

From Show-and-Tell
To Make-and-Do:
A Mini-Manual



Handwritten signature

State Library Commission of Iowa

4-75

A mouse who lived in an art gallery wanted to contribute to the displays, but by nature he was colorblind and all thumbs. Most of his days were spent in thought, and many of his nights were spent in study at the book table near the exit lights.

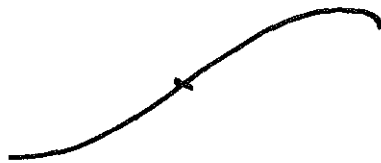
Once he came upon silhouettes cut by Hans Christian Andersen. Surely, he thought, a mouse's teeth would master that lovely craft. But his teeth were all thumbs, too, and he pushed his nibbles of paper near a wastebasket where they would never be noticed.

Another time, the mouse tried to make a little picture with bright feathers that had spilled from an open drawer. But he sneezed, and they were scattered away.

Then one night, on a big desk, he found an open jam pot and some forgotten slices of bread. In his excitement, the mouse jumped too strongly and tumbled into the jam. It was gooseberry, and very good, but he hardly noticed as he climbed out, and hurried across the bread and the desk to his home and a vigorous wash.

In the morning, he was wakened by an artist shouting. Jammy paw and tail trails lay over his desk and lunch. Then the artist stared at one of the bread slices and laughed. The tail and paw marks made a face. If a fork held and moved the now dry bread . . . why, it was a puppet to eat.

And deep in his hole, the mouse licked a gooseberry paw and smiled.



This is a booklet of things to do ~ even if you think you can't. All that you need is what you have; your books, your children (and sometimes their relations), materials just lying around, and a wish. Have fun.

One of the best approaches to vitality in children's library service is to involve children themselves; if they are a part of the action, the library is much more theirs.

For instance, they can:

1. Sing to a record or with an instrument in story hour. Clap in rhythm.

2. Design Bookmarks

3. Be programs. Many are aspiring magicians. They dance. They make and fly paper airplanes. They can draw each other. They can make movies in a projector's light. They can be...

4. Draw pictures of their favorite stories. You cut them into simple puzzles to be used by all.

5. Bring little pictures of themselves to hang on a "people tree".

6. Be puppeteers ~ or actors.

7. Trade collectible stamps with each other and a box of extras you have gathered from other hobbyists

8. Have jumping rope contests using your jump-the-rope jingle books for inspiration.

Bring their favorite recipes for a booklet....

9. Write!

Even
Vampires
Read



Chad Freeman



6

We have had much fun with children's writing. We intend to have more. This summer we're doing poetry. Every two weeks we - and children - will offer first lines of possible poems.

"The cloud was full of purple rain" or "I walked beside a mirror and I looked - and wasn't there" or "A frog jumped in my bowl of soup" ... The kids get to finish them off, and the completed versions are posted.

Almost-endings of stories are nice for bookmarks ~ and fun. Suppose you are reading a story that stops like this. What would you expect to happen?

"And the clock kept ticking backward with its alarm set to go off at ..."

"But when the giant ate the magic hamburger..."

"The pen had a mind of its own, so at the end of the letter it wrote..."

Beginnings of stories make whole stories. Choose a few beginnings to use for a story-writing contest. Make lots of copies of the winning entries, and invite the authors to be guests at an autographing party. Use opening sentences that welcome imagination but do not point in any particular direction. Like these:

"The alligator was closer now, right behind John. Then just as it opened its long jaws, John grabbed his package of bubble gum."

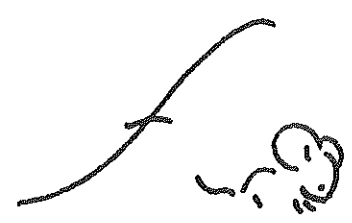
"People in the valley were worried. The giant who lived on the mountain had swallowed the weather, and now he had the hiccups."

It was the first time the porcupine had been on roller skates, so he carried a box of band-aids in case he bumped into anyone. Just then he started down a hill! A little girl was standing at the bottom of the hill. The porcupine made big motions but the little girl paid no attention. So the porcupine bumped into the girl. She started crying, then the porcupine remembered that he had some band-aids. He put the band-aids where they were needed. After that the girl showed the porcupine how to roller skate. THE END.

Monica A. Cottrell
Grade 2, Age 7

Need an interesting diversion when a class comes for an exercise in using the card catalog? You might play a kind of bingo.

	B	I	N	G	O
B	Book of riddles	Description of a tornado	Recipe for cookies	Map of Iowa	Book about comets
I	Poem about snow	Directions for making a kite	Song for a holiday	Picture of acorns	Book by Laura Ingalls Wilder
N	Biography of Helen Keller	Book with name of a color in the title	Story about a rabbit	Magic tricks	How to take care of gerbils
G	Picture of Tyrannosaurus Rex	What clowns do	How to make a puppet	Book by Edward Eager	Story about ghosts
O	What to feed a puppy	Illustrations by Robert McCloskey	Story about Encyclopedia Brown	How to catch a fish	Picture of Snoopy



The State Library Commission of Iowa has a large collection of excellent films for children. Many of them, made by Weston Woods, are of favorite picture books such as "Drummer Hoff", "Rosie's Walk", and "Snowy Day". "Mole and the Lollipop" is an international award winner from Czechoslovakia. Films are useful in supplementing story hours, being special festival programs, and in rounding out programs on a special subject - for example:

1. With visiting small animals such as rabbit, guinea pig, turtle, use
 - "Big Red Barn"
 - "MacDonald's Farm"
 - "Gerbils"
2. With an exhibit of children's art, use
 - "Alexander and the Car With the Missing Headlight"
 - "Harold and the Purple Crayon"
 - "A Picture for Harold's Room"
3. For a Sing-Along program, add
 - "Fox Went Out On a Chilly Night"
 - "Frog Went A-Courtin'"
 - "Foolish Frog" (use this for a frog-jumping contest?)
4. The library's birthday party might want
 - "Jenny's Birthday"
5. With a talk about pets, use
 - "Whistle for Willie"
 - "One Kitten for Kimu"

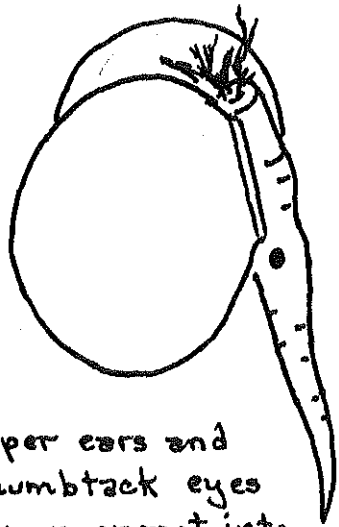
We have found it most rewarding to have film showings at a time when whole groups of day-care and kindergarten children are able to attend. They certainly do as well as mothers with their own and neighborhood children.

There are films for older children and adults, too. All are available without cost, except for return postage.

