it's our first ever daily quilting challenge. If you guys have been watching Ana Maria's amazing Dear Diary quilting challenge, I know I've been following along with all of your posts on Instagram and on the website. It's been so cool to see you guys make blocks almost every day. I feel like May is an extra good month. Okay let's pick one more color. I think maybe this sort of teal green. It's raining here in San Francisco, so these colors are nice, bright, and cheery. And we'll go back to that original kind of mark we made. So this is just mark making, it's super easy. I'm not doing anything perfect, I'm just kind of sprinkling these marks around the paper. I'm gonna let this dry, but I have another one that I did earlier here. Oo, it's really raining outside! And I think I can write celebrate or let's celebrate, or you could do party. Lettering is not my strong suite, so I'm gonna practice first. I'm using the bold brush pen in the Pigma, which also has the waterproof ink in case. - [Man] It's so loud. - It's fully pouring here in San Francisco. (laughing) You can probably hear it in the studio. I'm gonna work with this and practice first. So if I wanna do party, if you watched Mickayla's lettering challenge, it's always thick on the downstroke, thin on the upstroke, so. And my letters aren't connected. They could be though, I could start this way and then connect them afterward. Although I'm gonna have a hard time with that R. So I can practice and then fill in even more. And then we could do... I like that. I don't like the R connected to the T so maybe I'll recreate that and just not connect that part 'cause this is just my practice. Alright, so I'm gonna place it a little bit above just to kind of keep an eye on it and I do like this loopiness though, so bring that back up, down thick. Definitely need to brush up on my lettering. Thick. Thin on the upstroke. Faith was gonna paint these with me, but she's the one behind the computer right now. So if you have a question, let her know. Maybe I'll do this kind of an R instead. Going rogue, hopefully I don't mess it up! And then a T. And then my Y. Kinda flourishy. And I'm just gonna refine the lettering. Like I said, lettering is not my strong suite, so if this is your strong suite, awesome! I've made the watercolor background super easy for you. And if you need to brush up on your lettering, you can watch Mickayla's daily challenge for that. I definitely wanna fix my P. Cool. So that feels party-ish. That's one down! Let's try another easy watercolor card. You can turn sort of blocks or strokes of watercolor into almost anything. They could be little cakes, they could be popsicles, they could be packages. So we're gonna start with something like that. Turn this over. Oh, that one's dirty, let's do this guy. This is where I'm gonna use my flat brush as opposed to the round. It has like a, just like it sounds, a flat edge so it'll be good for making stripes or lines, or in my case, packages. I'm gonna stick kind of to my party colors that I've got going here, I like them. They're sort of like fiesta colors. I'm gonna start with pink 'cause that's my favorite. It's the Creativebug color. I'm gonna do the pink package right in the middle. It's kind of light. It stopped raining for now. So you can see I'm just taking the edge, that flat tip, to kind of reinforce these corners to make it look like a box. So it's the brush that's doing the work, it's not me. I'll make it something like that. So it could be one present, but what's better than one present is several presents. Just go back in and find my edges. Maybe this other one will be sort of a longer package. So you don't really have to know how to paint a box or a present, you can just make these little squares. The flat brush is doing most of the work for you. And then we're actually gonna go back over and doodle on top of that once it's dry. Pick a new piece of paper. And this time we're gonna make candles. So Creativebug is seven, and I'm gonna make seven candles. Still using my flat brush because it's gonna help us make the candle shape. And you could start in the middle, do one and then three on each side. Yeah, let's do that just so we don't run out of room or squash any of our candles. But I want the middle on to be pink because that is the Creativebug sort of color. Sort of a coral-y color. Now if you wanna leave space for a sentiment at the bottom, then you would wanna move your candle up a little, but

