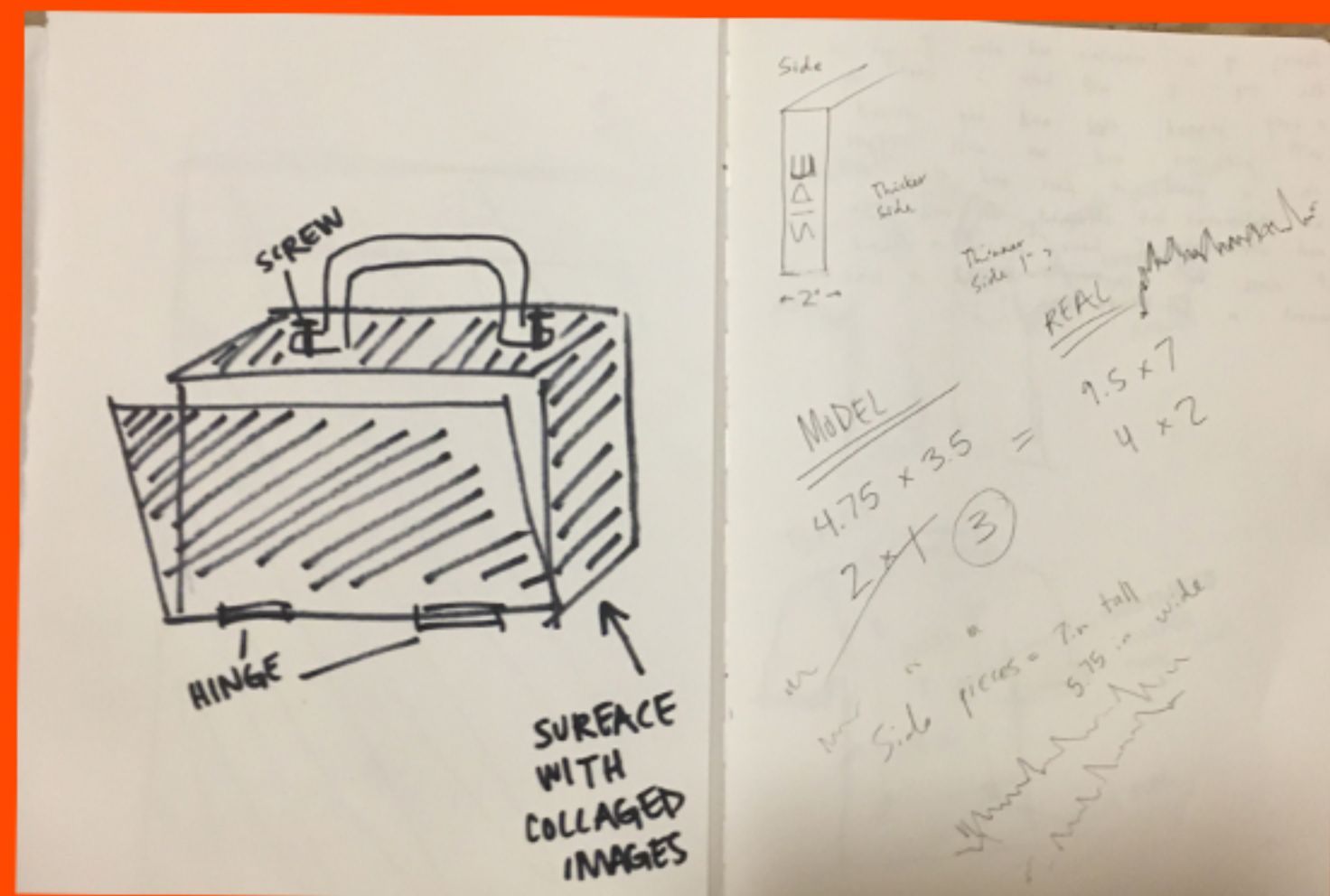
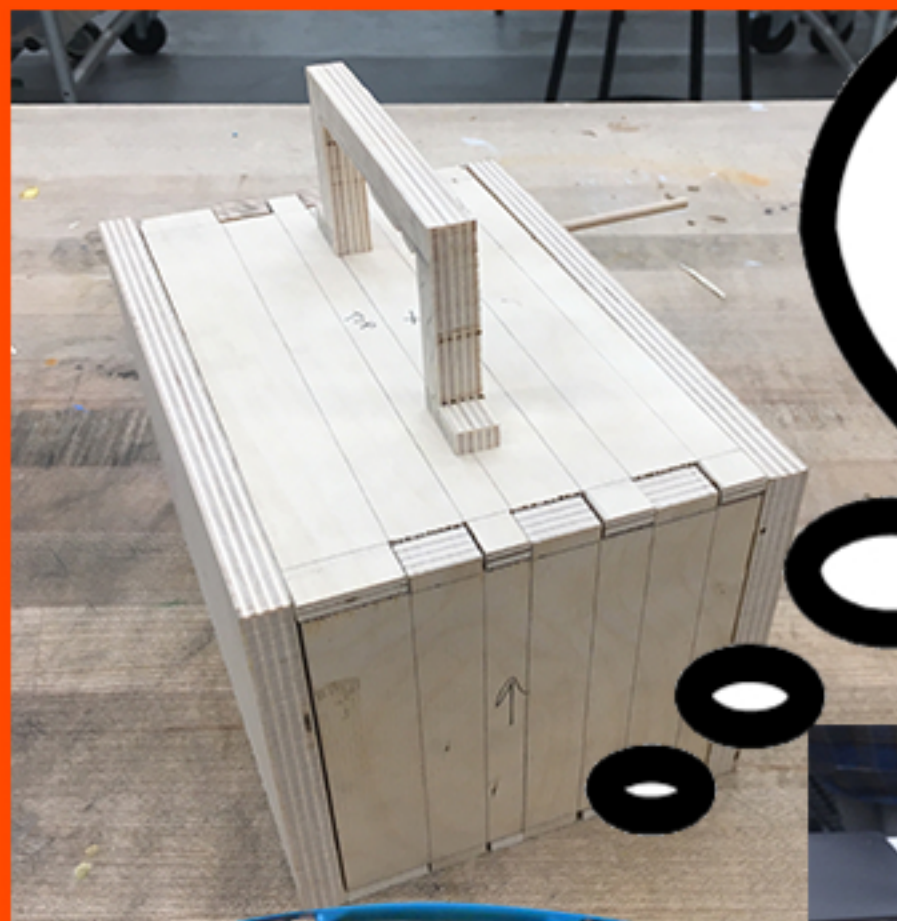


