

# Shamrock Holiday Banner Instructions

## Ages 1-6

### **Materials Needed:**

4 or more sheets of colored 8 1/2 x 11 paper

Snowmen (white); Hearts (red); Shamrock (green); Eggs (multi-colors); Flowers (multi-colors); 4's (red, white, blue); Sun (yellow); Star (yellow or gold); Pumpkin (orange); Snowflakes (white); Tree (green)

3 or more 1" brass fasteners

Pencil

Scissors

Hole punch

### **Instructions:**

#### Preparing the paper

1. Make all of the 8-1/2" x 11" paper a square by folding the right corner of the paper up to the left side of the paper. Make a point at the bottom left corner and the entire bottom edge even with the side edge.
2. With the paper folded, mark with a pencil where the triangle crossed the extra paper.
3. Unfold the paper and cut along that line. What remains should be a square. (Depending upon the age of the child, he/she can also cut along the edge of folded paper rather than mark it with the pencil.)
4. Repeat with all sheets of paper to make all squares. Save the extra paper for future project.

#### Shamrock Banner:

1. Fold the square in half making a long rectangle.
2. Fold the folded rectangle in half again making a smaller square.
3. With the folded corner at the bottom and the open ends at the top, fold the side corners together making a triangle.
4. Trace the shape of the cut onto the triangle and cut it off with a scissors. Be careful not to cut off all of the folded edge.
5. Open the folded square to reveal the shamrock.
6. Fold the shamrock in half and make a hole with the hole punch through 2 leaves.
7. Repeat steps 1-6 for each sheet of paper.
8. Overlap the left leaf with a hole with the right leaf with hole from a second shamrock. Match the holes and place a brass fastener through the holes. Spread the legs of the fastener to hold it tightly.
9. Repeat step 8 until all shamrocks are in a string. If the same leaf of each shamrock overlaps the leaf of the next shamrock, you should be able to turn the shamrocks to easily stack them and store them for the next year.

### **Project Expanded into Additional Subjects:**

1. Math: Counting each of the shamrocks or leaves on the shamrock. More shamrocks can be made to make as many shamrocks as the child is able to count.
2. Math: Fractions of 1/2 and 1/4 as the papers are folded. Take time to open it all the way to see the number of divisions made by the folds.
3. Math: Shapes change as the paper is folded. Take time to acknowledge these changes.
4. Art: Mention the color appropriate to the project or the multiple colors.
5. Time: Mention the holiday and how it falls within the year or week.
6. Literature: Stories related to holidays or the design used in the project..