

Paper Plate Flower Instructions

Ages 2-6

Materials Needed:

3—Inexpensive paper plates
Assortment of colored pencils or crayons
1—Craft stick or tongue depressor
1—3/4” brass plated fastener
Pair of scissors
Ruler
Masking tape
Pencil

Instructions:

1. Cut off about 1” (all of the rippled edge) around the outside edge of the first plate.
2. Cut off about 1-3/4” (all of the rippled edge plus 3/4” more) around the outside edge of the second plate.
3. On the BACK of each plate, using the ruler, measure from 2 directions to find the center of each plate. Mark the center as a small t or cross.
4. Fold the first plate at this center mark being careful to crease the plate only at that center mark.
5. Using the pair of scissors, cut along the opposite center mark which should be about perpendicular to the folded crease. Cut just enough for the brass plated fastener to slip through.
6. Using the colored pencil or crayon, color in about 1” to 1-1/2” around the outside of the two largest plates.
7. Use a cup to draw a circle in the center of the smallest plate.
8. Color this center of the smallest plate yellow. Color from the yellow to the outer edge of the plate the color of your choice.
9. Using the pair of scissors, cut in from the outer edge of the smallest plate to the yellow circle making the petals about 1” in width.
10. Cut in from the outer edge of the two larger plates about 2” in from the edge and 1” in width.
11. Use a pencil to curl each petal in toward the front of the plate.
12. Color the craft stick green or brown using the colored pencils.
13. Slip the brass plated fastener through the cut center of the smallest plate from front to back. Slip it through the cut center of the next larger (medium-sized) plate from front to back. Slip it through the cut center of the largest plate from front to back. Hold the plates together tightly and fold each side of the fastener out flat against the back of the largest plate.
14. Tape the colored craft stick to the back of the largest plate, making sure the colored portion shows on the front of the paper plate flower.
15. Uses:
 - Use the flower as a fan.
 - Stick the craft stick in the ground to decorate before flowers pop up.
 - Decorate a room for a spring-time party.

Project Expanded into Additional Subjects:

1. Science: Talk about flowers and the difference between perennials and annuals.
2. Science: Plant some seeds to show how real flowers grow.
3. Science: Put a white carnation in colored water to show how water flows through the petals and colors them.
4. Geography: Talk about how some flowers can only grow in warm climates. Show the places on the map.
5. Performance: Dance with the flower fans.
6. Math: Point out smaller and bigger sizes of other objects, toys, cans, etc.
7. Math: Finding the center of other objects.
8. Holidays: Use various colors to depict specific holiday, i.e. Valentine’s Day, St. Patrick’s Day, Fourth of July, Veteran’s Day, Christmas
9. Art: Color combinations
10. Literature: Stories related to flowers.