



School Visits

2019–20 Grades
K–12

Online Learning – DIY:
Mini Accordion Character Books!

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We all have stories to tell! Our imaginations are amazing at making up characters to help us tell **our stories**. This is a fun way to make a unique accordion character book. Read on for required materials, key vocabulary words and **step-by-step** instructions.

About this resource

Thanks for accessing our Online Learning resources! These step-by-step instructions will help you and your family to express their own creativity and build connections to the Ontario Arts Curriculum.

About us

Harbourfront Centre School Visits is an experiential, hands-on learning program that offers curriculum-focused, inquiry-based programs that explore all aspects of contemporary arts and culture. Every year, we host 26 000 students onsite for meaningful engagements with the arts. We trust you will find the step-by-step guide outlined below will allow creativity to shine through!

Suggested Grade Range:

Grade 1 plus

Curriculum Links:

The Arts – Visual Arts; Language

Key vocabulary words

- **STORY:** A story is something we tell to share about our own lives or the imaginary lives of others
- **CHARACTER:** Who the story is about
- **SETTING:** Where the story takes place
- **TWO-DIMENSIONAL SHAPES:** a flat shape. Examples include triangle, square, rectangle, circle, etc.
- **BOND PAPER:** white paper that can be used in printers or photocopiers
- **PARALLEL LINES:** lines that do not intersect or cross
- **COLLAGE:** to cut different materials and glue them together to make a piece of art

Required Materials

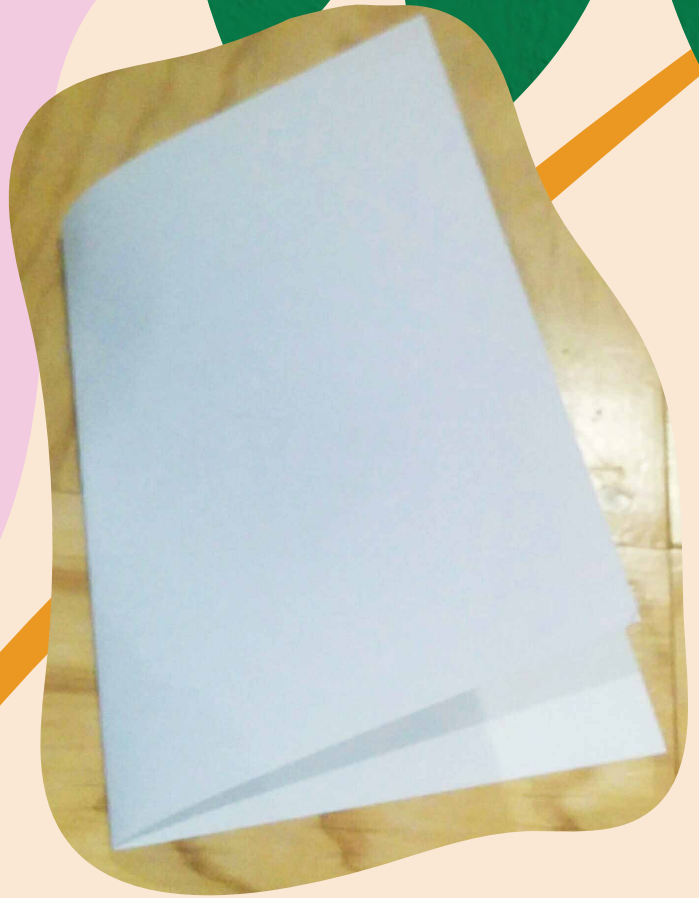
- ONE PIECE OF 8.5" X 11" BOND PAPER
- A MAGAZINE
- SCISSORS
- GLUE
- PENCIL
- RULER



Step-by-step instructions

Step 1:

Carefully fold the 11" side of a piece of 8.5"x11" bond paper in half. It will now measure 5.5"x8.5". This is also known as a hamburger fold in some art classes.



