



Pocket Accordion Book

The pocket accordion is a simple book form with pockets and removable cards. This book can be used to help students quiz themselves or to help them sort and match information. At the end of this lesson plan are ideas for incorporating the Pocket Accordion into Utah Core Curriculum standards using methods such as categorizing, organizing, and collecting data. It is recommended that teacher make this book at least once before teaching to a class.

Grades/Age Group: 3rd-12th

Approximate Time Required:

Prep: 90 minutes

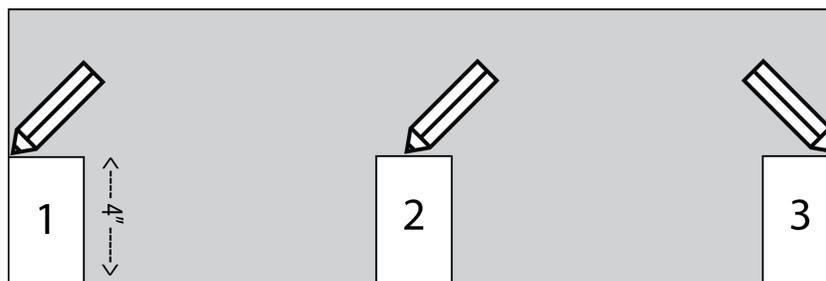
Teaching: 30-40 minutes

Materials needed (sizes can be scaled as desired for your class project needs):

1. 6 $\frac{3}{4}$ " x 19" text weight paper (1)
2. 2 $1\frac{1}{8}$ " x 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ " cover weight paper (8)
3. 2" x 4" text weight paper (2)
4. 18" ribbon (optional)
5. Glue stick
6. Pencil
7. Bone folder or popsicle stick (optional)
8. Hole punch (optional)

Procedure:

1. Begin with the 6 $\frac{3}{4}$ " x 19" text weight paper and lay on the desk in landscape orientation. If the paper has pre-punched holes, make sure the holes are on the right. Make three pencil marks 4" above the bottom of the paper, one on the left edge, one on the right edge and one in the middle. Measure this easily by using the 4" length of one of the 2" x 4" text weight papers.

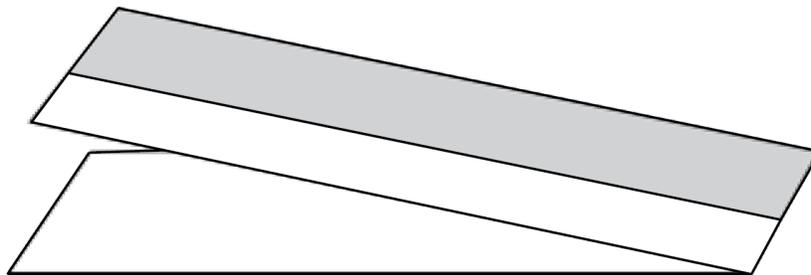


2. Lift up the bottom edge of the paper to match up with the pencil marks just made. Align the edge with all three marks, hold in place, and fold. This will create the pocket

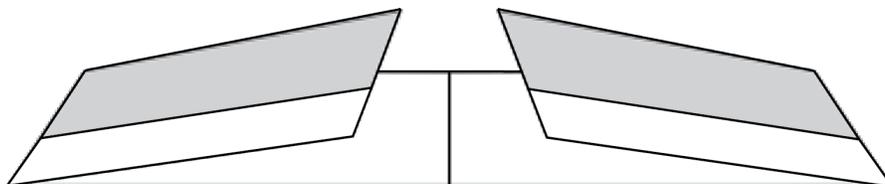
for the accordion book. If using a bone folder or popsicle stick, press along the fold to make a sharp crease and reinforce the fold. Continue to use bone folder or popsicle stick for subsequent folds.



