



BRANDYWINE VALLEY QUILTERS

September 2019 Block of the Month

School Days



Anne Marie Kiesling

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9 1/2 inch square unfinished

9 inch square finished

In 1801, James Pillans, headmaster and geography teacher at the Old High School in Edinburgh, Scotland is credited with inventing the first blackboard by using a large piece of slate on the classroom wall. Also, he has been credited with the invention of "colored" chalk in 1814. He had a recipe with ground chalk, dyes and porridge. In America the first wall-mounted blackboard was used at West Point by classroom instructor George Baron.

Some wooden one-room school houses, in America, were painted red because it was cheap to use homemade paint that contained a lot of iron oxide which produced a deep, dark red color.



Fabric:

Use **one** fabric print with the different letters of the alphabet, **or one** fabric with numbers **or one** fabric with both the alphabet and numbers

Use one solid red or red on red for the border to represent the **little red one-room schoolhouses** **or**

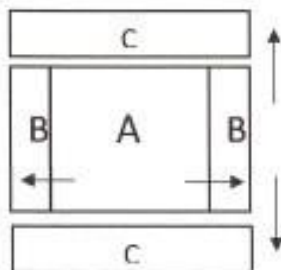
Use one solid black, black on black for the border to represent the **old-time blackboards**



Note: Use the same black or red fabric once for each block. Do not mix black and red fabric for the same block.

Cutting:

- 1 7 1/2 inch x 7 1/2 inch square print with different letters or alphabet for letter A
- 2 1 1/2 inch x 7 1/2 inch rectangle of black or red for letter B
- 2 1 1/2 inch x 9 1/2 inch rectangle of black or red for letter C



Sewing:

Sew letter B to the sides of fabric square letter A. Press according to the arrows. Sew letter C to the top and the bottom of the fabric square and press according to the arrows.



Anne Marie Scrap Tip When piecing quilt blocks by machine, save ironing minutes by placing a plastic dishpan on the floor behind your console sewing machine. As you sew, allow the patches to drop into the pan. For a portable sewing machine, place the dishpan nearby and just drop each patch into the pan by hand. Carry the pan of pieces to the ironing board and press all the pieces at the same time.