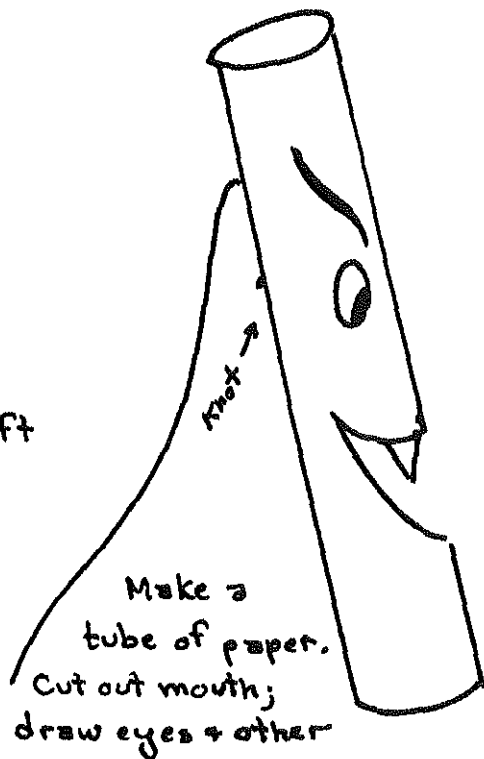
For information write

Audio-Visual Department
 State Library Commission of Iowa
 Historical Building
 Des Moines, Iowa 50319

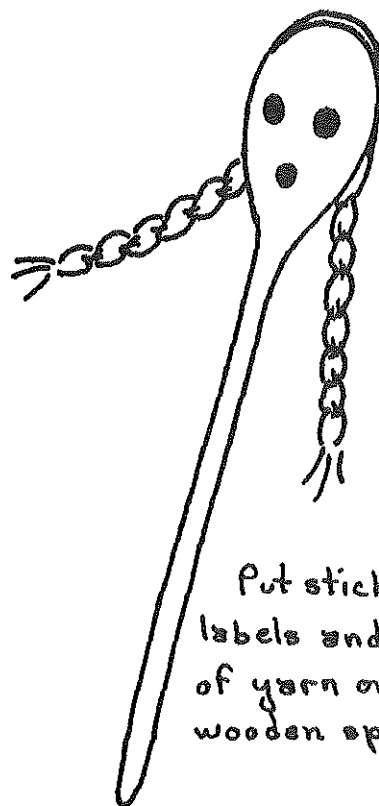
It is sometimes easier to express oneself with a puppet than as a person. Puppets can be very elaborate ~ or made in just a minute; remember the mouse and his jammy bread. Here are a few quick ones for children ~ and you.



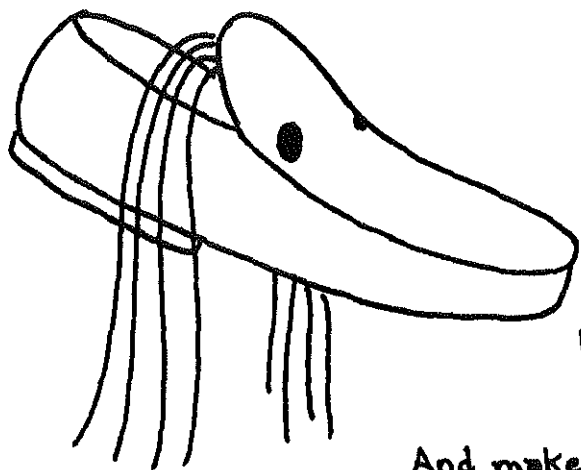
Paper ears and thumbtack eyes turn a carrot into an elephant. Or use an up-ended drink bottle with stuck-on eyes.



Make a tube of paper. Cut out mouth; draw eyes + other features. Tape a knotted string at the back of the tube ~ with knot below tape (avoids pulling out). Bend tube back of mouth. Hold bottom of tube with one hand, pull string with other; puppet will "talk".



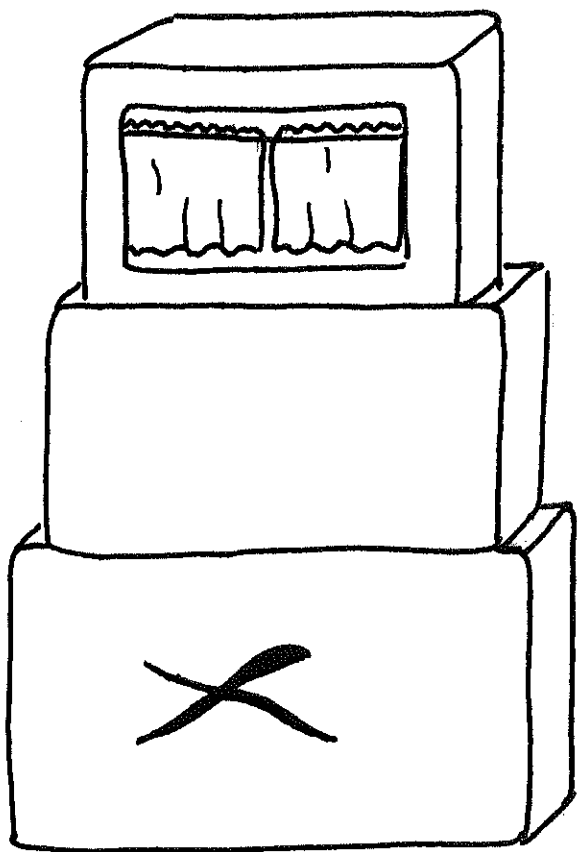
Put sticky coding labels and a braid of yarn on a wooden spoon



Put coding labels on your shoe, use hanging yarn for hair. Or use a clump of dry grass for that unkempt look.

And make puppets from old lost-and-found mittens.

A puppet stage can be anything, too. A table, a bookshelf, a towel across a doorway, an arm. Or boxes. Libraries always have a surplus of packing boxes. Find three of graduated sizes, and tape and glue them together, largest on the bottom. Cut an opening in the little box on top. Paint and decorate them to your taste, string little curtains across the top box; ~ one puppet stage.

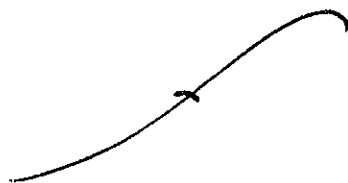


Our box-stage is in the children's room and is available at all times. One day we heard very small children with an old fairy tale:

Prince: "Rapunzel, Rapunzel, let down your hair."

Rapunzel: "I'll bend my head over ... Oh! My hair fell off!"

Prince: "What do I do now?"

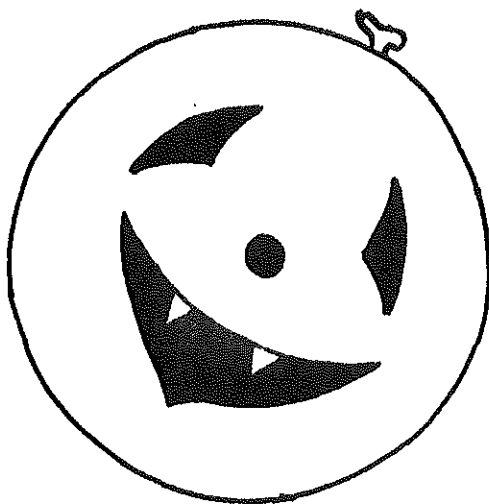


Then there are decorations and mobiles which are nice to look at and fun for everybody to make.

Mobiles are decorations which are just that. Mobile. They swing freely from ceiling, doorway, light or what have you. They hold anything from pine cones and wood shavings to the lovely clarity of an Alexander Calder idea. A simple mobile's frame may be pieces of itself, branches, wire, pencils, soda straws, rolled-up book jackets or newspapers, sticks, or dried stems and grasses. And suspended, in balance, you hang what you will.

