



Kinetic Paper Animals

How many things can you make from paper? From just one piece of copy paper, you can create a flying animal. Cut pieces and adhere them together so you can manipulate the wings of a paper bird, dinosaur - or any animal you can imagine!

Tools and Materials

- 8 ½ x 11 paper: You might want to find some nice colored paper or draw on your paper beforehand.
- Additional scraps of paper
- Scissors
- Tape or Glue
- Pencils, markers, or other decorating utensils!

Activity Instructions

1. Fold your 8 ½ x 11 paper along the diagonal to make a square. Cut the excess and place the rectangular paper aside.
2. Unfold the square paper and cut along the fold - now you have two triangles.
3. Fold both of these triangles in half.
4. Cut one of them along the folds - these are the two wings. You can draw on these to make the triangles resemble dinosaur or bird wings.
5. Take your other triangle from #3 and unfold it in front of you so the base is facing you. Using glue or tape, adhere your wings to the triangle.
6. Take the excess paper from #1 and fold one edge into a small triangle. Cut it out - this is the head of your animal.
7. Glue the head of the animal to the larger triangle.
8. Take two long strips of paper (about 1in x 4in) and fold them at about 1in. Glue these to the wings.
9. Test your flying creature by holding the body and moving the strips of paper attached to the wings up and down!

Tips & Extensions

- Cut different shapes out of the paper to make all kinds of flying animals!
- If using loose-leaf or newspaper, double up when making the different parts for more stability.
- What other kinds of puppetry can you discover by using paper to make movements?

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