JUNE 20 | Pop-Up Books with Sonia

BRIC teaching artist and designer Sonia Kim teaches you several techniques for making exciting 3D paper pop-ups.

YOU’LL NEED:
- Paper
- Scissors
- Pen or pencil
- Glue stick

INSTRUCTIONS:
1. Gather your materials.
2. Counter Fold Version 1: start with two rectangular pieces of paper that are the same size. Fold each of them in half. Take one of the folded pieces and make a cut into the folded side. Don’t cut all the way through. You should stop about an inch from the edge. Feel free to draw a line to guide you if you want. Fold a triangle shape from where you cut. Flip your piece over and fold the same shape back the other way along the same folded line. Open your piece all the way and push the triangle shape up so that it pops up. Fold the triangle shape up into the middle of your piece, so that it pops up when you open.
3. Counter Fold Version 2: take your second folded piece and mark out two lines starting from the fold and stopping about an inch from the end. Cut along these two lines, and again, be sure not to cut all the way through. Take the piece in the middle and fold it back. Move the piece back flat, then flip it over. Now, fold the middle piece again on the other side. Open your piece up and push the rectangular shape in towards the middle. If you want to glue the piece inside a card or book, be sure to line your folds up along the middle, and glue one side at a time. Be careful not to glue the middle part so that it will be able to move and pop up.
4. Face: start with one piece of paper for your card, and a second one to make your pop-up insert. The piece for your pop-up can be a bit smaller than the card. Fold both pieces in half. Starting at the folded side, mark two lines for cutting, one long and one short. For the long cut, fold two small triangles out in either direction. For the shorter cut, fold one triangle shape. Flip your piece over and fold all the folds back in the other direction. Open your piece all the way up. Pop the triangle shape up to make a nose. For the small pieces folded from the long cut, carefully pop them up to make upper and lower lips to form the mouth. You can close your piece back up and cut around the outside to make the rectangle into an oval so that it’s shaped more like a face. You can draw on the eyes or cut them out. Carefully glue each side of the face piece to attach it to the inside of your card piece. Line up the folds in the middle and press carefully to make sure it will move when it opens.
5. Multiples: start with one larger piece of paper for your card, and several smaller pieces for your pop-ups. Fold your card piece in half. Stack your smaller pieces together and fold them all in half too. Choose a shape and draw it starting at the folded side. Keep in mind that since your paper is folded, the shape you draw will be half of the total shape once you cut it. For example, if you want to end up with a circle, draw a half circle. Carefully cut along your line. If it’s too difficult to cut through all the pieces at the same time, you can do them one at a time using the first piece you cut as a guide. Now you’re going to glue your pieces together to make a 3D shape. Be sure to keep all the pieces folded as you go. Take one of the pieces and apply glue to half of it. Attach another piece to the glued side, and then repeat until you have attached all your pieces together. Carefully line up all the folded edges as you go. Apply glue to the front and back of the whole piece and attach it to your card by lining up to the fold.

6. Parallel Fold: start with a larger piece to make your card. Fold it in half. Next take a smaller piece of paper and fold it in half. Then, on the open side, fold back a small piece to become a glue tab. Do this on both sides of the open part. Your glue tabs should be big enough for you to handle, with enough room to apply glue. Snip off the corners of the glue tabs to make them easier to see when you attach. Line up the center fold of your card with the center fold of your smaller piece. Apply glue to one glue tab and attach it to the inside of the card. Be sure to keep the two center folds matching up. Close the card, then open it again, keeping the piece still glued to the one side. Apply glue to the second glue tab, then close the card carefully again. Smooth the card down to help the glue stick the tabs to the card.

7. V-Fold: start again with a larger piece to make your card. Fold it in half. For the first version, take a smaller piece of paper and fold it in half. Then, fold each of the two corners in to touch the middle fold (like when you make a paper airplane). With this version, your pop-up will lay pretty flat, which could be fine depending on how you want it to look. For the second version, fold a second small piece in half again. Now, fold in from the corners about halfway to the middle line, not all the way like you did the first time. Fold one side first, then flip your piece over and fold the second side so that it matches. The triangle shapes will be your glue tabs, so trim them a little if you want. Apply glue to one of the tabs, then line the piece up so that the two center folds match. Close your card and press to help the glue stick. Then open it, apply glue to the other glue tab, and close again. Press down from the outside of the card to make sure the piece is securely attached.

8. Combination: you can add pieces using the counter fold technique to a V-fold piece by lining up the center folded line of one piece to the edge of another. Apply glue to one side at a time to attach. Experiment with using the various techniques together to make exciting combinations!