Stobiles are just like mobiles ~ except that they sit on tables, shelves, or desks. For that reason, besides being arresting and interesting to look at, they lend themselves well to use with topical displays.

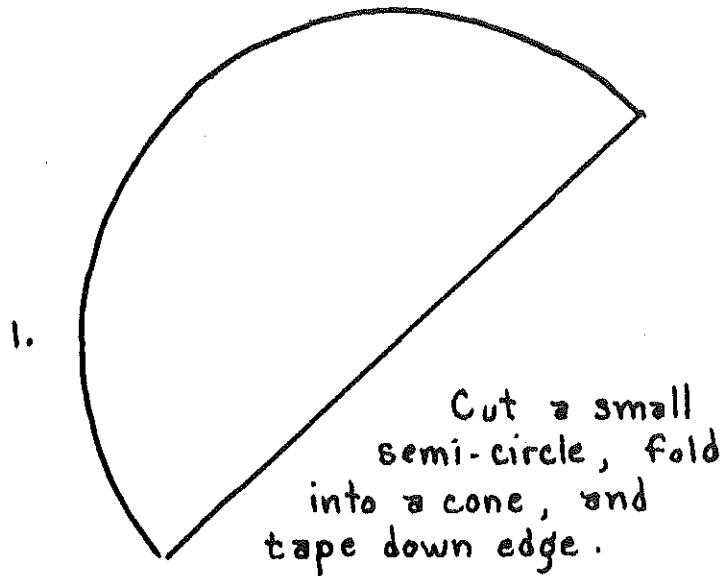
Then there are the kinds of things where you just do something-to-something ~ and it comes out new. An example might be to take your trusty felt-tip pen and draw jack-o-lantern faces on orange and yellow balloons.



Here are a few ideas and instructions, along with pieces of make-believe.

A Mouse For Hanging

One evening when a young cat came home to his apartment he found five mice in residence. Being of satisfied stomach and peaceable mind, he decided to let the matter and the mice rest - for the time being.

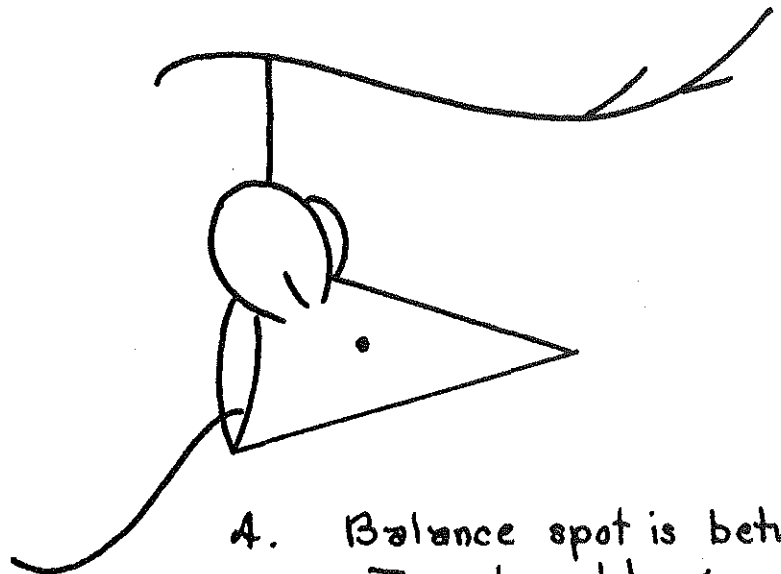


These shapes, cut and slit, will be ears.

Fold over at slit and tape one to each side of broad end of cone.



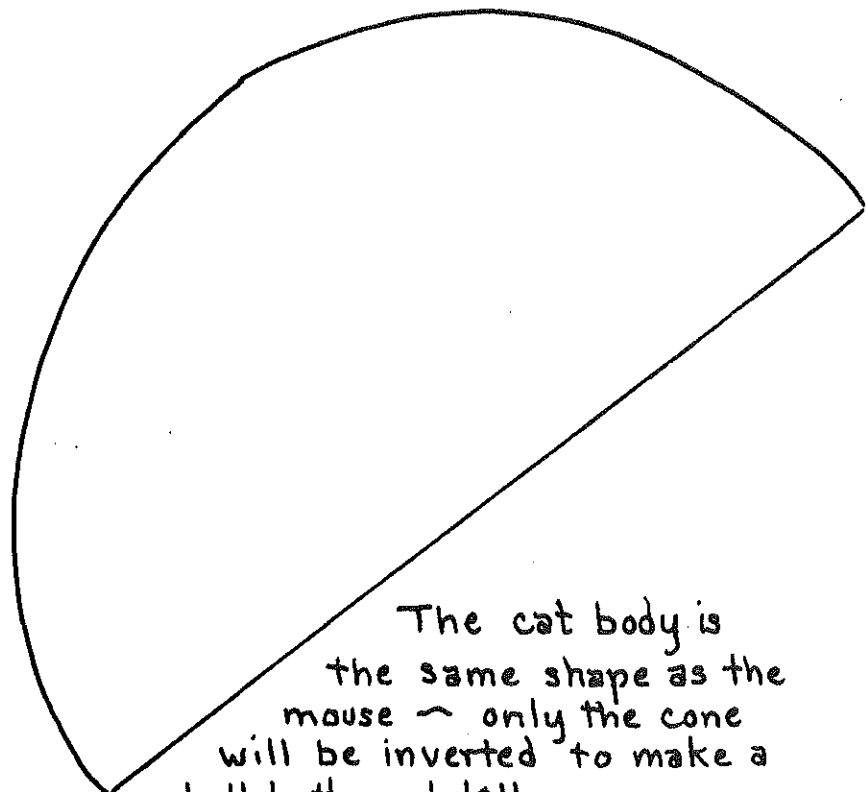
3. Tape 1 1/2 - 2 inch piece of yarn - any color - to inside of cone. Make dots on cone for eyes.



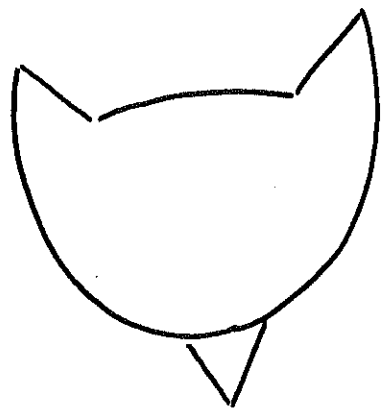
4. Balance spot is between ears. Thread and hang.

And A Cat for Pursuing

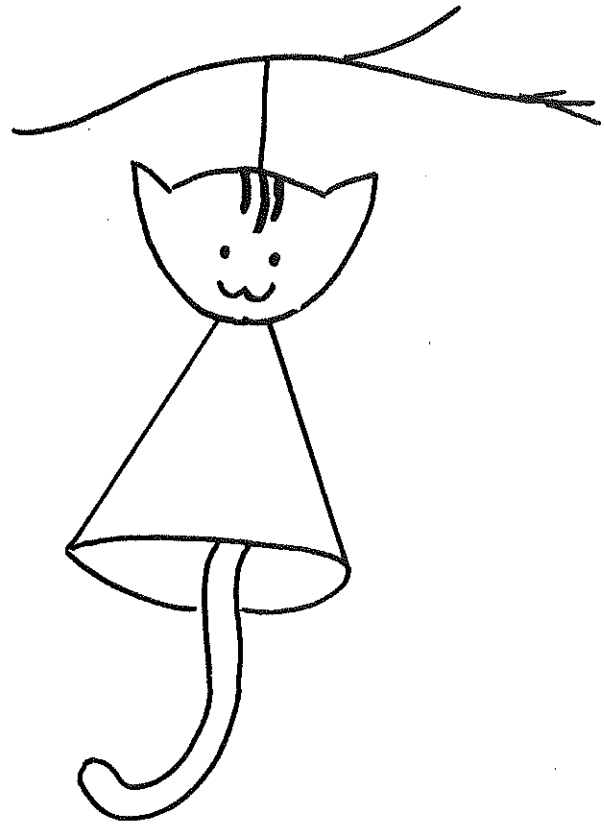
... By the next afternoon, however, circumstances had changed and when the young cat found four of the mice chewing his furry yellow muffler, a gleam of combat appeared in his left eye.