3. Keeping the pocket folded, fold the entire paper in half, with the pocket on the *outside*.

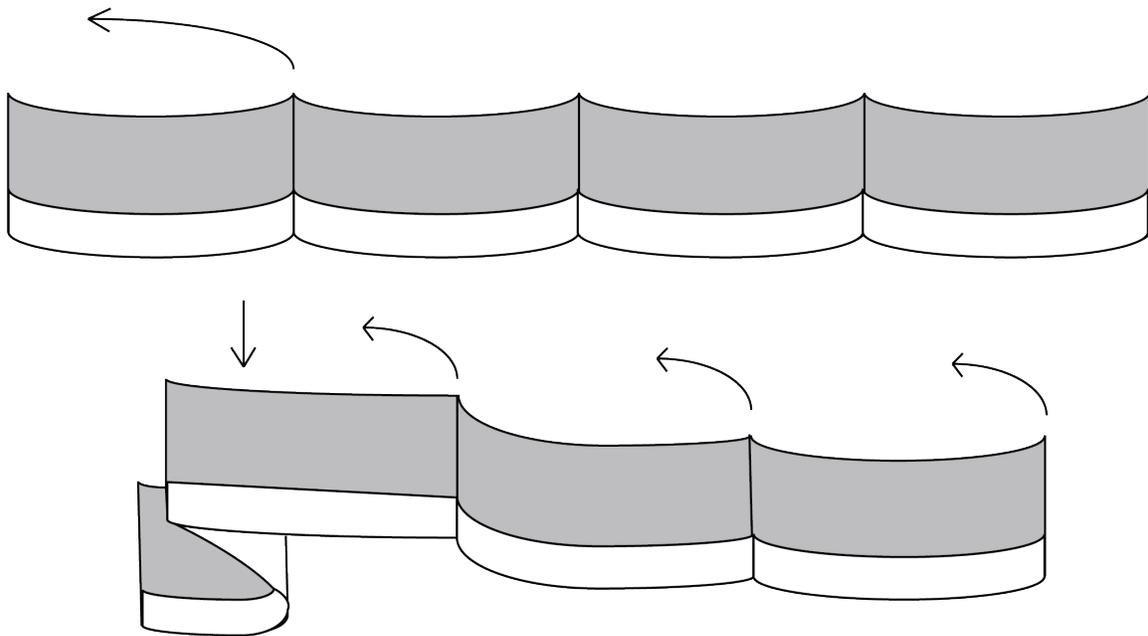


4. Open up the paper, making sure the pocket is facing down. Bring each edge of the paper to match up with the center fold and crease.

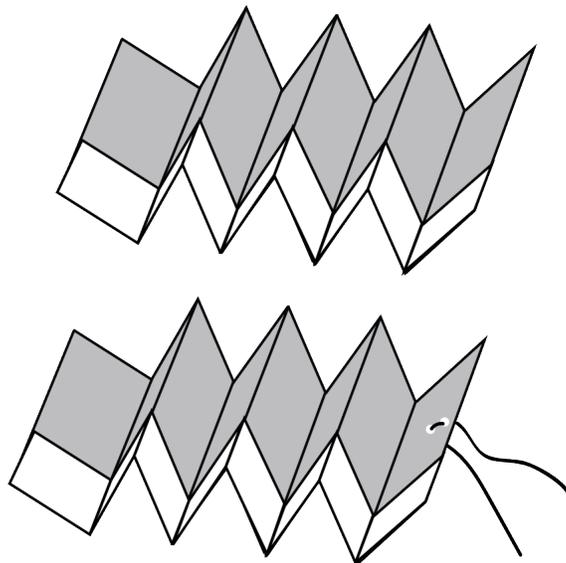


5. Flip paper over so the pocket is facing up. Pick up the fold closest to the edge of the paper. Curl over to match up with that edge and press to fold, as illustrated in the second diagram. Keeping everything folded, pick up the second fold and curl over to

match up with the edge. Press to crease. Do the same with the third fold. Last, curl over the flap of paper that remains and match it up with the edge. Press to fold.



6. This will produce an eight-paneled accordion, with a pocket on each panel. *Optional:* if paper is not pre-punched, punch two holes in the last panel, above the pocket. Thread the ribbon through the holes. This ribbon can be tied around the accordion to keep closed.