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I'm just gonna do a row of candles. And they don't have to be that precise. You can just kind of refine your shape if you want. I want this to be more pink, so I'm gonna go back in there with more pink. It's looking too primary red right now. - [Faith] Phil has a question. - [Courtney] Hi, Phil! - [Faith] And he says happy birthday. - [Courtney] Thank you, thank you for saying happy birthday. - [Faith] What have been your favorite classes to film and follow along with the past seven years. - Oh Phil is asking what have been my favorite classes to film and follow along with. I wanted to ask you the same question 'cause I feel like you've been here almost as long as I have! So let Faith know and the rest of the viewers know. That is a really hard question. I mean I would say it's just like when you talk to anybody about their favorite, like when you hear me talk about my favorite supplies, it's always what supply I'm using in the moment. I'm really excited about our first daily quilting challenge because it's the first time we've done it, but I'm really excited that we've done all of our daily challenges. We've been doing them for three years. There was a time where we didn't do daily challenges. There was a time when we didn't do live shoots! So I think what's been the most exciting over all is actually just the evolution of seeing how Creativebug has changed and grown. And working with all the amazing artists that we work with, that is absolutely my favorite thing. What about you, Phil, what are you favorite things? - [Faith] He loved turtle lady. (laughing) - Phil said he loved turtle lady. That's really a credit to the editors who left the bloopers in. What even class was that from? That's not Living a More Creative Live. Which class is that from? I can't even think, that's one that segment is with me in it but I can't remember what class that's from. Yeah, turtle lady was real special. I was trying to draw a face and the camera was so close to what I was drawing that I was doing a really terrible job and she looked like a turtle lady. And it's really funny. Faith, find the clip and post the link. - [Faith] Okay. - [Courtney] Oh, I started laughing and now this candle is rather lumpy. It's okay. I'm being too precious about my candles. Four. They don't need to be this precious or this perfect, so you know what, I'm just gonna go for something a little more random. Five. That's what's cool about this watercolor project is that these are just really strokes. They don't have to be super perfect. Six, and for seven let's do a purple-y color. They can be different heights too. Now I wanna put flames on these, and for that I'm definitely gonna use my round brush. And I'll show you on a little scrap piece of watercolor paper. So the round brush, if you just put it down like that it kind of makes the perfect candle tip, and that's why we're gonna use it. Super easy. Right? Again, once that dries we can come back in with Micron and add some detail if we want. So let's go back to these guys. These were our packages. And so now if you're not as comfortable painting in details, you can draw in details. And I've got my Micron PN for that. You can do little ribbons. You can put stripes or polka dots on your box. Let's see, maybe this one has pom pom, paper pom pom topper. And because this is a Micron, once it dries I can go back in and add more watercolor if I want. And it's not gonna make the pen bleed. For this one, I'll do a more traditional. And we'll do that. Did you ever make bows like this where just ends of ribbons stuck up and trimmed to make a bow? These can be sitting on a little bit of a ground if you want. Let's go in and add some color to this 'cause I feel like it's missing it. I actually don't mind that there's no color in these ones, but I feel like that one needs color. And I think I want it just to be a different shade of pink. And I don't want it to be perfectly in the lines. I like that off register look. But I do think adding some color in here could be good too now that everything is dry. So these are so easy, now you're just filling in the lines. It's like a coloring book. And you're not even perfectly coloring in the lines. You could do happy birthday on this too. Dare I do any more lettering, let's see. This will be fine. Probably misspell something on camera. Happy B-day! Try to make my Ys match. Get my downstrokes thicker. Perfect. Alright. I have these other little strokes that I made. These are tiny, super tiny just little

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boxes I made using the flat brush. These could be tiny presents, but I was thinking it'd be fun to make these be little tiny cakes. So these are just all the things that you can do with really simple mark making in watercolor and now we're doodling on top to add more detail, but I feel like a lot of people are more confident doodling or drawing than they are painting, so this is a way to get a watercolor look and feel without having to know how to perfectly render a tiny little watercolor cake or a tiny little watercolor package. So. Now we're just doing little cakes. And maybe this one is like that. Put a cherry on top. Look up Wayne Thiebaud for some inspiration or our Wilton classes. This is gonna have a seven candle on it 'cause we just turned seven. And maybe these are more like cupcakes. Just little