The cat body is the same shape as the mouse ~ only the cone will be inverted to make a bell-bottomed kitty.



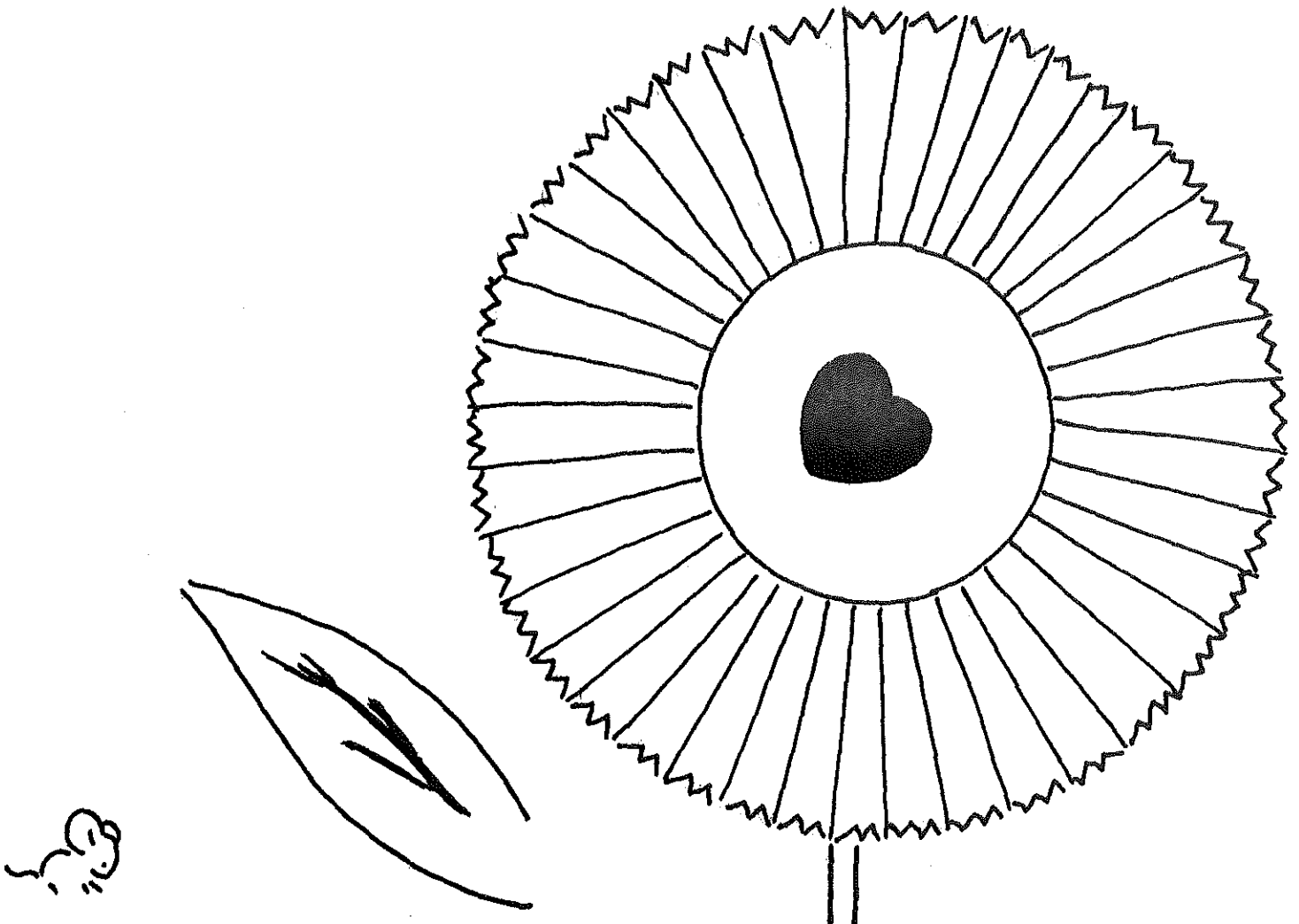
His face is shaped like this and the triangle under the chin is taped to the cone's point. A tail is attached like the mouse's and can either be heavier yarn or a length of paper with one end curled by winding it around a pencil. Draw a face you like.



It was Valentine's day, and the troll held his heart on the tip of his tongue, but he sneezed and it blew away.

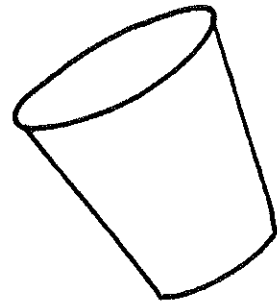
A Valentine Flower

The flower is made from a foil-lined muffin cup. Cut the sides down to the bottom, all around the cup. Fold the sides flat. The two layers of the cup will have separated; glue them together at the bottom. Cut a red heart shape, and glue it to the place where the flower center would be. Use a twig or pipe cleaner for the stem; add leaves if you wish. Put on poster or in vase.



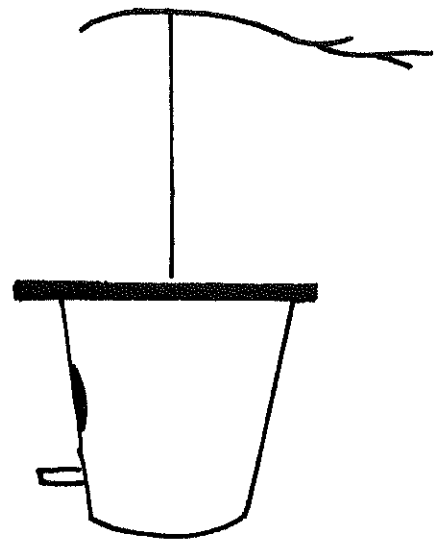
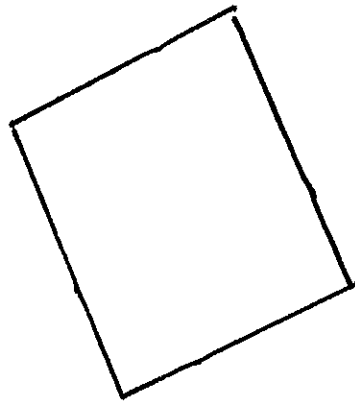
Birdhouse

A new birdhouse was dismayed at the numbers of sparrows poking around, and asked a local woodpecker to make a "FOR WRENT" sign
.....



The birdhouse is made from a cork, with a piece of balsa or cardboard for a roof, and a bit of twig or stick for a perch.