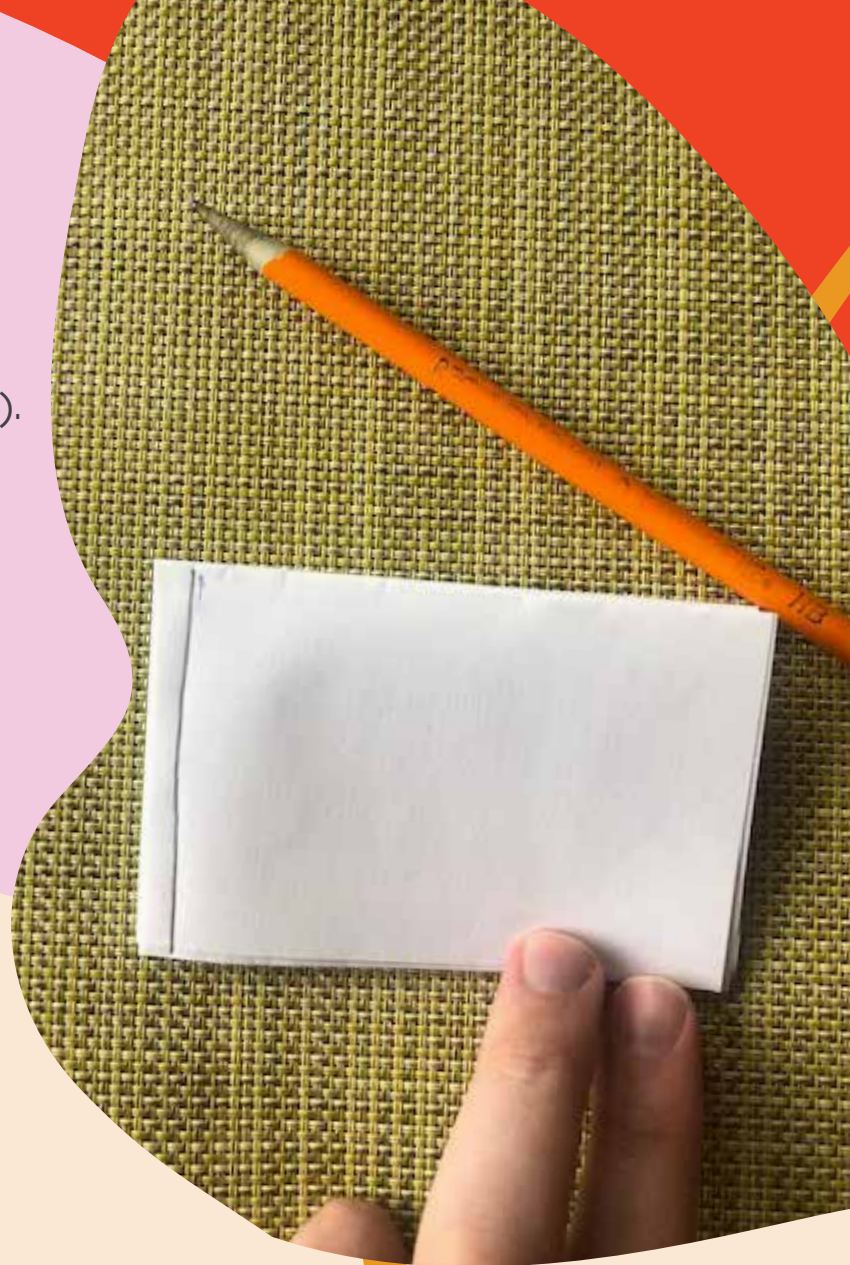
Step 2:

Fold this paper in half again. It will now measure 2.75" x 8.5". This is also known as a hot dog fold in some art classes.



