

Waterlily Origami

Pop-Up Card

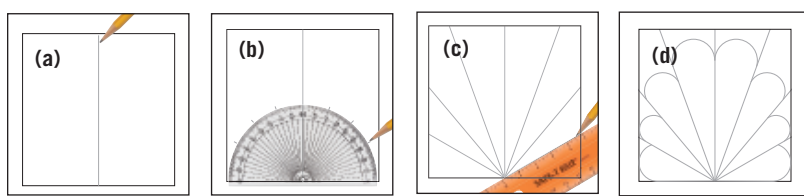
(art + geometry; art + social studies)

For greetings, gifts or just for fun, students will enjoy making a pop-up card with a lovely folded water lily tucked inside. Using the Japanese art of origami, the flower is made with six petals cut from one single template and folded to unfurl as the card is opened. For an interdisciplinary math lesson, have students use geometry skills to measure angles and create their own template (Step 1). For a faster project, use the template already created (B, below right) and simply cut out the petal pieces.

Grade Levels 5-8

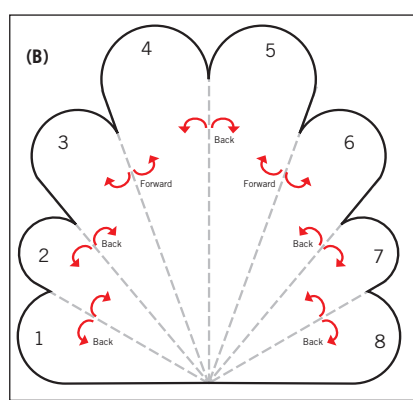
Process

1. Create a pattern to follow, or use the one provided. Follow the illustration below to make the pattern: on a 4" x 4" piece of posterboard, find the center with a ruler, and mark with a line (a). Align the center and edge of the protractor on the edge of the card (b), then mark the following angles: 30°, 50°, 70°, 110°, 130° and 150°. Connect with pencil, using a ruler (c). Create scalloped edges between the angled lines by freehanding or using a compass (d).



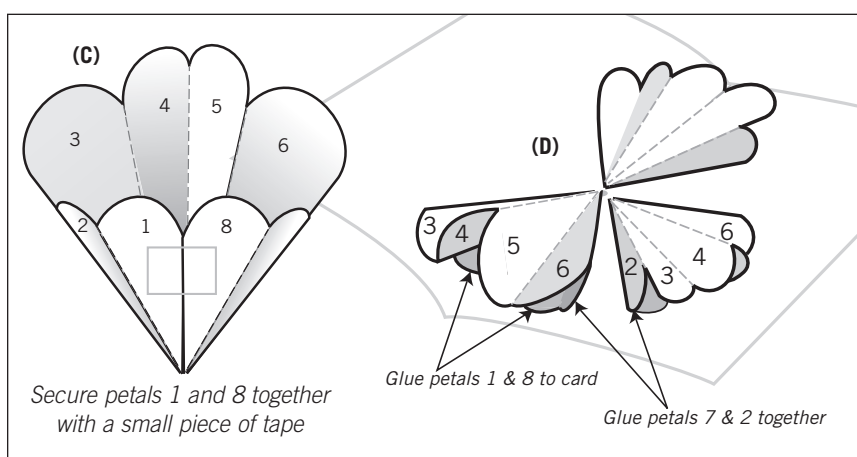
For a math lesson, draw the pattern using geometry tools, see step 1

2. Cut out the pattern with scissors. It will look like a sea-shell (B). With pencil, lightly number each petal, starting at the left, 1 through 8.



This illustration may be used as a pattern to save time. Shown at 50%, enlarge to 4" x 4" to use

3. Using watercolor pencils, apply color to each 4" x 4" piece of watercolor paper, front and back. Use a combination of a light color with a darker color for best results (see finished example, above, using Yellow and Heliotrope). Use a small amount of the Glitter Glaze on a brush to moisten and blend the color. Allow first side to dry, then apply glaze to the second side. Use the same process to paint the card on the inside and the outside. Allow to dry.
4. Trace the pattern onto each of the six pieces of watercolor paper and cut out with scissors. HINT: the paper is lightweight enough to cut two or three pieces at a time if you need to save time.
5. Fold each petal, origami style. Begin with the center fold, create a hard crease back. A bone folder is helpful in creating a strong crease. Fold the next angle forward, and the next two back (see B, above). Use a small piece of tape to secure petals 1 and 8 together (see C, below), if desired.



6. On the Blank Greeting Card, measure and mark the center on the fold. Position two of the folded pieces with points at the center, glue petals 1 & 8 to the card (see D, above). These will be the center pieces of the flower.
7. The remaining folded pieces will be the sides of the flower, and will need to be trimmed in order for the card to close properly. On two of the pieces, trim away petals 1 and 2. On the other two pieces, trim away petals 7 and 8. Attach the first flower side to the right of one of the center pieces, gluing petal 1 to the card and 2 to the side of the center (on it's petal 2). Repeat to the right of the other center piece. Repeat with remaining flower sides on the left of the center pieces, this time gluing petal 8 to the card and 7 to the center pieces. Do not glue the sides of the flower together, they will overlap as the card folds down.
8. Allow the glue to dry completely before gently folding card. Use a brush or calligraphy marker to write a message around the flower and on the front of the card. Insert into the included envelope, and it's ready to send.

Easy Variation

1. For a faster project, use [Folia Origami Sheets](#) (12233-1033) instead of watercolor paper and eliminate step 3. Glue 2 light blue sheets to the card first for water. Cut oval-shaped leaves from light or dark green sheets and glue on top the blue. Use the remaining colors (reds, yellows, pinks, purples) for petals. Follow steps 4-8 for the lily.



Materials

- Strathmore Blank Greeting Cards, size 5" x 7", box of 50 (12940-1430), one per student
- Blick Student Watercolor Paper, 90-lb (10028-2152), sheet size 22" x 30". Students will need six 4" x 4" pieces
- 6" Semicircular Protractor (55646-0006), one per student
- Safe-T View Thru Rulers (55496-1012), one per student
- School Pencil Compass (55491-1055), one per student
- Blick Economy Graphite Pencils (20302-2009) one per student
- Blick Art Gum Erasers (21507-1024) one per student
- Snippy Scissors (57040-2009) one pair per student
- Blick Glue Sticks (23872-1020)
- Blick Economy Posterboard, white one side (13109-1102), one 4" x 4" square per student
- General's® Kimberly® Watercolor pencils, assorted color 144-piece classpack (20502-9012)
- Sargent Art Glitter Glaze (00704-1006), place in small cups to distribute to class
- Blick Economy Camel Hair brushes, size 6 (05153-1006), one per student
- Bone folder, optional (12964-0001)

National Standards

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

5-8

Students intentionally take advantage of the qualities and characteristics of art media, »techniques and processes to enhance communication of their experience and ideas.

Content Standard #6 — Making connections between visual arts and other disciplines

5-8

Students describe ways in which the principles and subject matter of other disciplines taught in the school are interrelated with the visual arts.