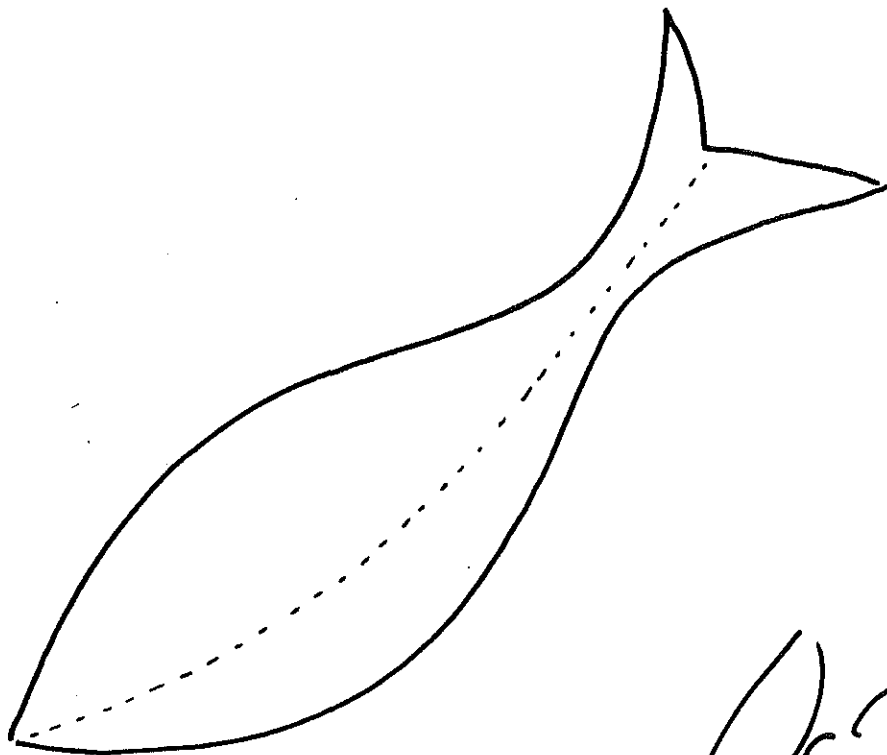
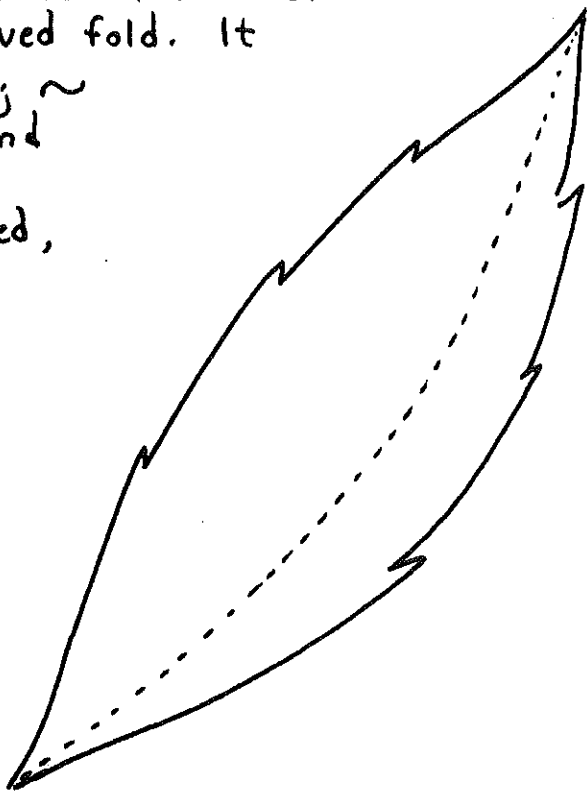
Glue roof to cork, color it if you like. Color in a black circle on the cork for a hole, and push the perch into the cork and glue it so it will stay there.



Curved Fold

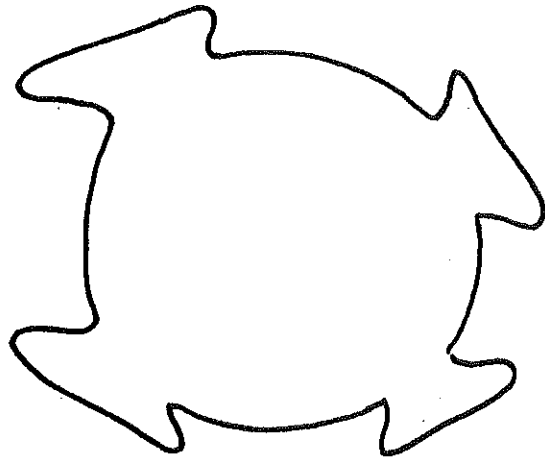
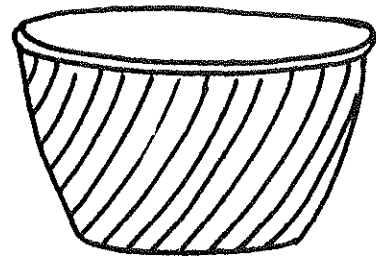
One of the most useful things to know for posters and hangings is the curved fold. It makes everything more graceful; ~ leaves, birds, faces, fish, and even bats.

Draw and cut the shape desired, score whatever fold you wish with the blunt point of a scissors. Bend the two sides of paper down ~ and presto!, curved fold.



Turtle

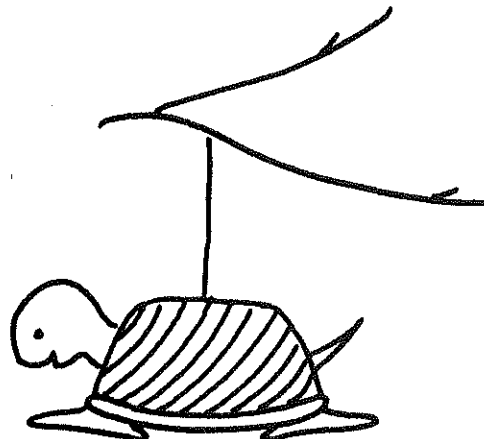
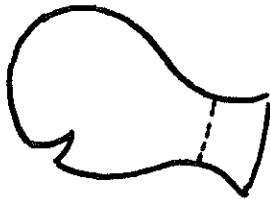
A box turtle's shadow fell asleep under an oak tree, and when he woke up he found that his turtle had gone.



