

RAFT IDEAS

Topics: Bookmaking,
Written Communication,
Artistic Expression

Materials List

- ✓ Paper (the area of each page will be 1/8 of the size of the piece of paper)
- ✓ Optional:
Cardstock, stickers,
colored pens/pencils,
crayons

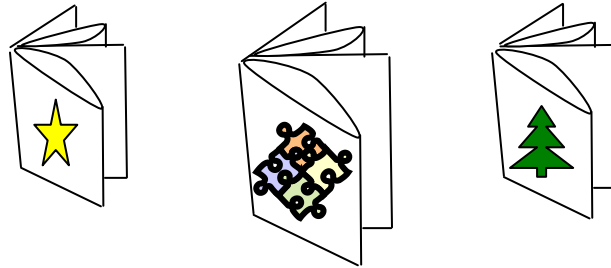
This activity can be used to support the teaching of:

- Experiment w/ forms, structures & materials (National Visual Arts Standards: Creating, Grades 1-8)
- Writing text (Common Core English Language Arts Standards: Writing, Grades 1-8, 1-3)



A Simple Book

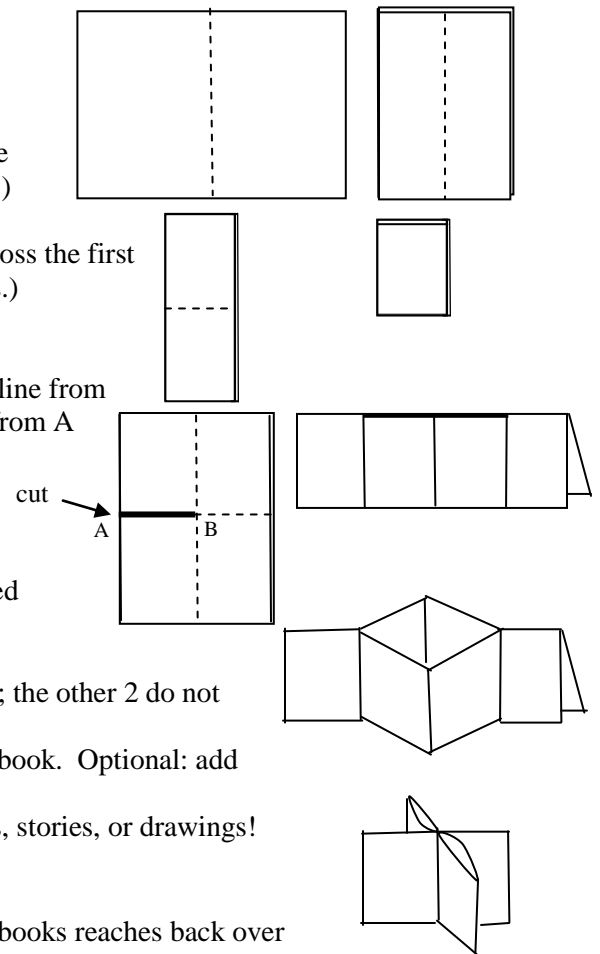
Create a Book from Just One Piece of Paper



No glue, tape, or staples are needed to make this simple “one-cut” multi page book created from a single sheet of paper.

Assembly

1. Fold a sheet of paper in half crosswise.
2. Fold the sheet in half again, in the same direction. (The paper is now in fourths.)
3. Fold the paper in half (a third time) across the first two folds. (The paper is now in eighths.)
4. Unfold the last two folds.
5. Cut half way along the horizontal fold line from the folded edge to the vertical crease (from A to B). Unfold the paper completely.
6. Re-fold in half along the cut.
7. Holding the ends, gently push the folded edges together to form a “plus” with 4 “pages”.
8. The tops of 2 of these pages have a cut; the other 2 do not have a cut.
9. Make one of the pages the front of the book. Optional: add a separate cover to the book.
10. Fill the pages of your book with poems, stories, or drawings!



The Content Behind the Activity

The history of written communication and books reaches back over thousands of years. Over the centuries, books have taken a variety of forms, dictated by the available technology and materials. This simple bookmaking technique works well with a range of paper sizes. The compact book that is created is easily transported and adapts to a variety of uses.

Taking it Further

Use paper printed on one side, including large posters, to create unusual books.

Web Resources (Visit www.raft.net/raft-idea?isid=510 for more resources!)

For information on book history, visit: <http://www.xs4all.nl/~knops/timetab.html>