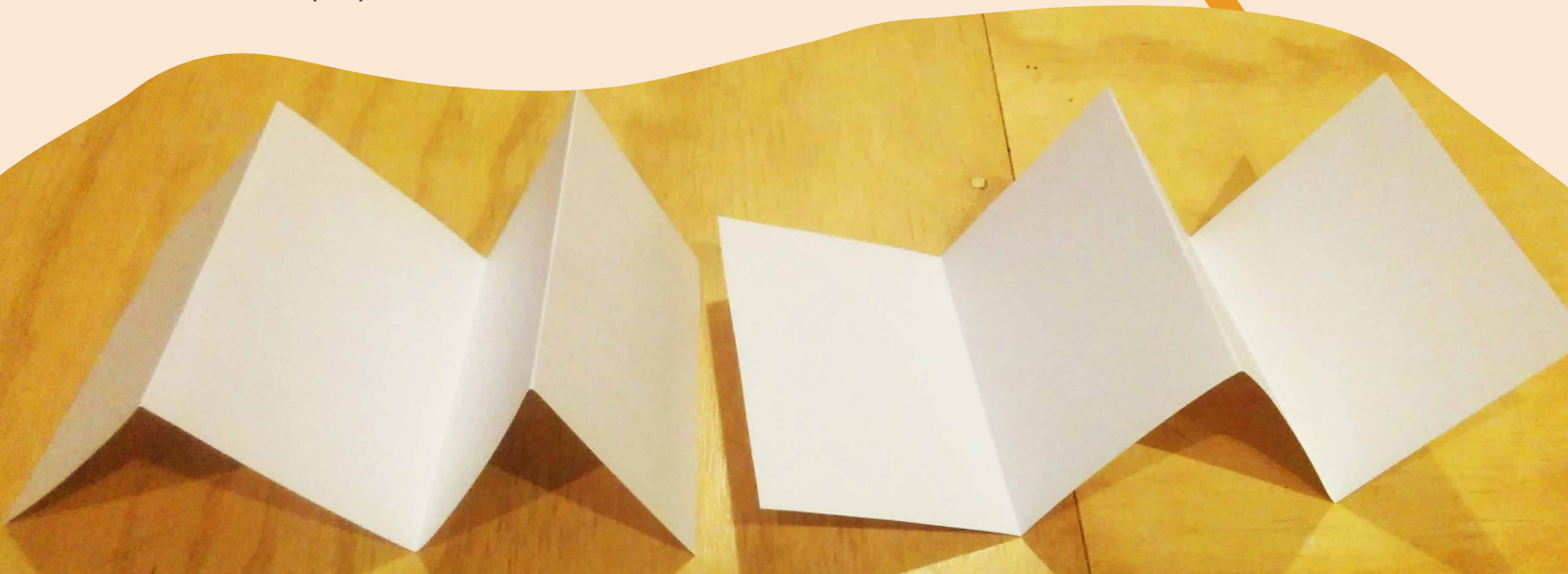
Step 3:

Fold the 8.5" side in half. It will now measure 2.75" x 4.25" (hamburger fold). Draw a line approximately 0.25" from the folded edge, parallel to the fold. Cut along this line.



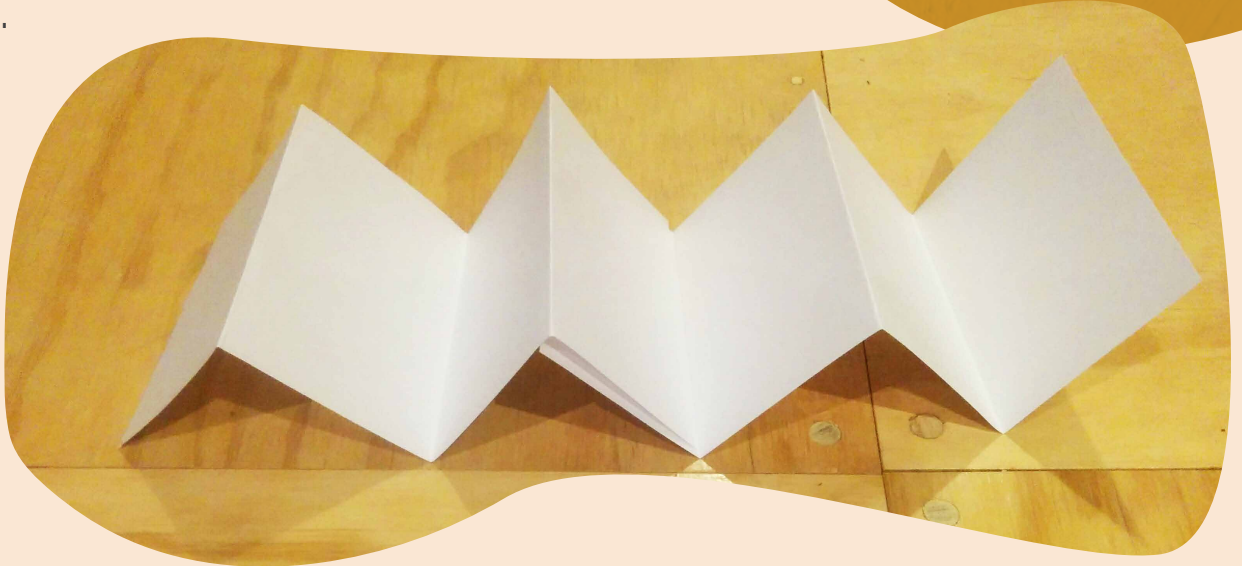
Step 4:

You will now have two pieces of folded paper. On one piece of paper, take the top flap of the folded sheet and fold the crease the opposite way. This will result in the paper looking like an 'M' or 'W' when opened. Repeat this step on the other folded paper.