1. Start with a little nut cup and put the hanging thread in right away ~ before the cup is sealed shut.

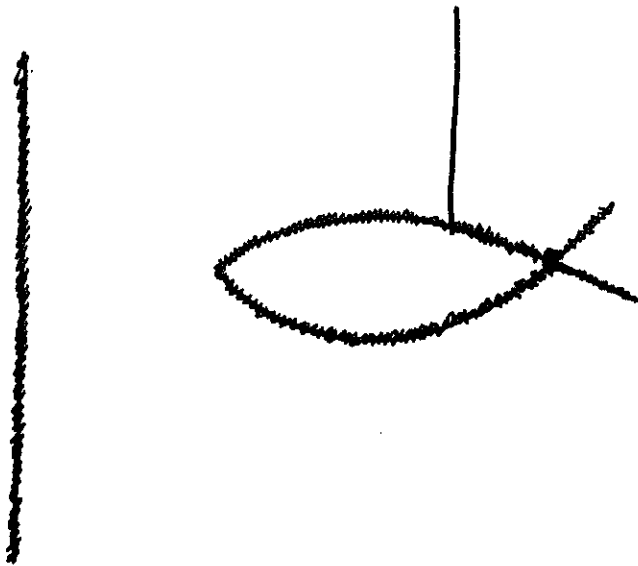
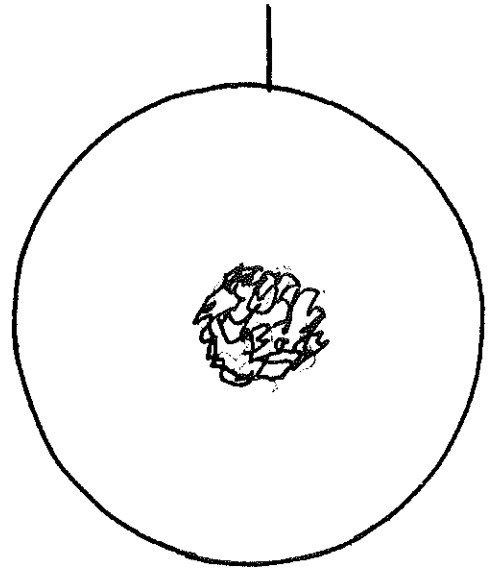
2. Cut the large piece (feet and bottom of shell) and paste to open end of the cup.

3. The head and tail must be done twice and pasted together, but not beyond the dotted lines. Fold those ends to each side and paste to the cup.

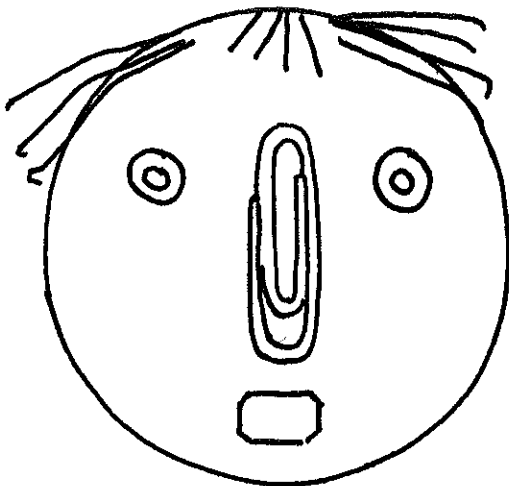


Faces, Fish, and Foil

Make a mobile of Space Cookies.
Cut colored circles ~ and stick
centers of crumpled foil on
each side



Bend a pipe cleaner
and make a
fish. Give a twist to the
tail. A sequin, hung by fine
wire, makes a nice eye if you
want one

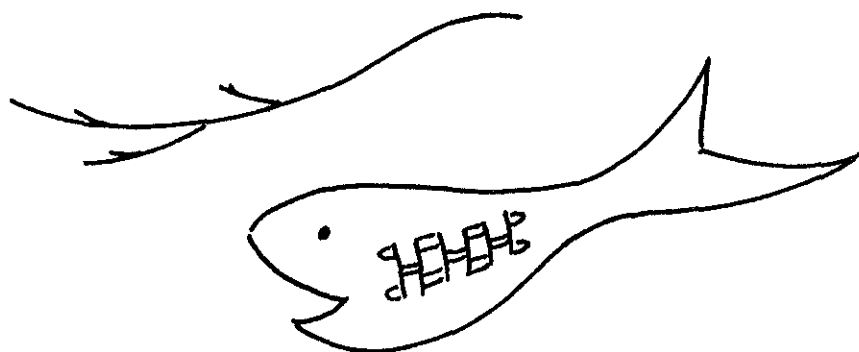
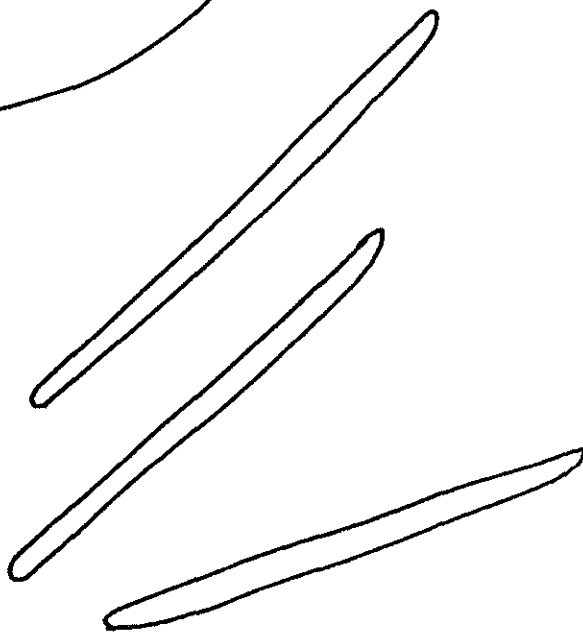
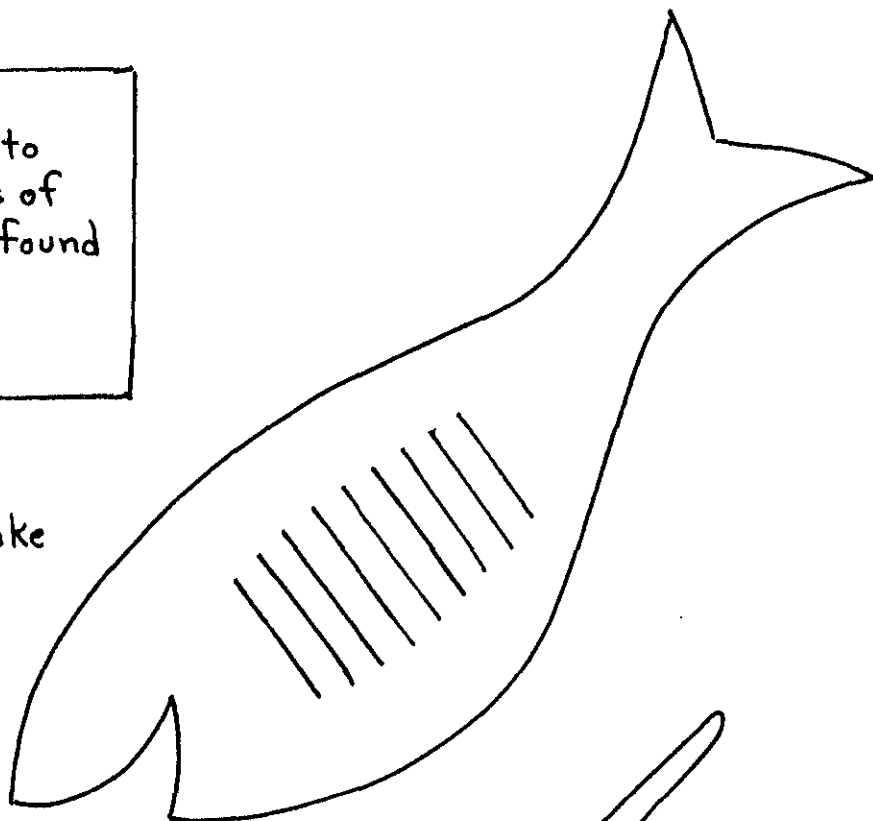


Make funny faces. Re-enforcing circles
for eyes, paperclip noses, cut rubber-bandy
hair, sticky signal mouth....

Woven Fish

A fish jumped high to catch the brightness of a fly's wing, and found he had swallowed a rainbow...