scribbles, they do a lot. And maybe that's like this. - [Faith] We have some reports on favorite classes. - Reports on favorite classes, I'm dying to hear. They better include me or Faith. (laughing) I'm just teasing. They can include whoever you like. - [Faith] Phil's favorite art is Living a More Creative Life and daily book art challenge. - Hey, he did it! Phil said Living a More Creative Life and daily book art challenge. - [Faith] Adrian loved Beginning Calligraphy. - Oo, Beginning Calligraphy is an excellent one, thank you Adrian. That's a good one. - Austin's favorite is 25 days of gift wrap. - 25 days of gift wrap! I know, that's like my favorite thing to do with all things is gift wrap. - [Faith] Julie loves the 30 day altered book challenge. - Julie, thank you for joining the 30 day altered book challenge, we loved having you here. - [Faith] And Ashley loves all the 30 day challenges. - It sounds like our daily challenges are the top winners for the Facebook crew. Thanks you guys, we work hard on those and they're some of our favorite classes too. I love the little daily dose of creativity. That's really what Creativebug is about. If you didn't know, Creativebug was actually founded, well, by Jeanne Lewis and Julie Roehm who are cousins. Jeanne left the company a few years ago, but Julie is still here. She's been here seven years. And the idea was that if linda.com and etsy.com got together and had a baby, that's what Creativebug was supposed to be. So both of them were working moms when we first started doing the company. Julie was actually pregnant with her second child, who is now seven. And they really wanted to take classes and be creative, but their window of time having small children was like midnight to two in the morning. And so that's why Creativebug gives you 24 hours access to classes so that you can be creative in whatever moment you have. And I think the daily challenges are kind of the evolution of that because we're trying to carve out 10 or 15 minutes of creative time in our very busy lives. Daily challenges do that for you. So I'm so happy to hear they resonate! Okay those are my little cakes. Add a little bit more here. And it's raining again in San Francisco. And for candles, if you wanna add some detail, I actually think the candles look really pretty just watercolor, you don't have to add any pen marks, but this is also something that you can do as a collaborative card. So if you have a card for a little one, you could do the watercolor component, not too little, someone who can use a pen. But then they could do doodles on top of if. You could start with watercolor packages or flowers, like a in a bouquet, some other kind of celebratory image, and then they could do the doodles on top. So, something that would be easy would be just little strokes. Bright, stripey candles. Polka dotty candles. I'm just filling these with little patterns. Maybe. - What size Micron pen are you using? - This is the Micron PN and it's my favorite one. It only comes in one size. PN stands for plastic nib. It has this reinforced nib because I tend to press really hard when I'm drawing with them and I ruin all my Microns, so the PN's my favorite because I don't ruin it. This one has this mermaid-y scale pattern. Just little doodles. And then maybe just little dashes on this one. Alright let's do a little roundup of what we've got going on. So we've got our party card with our confetti backing here, some little candles, you could do tiny cakes, you could do packages, all of these just build on simple watercolor strokes. I said this before but I'm gonna say it again. I think a lot of people really love

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watercolor and they like the look of it, but they're intimidated or afraid that they can't perfect paint a birthday cake or candles. By just breaking this into simple watercolor strokes and shapes, letting your brush do most of the work and then adding some doodled details, you can get some really cool effects. These cards come together so quickly, that took about 10 minutes. And you could prep components in advance and then do your lettering while watching your favorite show or your favorite Creativebug class. Thank you for sharing some of your favorites, it's been really fun to hear what you guys have enjoyed over the last seven years. I'm excited for the next seven to see where Creativebug goes. Maybe we'll be doing live shoots every day! Maybe we won't have live shoots, maybe it'll be virtual reality and you can craft in my home studio, I don't know yet. If you have an idea for the way Creativebug should be doing, send us a little note or write a comment on Facebook. We've always enjoyed all of your questions, comments, and engagements, we would not be here without you guys. Thank you for watching, and happy birthday to us! And thank you for being here. (upbeat music)

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