

Shaper Paper® Lantern

(art + social studies)

To celebrate Chinese New Year or for simply stunning decoration on any occasion, these paper lanterns are easy to make and surprisingly sturdy. The process creates very little mess and the finished product is translucent, so it can be lit from inside for a nighttime glow.

Grade Levels K-8

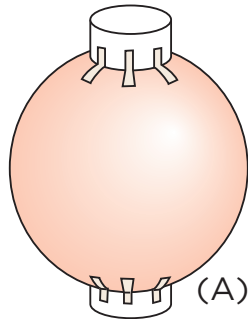
Note: instructions and materials based on a class of 25 students. Adjust as needed.

Preparation

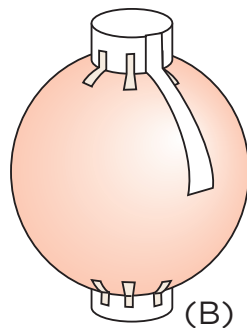
1. Using a paper cutter, make strips from Shaper Paper™ sheets, 1" to 1-1/2" wide, 11" long.
2. Cut Railroad Board into 2" wide x 11" strips. Each lantern will need two strips.
3. Fill water containers.

Process

1. Inflate balloons. Tape or staple ends of Railroad Board strips together to form rings. With masking tape, attach one ring to the top of the balloon and one to the bottom, see (A). Make sure that rings are positioned directly opposite one another or lantern will look lopsided.



2. Next, apply Shaper Paper™ to the balloon. Take one strip and dip it in the water. Use thumb and forefinger to gently slide down the strip and work off excess water. Be careful not to use too heavy of a "squeegee" action or it will also remove the adhesive.



Shaper Paper™ is coated with adhesive is on both sides - the water will activate it. Apply the strip to the Railroad Board at the top of the balloon, then smooth it down over the side, see (B) Depending on the size of the balloon, it will cover at least halfway down. Smooth it flat.

3. Dip the next strip of Shaper Paper™ in the water and squeegee. Apply it so that it slightly overlaps the first strip. It will overlap more at the top, to



Materials

Crayola® Shaper Paper™ (34962-1009), package of 100, 8-1/2" x 11" sheets, need approximately six sheets per student

Round balloon, one per student

Railroad Board, 6-ply White (13105-1102), share one 22" x 28" sheet between 14 students

Blick® All-Use Masking Tape, 1" (23006-1001), share three rolls across class

Blick® Liquid Watercolors, assorted colors (00369-) share four 4-oz bottles across class

Blick® Scholastic Red Sable Brushes, set of 72 (06055-7209), assorted sizes

Water containers

Process, continued

compensate for the curve of the balloon. Repeat, applying one strip at a time, see (C), until the top of the balloon is covered with Shaper Paper™, see (D)

4. Turn the balloon upside down and repeat steps 2 and 3 to cover the other half of the balloon, see (E). Make sure that strips overlap in the center of the balloon, so that there aren't any gaps.

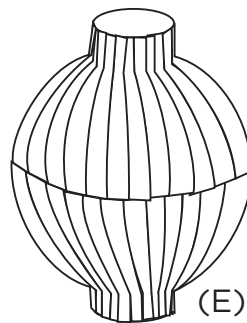
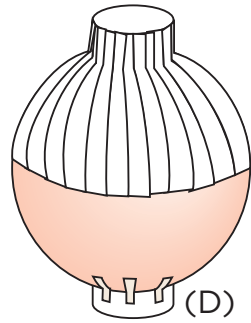
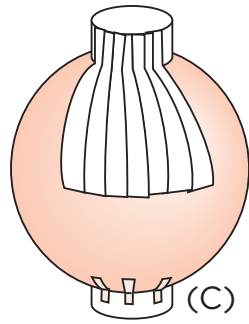
5. Allow Shaper Paper™ to dry completely. Areas where paper has overlapped will take longer. Once it's dry, pop the balloon. The lantern will hold its shape.

6. Paint the outside of the lantern with watercolor, using as little water as possible. Wet, soaking washes may resaturate the adhesive. Blick Liquid Watercolor can be used straight from the bottle, with brilliant, intense color. Paint landscapes, florals, symbols, patterns — anything bright and colorful!

7. To illuminate, place the lantern over a battery-operated lamp, a low-wattage bulb or fill with white lights on a string. CAUTION: Paper Lantern is flammable, keep away from high heat and open flame. NOTE: Paper Lanterns are not waterproof. Do not leave outdoors or place in a location where moisture can affect it.

Options

1. Make it a handle for the lantern by punching holes in the top Railroad Board ring and attaching a wire or string.
2. Hang beads, tassels or ribbon around the lantern for extra decoration.



National Standards

Content Standard #1 — Understanding and applying media, techniques, and processes

K-4 Students use different media, techniques, and processes to communicate ideas, experiences, and stories

5-8 Students intentionally take advantage of the qualities and characteristics of art media, techniques, and processes to enhance communication of their experiences and ideas

Content Standard #4 — Understanding the visual arts in relation to history and cultures

K-4 Students identify specific works of art as belonging to particular cultures, times, and places

5-8 Students describe and place a variety of art objects in historical and cultural contexts