Step 5:

Put the 'M' on the left side and the 'W' on the right side and overlap one page of the 'M' and 'W' so the pages look like an accordion. Carefully glue the pages together so the final product looks like an accordion.



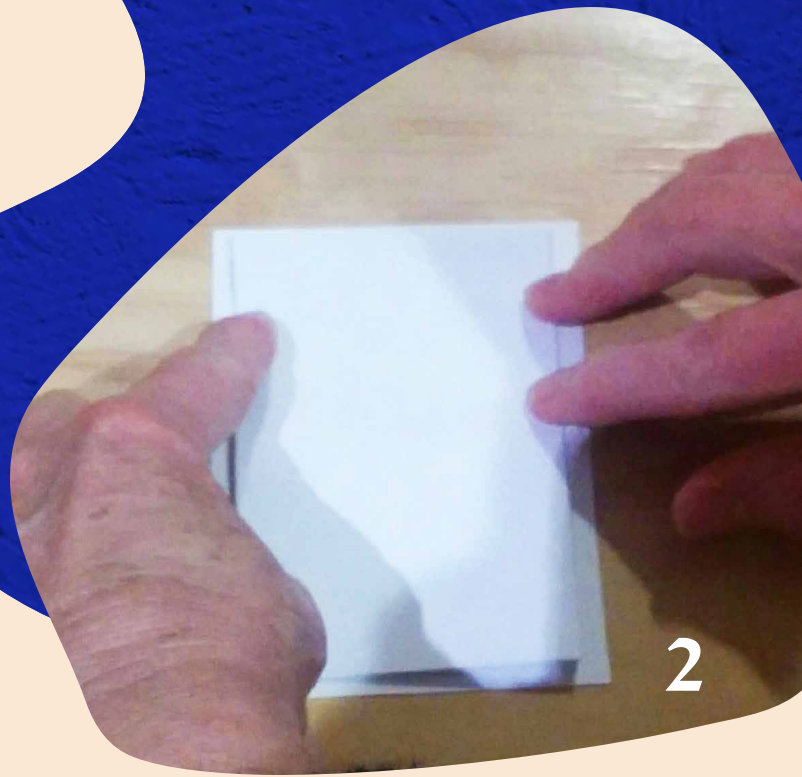
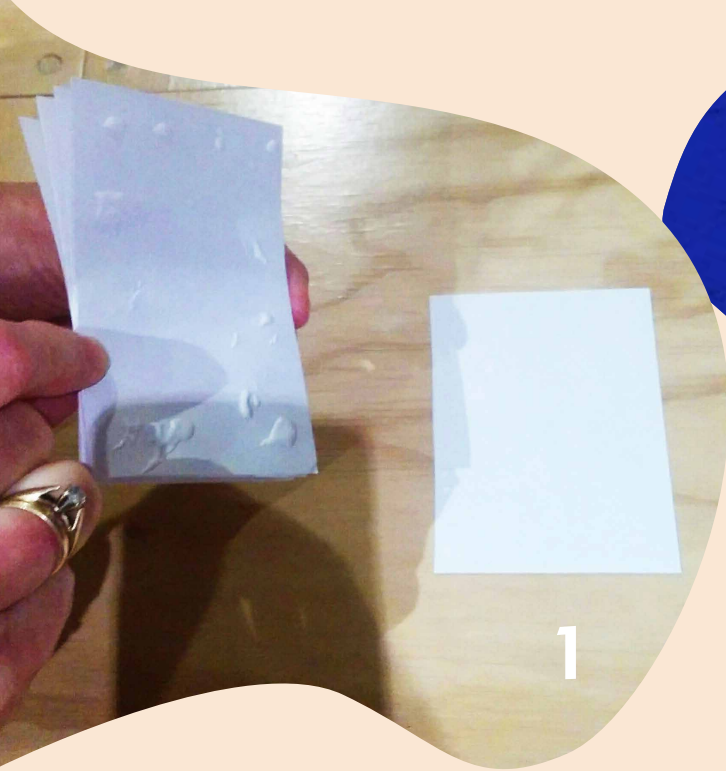
Step 6:

