

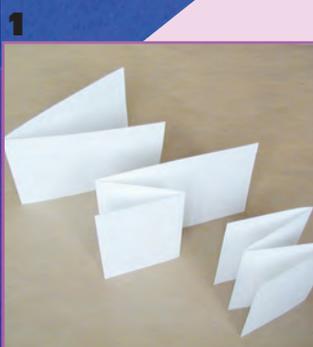
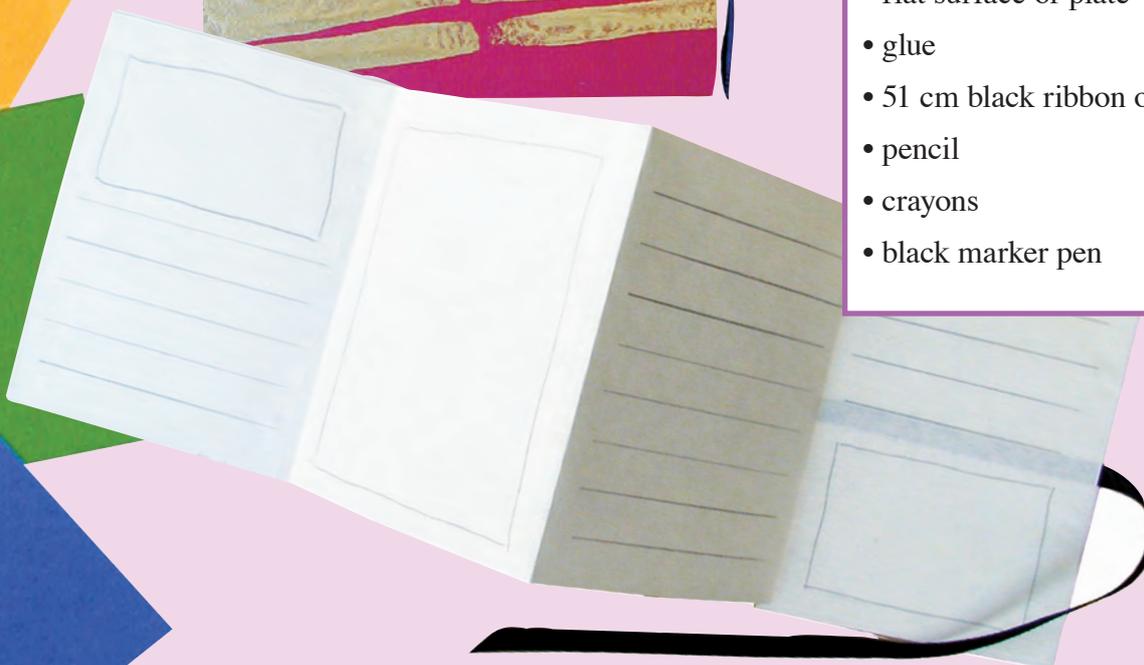
ACCORDION BOOKS



Materials

For each pupil:

- thin card: two red A6 (105 x 148m) pieces
- sugar paper strips white 105 x 380 mm
- stamp with different shapes made from foam material, mounted on a wooden block or jar lid
- gold ready mixed paint
- flat surface or plate
- glue
- 51 cm black ribbon or yarn
- pencil
- crayons
- black marker pen





Art Elements

- Line
- Shape
- Colour

Talk About...

Discuss the history of bound books. Be sure to mention China and the invention of accordion books. Tell the pupils that they are going to make their very own accordion book.

Step by Step

1. Pupils fold the long white paper into accordion pages.
 - First, fold the paper in half.
 - Next, fold the top end back to meet the fold and crease a new fold.
 - Turn the paper over and do the same on the other side.
2. Each pupil creates a stamp by cutting foam material in a repeating design. Glue the pieces to a wooden block or jar lid.
3. Pupils press their stamps into the gold paint and print a pattern on their red thin card covers. Let the paint dry thoroughly.
4. Pupils put the books together.
 - Lay the back cover with the decorated side touching the table.
 - Lay the ribbon or yarn so the middle of it is in the middle of the back cover.
 - Glue on the back end of the accordion-folded white paper and lay it down on the cover.
 - Place a few drops of glue on the front end of the accordion pages and place the top cover on the book with the printed side facing out.
5. The books are finished and ready for filling with wonderful stories or to use as a personal journal. Lines may be lightly penciled in for writing, or pupils may use this book as a sketch pad for their drawings.

Chinese Bookmakers

Books with hard covers like those found in a library were first made in China.

- Before the invention of hard covers, long strips of paper were rolled into scrolls.
- These long strips of paper evolved into accordion books with hard covers.
- Later, the edges of the hard covers were sewn together on one side.

The Chinese also created a printing process that used carved blocks of wood to print images in books.

One strong symbol in the Chinese culture is the dragon. It stands for truth, life, power, nobility and fortune. The dragon is often gold, green, or red, or a combination of all three colours.

Literature References

Behold ... the Dragons! by Gail Gibbons; Morrow Junior, 1999.

Making Books by Paul Johnson; A & C Black, 2000.