1. Cut a happy fish and make slits in his side.
2. Depending on his size and your view of things, weave toothpicks, suckersticks or popsicle sticks through the slits.
3. Give him eyes, and hang him for a quiet swim or a crash dive.

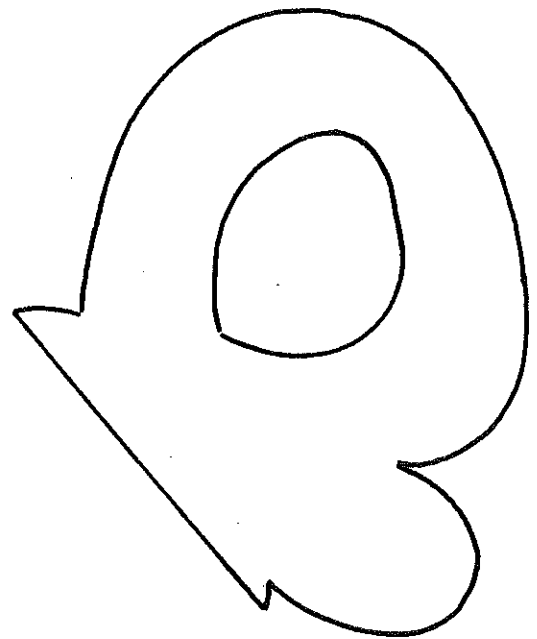


In Butterflight

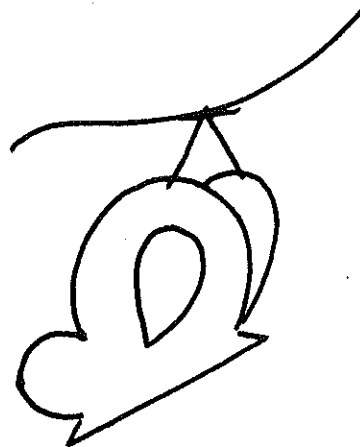
1. The butterfly is cut from folded paper, his body being the folded edge.

2. Cut matching holes in each wing

The orange butterfly refused to believe in his fragility. For when looked at carefully on his daisy, who could doubt that his wings held all the sky.....



3. It can be left that way and hung ~ or you can tape colored tissue paper or cellophane inside the wings to cover the holes.



P.S. The folded paper could easily be inside-out envelopes from the mail.

A low-flying ghost trailed the hem of his whiteness in a witch's cooking pot and had to stop a while to dry off....

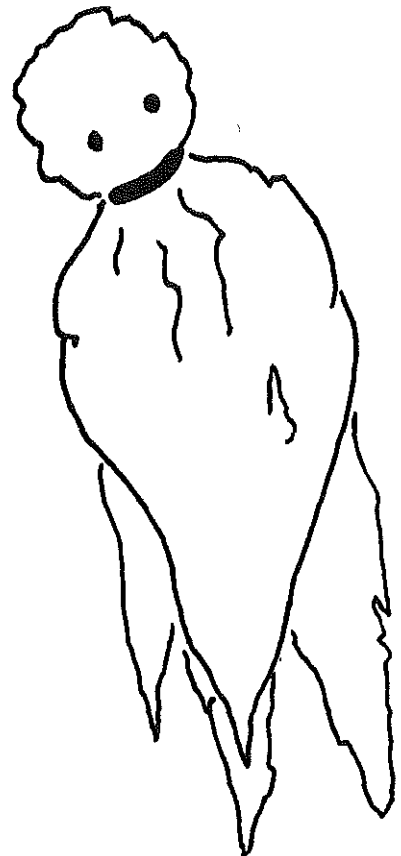
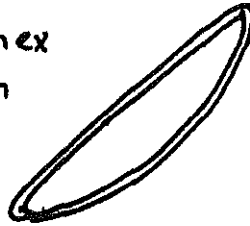
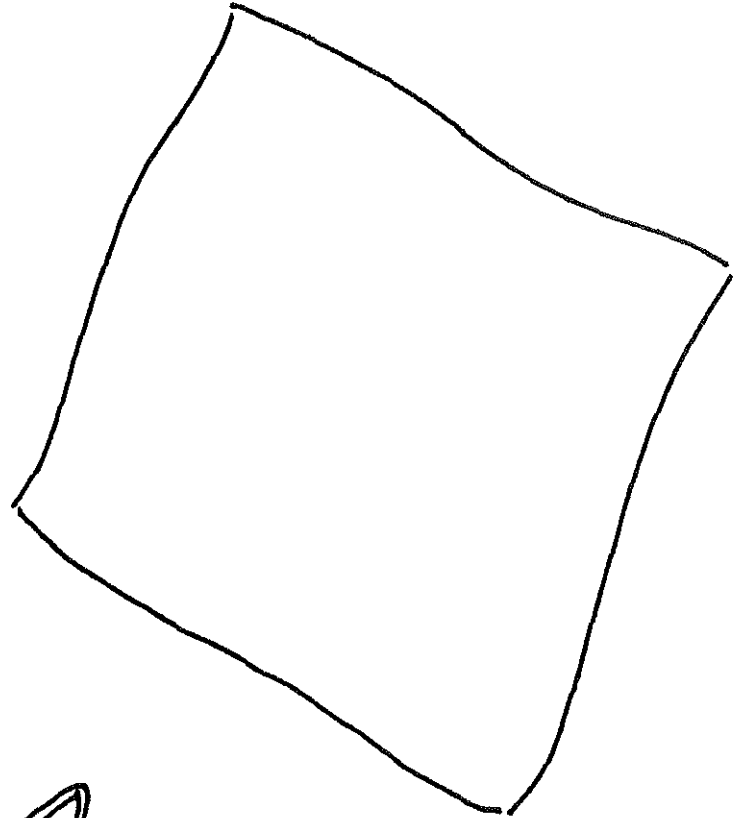
1. All you need for a fine ghost is kleenex, a rubber-band and a felt-tipped pen.
Take two kleenex tissues....