To begin the process of making my wearable wood piece, I first had to decide what I wanted to make. I knew that I wanted to create something that I would actually use, so I decided on a lunch box, since I don't have one. I took a simple approach: develop a clean, well-made box that I could then surface in an interesting way. I sketched out the box, decided on dimensions that fit my vision, and then made a small model. I chose the specific dimensions, handle, and front opening because I wanted the piece to imitate a simple, vintage lunchbox.



Wearable Wood Assignment



To start the actual construction of the piece, I had to purchase wood. I bought plywood on accident, but I didn't have any issues with it besides a little easily fixable wood splitting at one point. I tried to be as precise as possible in my measurements since any mistakes would be fairly noticeable on a box. I connected the individual pieces using finger joints because though difficult, this method of joinery is very structurally sound. I added glue to the joints for added structure. I added hinges to the bottom of the front of the lunchbox to allow the front panel to open. Lastly, I attached the handle to the box by drilling a hole into the little piece that juts out and the top panel underneath, and then putting a screw through the hole and fastening it with a nut underneath. I also added glue for even more sturdiness. The finished product of the box before surfacing came out exactly how I envisioned, other than a few slight mishaps involving measurement which are not very noticeable.



For surfacing, I set out to create scenes that were somewhat reminiscent of those on vintage lunchboxes. I went to a comic book store and dug through all the \$1 bins, searching for interesting characters and images I could use. I collaged these pictures onto the surface of the lunchbox using glue. I then went and painted the entire lunchbox red; I had to carefully follow the outlines of the collaged images, which proved to be rather difficult. But, I did not want to paint the box before collaging because I hope to varnish the surface sometime soon, and I was afraid that this would cause the red to show through the images. The surfacing was very tedious work, but I am glad I took my time on it because I am very pleased with the end result.