Cut out a magazine cover and/or cardboard or construction paper to make covers. These should measure slightly larger than the pages of your book (recommendation: 4.25" x 3.25")



Step 7:

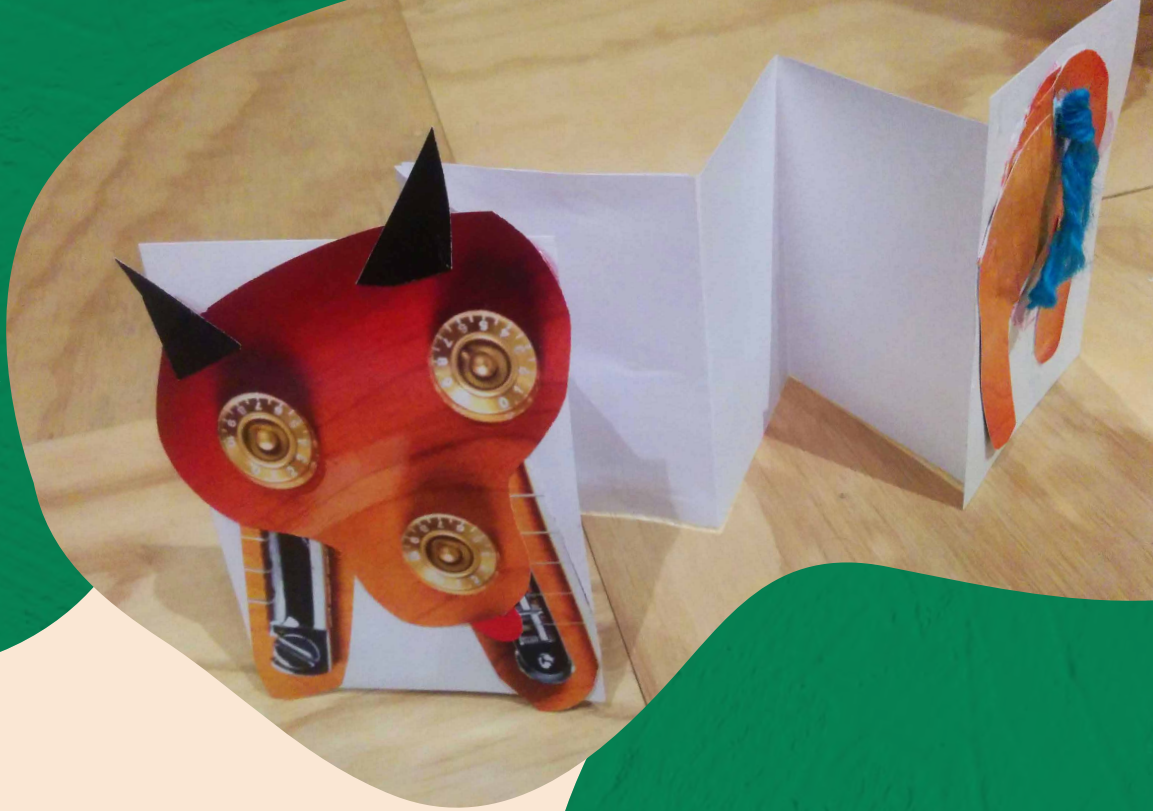
With the accordion pages closed, apply glue to the exposed page. Centre pages on cover and glue down.



Step 8:

With the pages still closed, turn over the stack of papers and repeat for the back cover.





Step 9: Collage!

Look through your home for paper, magazines, construction paper, wrapping paper or anything else that could be used to decorate your cover. You could use wool, buttons or other materials. Play around to create your character. When you are ready, glue it to the front and back of your book.

Extensions:

Can you name all the two-dimensional shapes you used to create your character?

Can you name the colours you see on your covers?

Are you ready to write or draw a story on the pages of your accordion book? Remember, every story has a beginning, middle and end!