2. And roll one in your hands into a little ball.

3. Center the second kleenex over the ball, fold down and twist around.

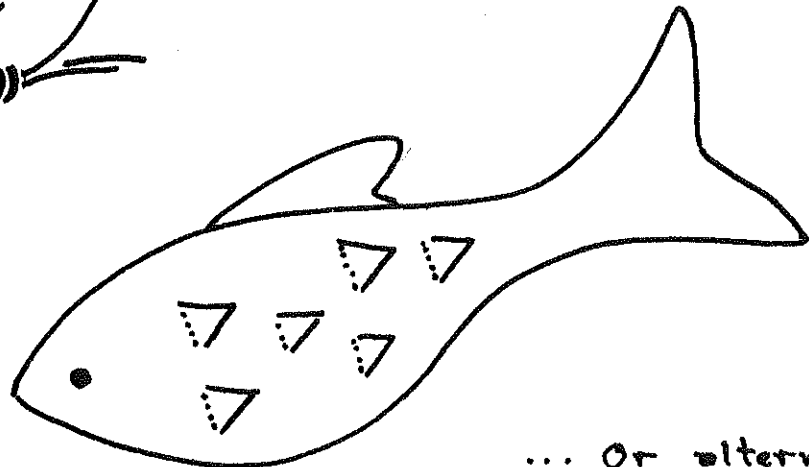
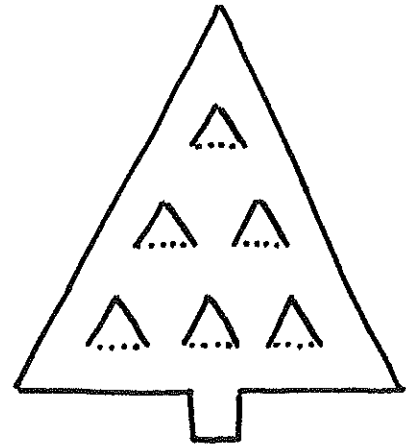
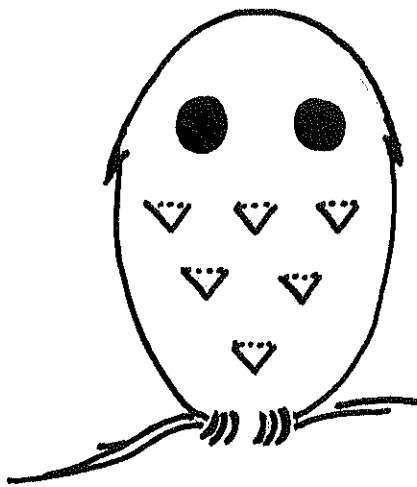
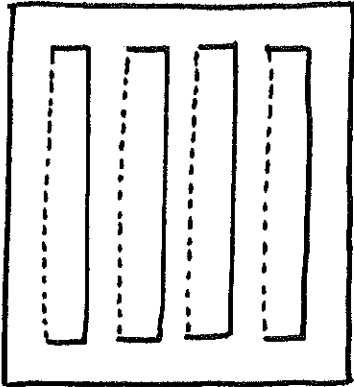
4. Loop the rubber-band over and over the twist until tight

5. Use the pen to make eye-spots.



Cuts and Folds

To make a cut and fold it is to change the whole appearance of a simple form. Fold on dotted lines.... Try things like these.

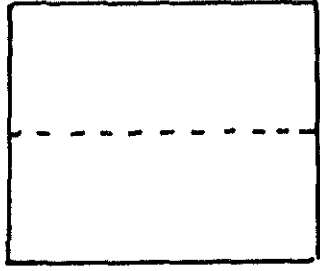


... Or make your object twice, and glue colored cellophane or tissue paper in between...

... Or alternate the direction of the folds...

Snow

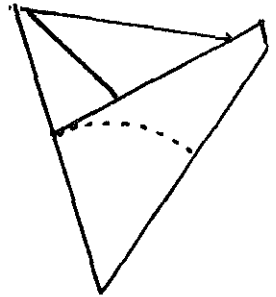
As you know, any sensible and well-constructed snowflake has six points or sides. Paper ones can be that way, too



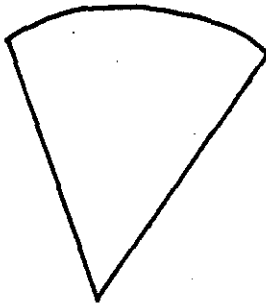
Fold paper on dotted line



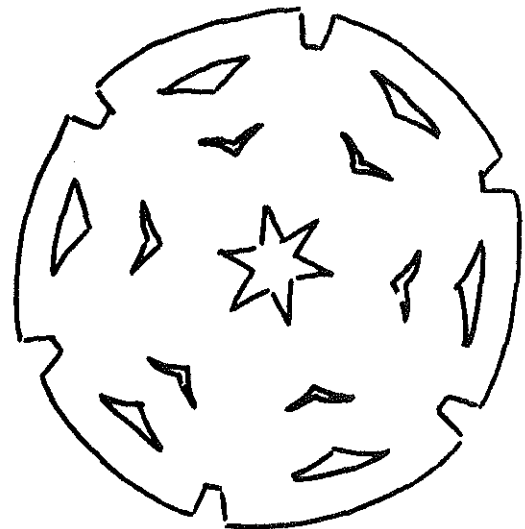
Fold on lines



Cut on dotted line



and cut whatever snips and cuts you want on sides, top and pointed end.

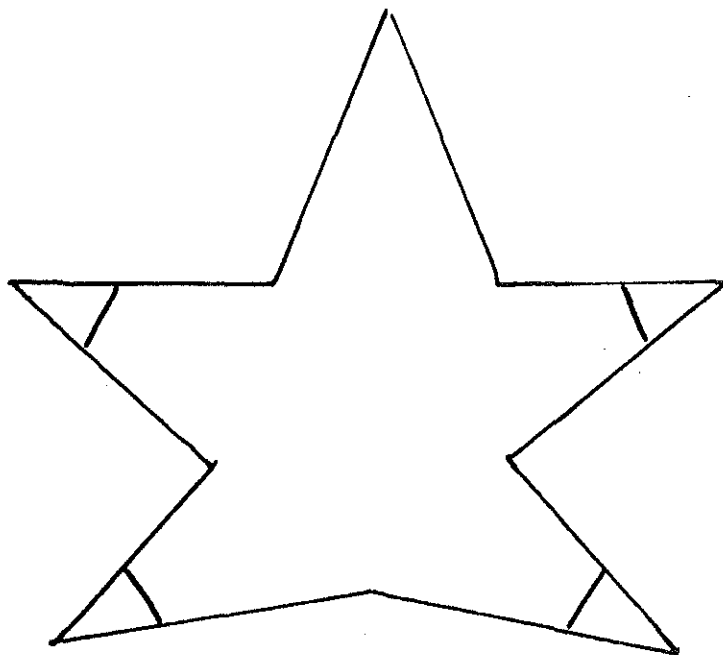


Unfold; ~
one snowflake

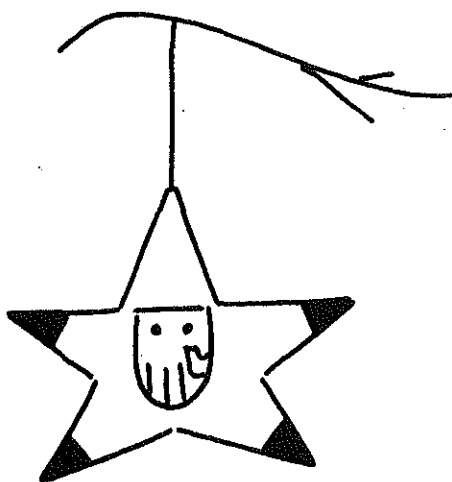
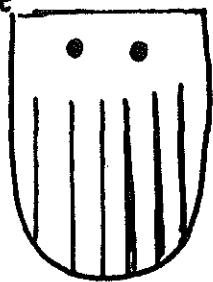
Starring Santa....

It was most embarrassing and too late to return to the north pole. Santa, in a hurry, had gotten his bags mixed and had a sleighful of the elves' laundry...

1. Cut a sprawly star-shape of red paper.
2. Color in tips of four points with black ~ on both sides if he's going to be hung.



3. Cut this shape from white note paper; cut along inner lines. Curl the strips by pulling along scissor edge. Make dots; paste on star



One evening, after watching a jelly-bread puppet show, the art gallery mouse tipped a tea cup to learn his fortune and found a wet cricket instead.

"Never mind the tea leaves", said the cricket. "Give me a home and I will be your fortune."

The mouse helped the cricket out of the cup. "I have plenty of room", he said, "and I need a friend.... wipe your feet on this cracker...."

The end of something
 Makes a circle.
 It is always
 A new place to begin.



It's your turn.

Hazel Westgate
 Children's Librarian
 Iowa City Public Library