

Topics: Creative Expression, Following Directions, Fractions

Materials List

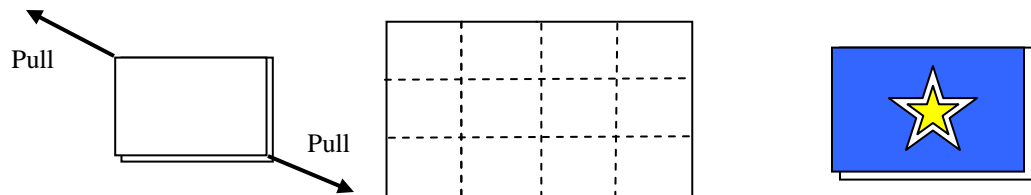
- ✓ One sheet of paper
- ✓ Scraps of cardstock – enough to cut covers of the finished book
- ✓ Scissors
- ✓ Glue
- ✓ Markers, crayons, paint, paper, or fabric scraps, for embellishment
- ✓ Ruler (optional)
- ✓ Scoring tool (optional)

This activity can be used to teach:

- Writing text (Common Core English Language Arts Standards: Writing, Grades K-12, 1-3)
- Creativity/ innovative thinking, (National Visual Arts Standards: Creating, Grades K-12)
- Parts of a whole (Common Core Math Standards: Grade 3, Number & Operations - Fractions, 1)
- Following directions

Zig Zag Book

A Fold Away Keepsake



This versatile easy-to-fold mini book can display one picture or a series of scenes that tell a story or create a remembrance of an event or a person.

Assembly

1. Accordion fold the paper into four equal sections by bringing the short edges together, creasing, and then folding them back to the center. Score heavier paper for easier folding.
2. Leaving the paper folded, accordion fold the paper into three equal sections.
3. Unfold the paper by grasping the “loose” corners on the top and bottom of the folded paper. Note that there are 12 sections.
4. Create a scene or design covering the entire page or any portion of it (columns or rows) up to 12 mini scenes (one in each section). Both sides of the page may be incorporated into the design.
5. Cut the heavier paper for covers (1/12th the size of the paper). Embellish the covers if desired.
6. Refold the paper and attach a cover on the top and bottom of the folded stack.
7. To open, grasp the loose corner of both front and back covers; pull apart gently.

To Do and Notice

1. This project does not require measuring and so it is easy for even young learners to construct. Measuring can of course be part of the project.
2. This format is versatile and can be used to create:
 - an “All About Me” book.
 - a personal timeline or one of an historical personality or period.
 - a book report.
 - a card for any occasion.
 - a presentation vehicle for lists of rhyming words, synonyms, antonyms, homonyms, etc.
 - a study aid for math, spelling, history or other subject.
 - a presentation aid for sharing information.
 - a “get acquainted” activity.

The Content Behind the Activity

This construction provides a playful and nonthreatening way to introduce beginning fractions like halves, thirds and quarters. Add a little more math to this activity by exploring arrays and parts of a whole. If the folding order is reversed (3 sections lengthwise and 4 crosswise), how is the result the same? How is it different? Fold the paper into a different number of sections. What “rule” must followed so that the paper opens flat?

Taking it Further

Create a larger or smaller book by varying the size of the paper.

Web Resources (Visit www.raft.net/raft-idea?isid=645 for more resources!)