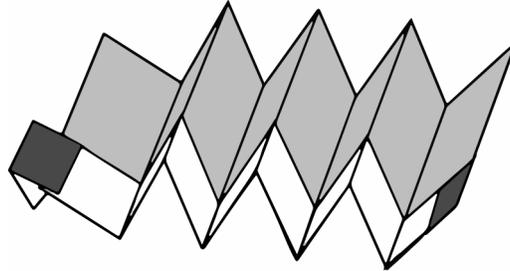


7. The pockets on the front and back panels are open at the edges. To close the pockets, fold each of the 2" x 4" text weight papers in half widthwise. *(If front and back pockets are glued without adding paper, pockets will be smaller than the rest. If working with younger students or if pressed for time, you can glue the edges of the pockets rather*

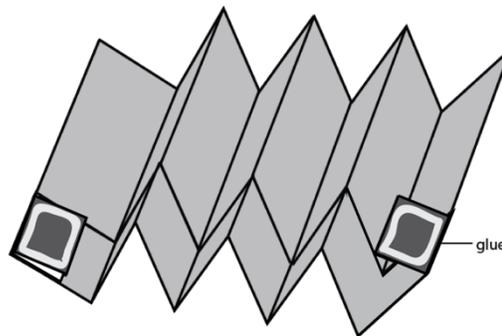


than adding paper). There are two ways to add paper to the front and back panel of the accordion:

8. Open up one of the 2" x 4" text weight papers and glue out the inside. Align the crease with the edge of the accordion, and press to adhere on top of the pocket and on the cover of the accordion. Do the same with the second piece.



9. Alternatively, you can glue the 2" x 4" text weight papers so that they do not show on the covers of the book. To do this, unfold the pocket. Keep the 2" x 4" paper folded in half and glue out one side. Glue to the edge of the pocket, with folded side of the paper on the edge of the pocket. Glue the second 2" x 4" in the same manner on the opposite edge, with the folded side of the paper on the edge of the pocket. Once both are placed, put more glue on the exposed side of each paper and carefully fold the pocket back up, gluing the paper on the inside of the pocket.



10. Place 2 1/8" x 4 1/2" cards in each of the eight pockets. All done!

Optional cover

Materials needed:

1. 6 1/8" x 4 1/2" cover weight paper (1)

Procedure:

1. On the inside of the cover, measure 1/8" in from the top left edge and make a light mark. Measure 1/8" in from the bottom left edge and make a second mark.
2. Repeat step one, this time measuring in from the right edge of the cover.



3. Bring the left edge of the cover over to meet the marks you made on the right side and fold.
4. Bring the right edge of the cover over to the marks you made on the left side and fold. This will create the spine of the book which will measure 1/8" wide.
5. Apply glue to the two outside panels of the accordion where the cover will go. Adhere the front cover to the first panel making sure that the alignment is correct, wrap around the spine toward the back of the book, and adhere the back cover to the last panel.

Pocket Accordion – Lesson Overview:

Key Points:

1. This is an example of an artists' book based on a simple accordion. Content can be added to cards in the form of image, text, colors, photographs, etc.

Ideas for Innovation:

1. Kids can fill their cards with words and pictures.
2. Information can also be added to the pockets and behind the cards.
3. The back flap can be left open to allow for more space for content. This can be accomplished by only tabbing the pocket close.
4. Can be used with predesigned pages and cards.

Learning Objectives:

1. Students will increase their dexterity skills by folding cutting and gluing accurately.
2. Students will explore new ways to interact with what they're learning.
3. Students will have foundational skills for making simple books on their own.
4. Student will learn a new way to make a study guide.

Core Standard & Classroom Applications:

Across Curricula:

Explain the theme or prompt for the writing assignment. Ask each student to think about the theme and what they want to say. Invite each student to write a word, phrase, or sentence pertaining to the assignment on each of eight cards. For those who find writing particularly challenging, start with single words and perhaps use more than eight cards total. Once the student has the loose ideas recorded, have the students partner up. In pairs, students can place their cards in the pockets of the accordion in the order that best makes sense. This gives students a chance to rearrange their ideas without erasing, crossing out, rewriting, retyping, etc. The physical reorganization is



easy and fun. The resulting pocket accordion book provides an outline for the essay, article, or paper, or creative art project.

Math:

Kindergarten Math. Objective: Identify and describe shapes. Application: Have students draw shapes on their cards and match them with names written on their pockets.

5th grade math. Objective: Use equivalent fractions as a strategy to add and subtract fractions. Application: Have students write one fraction on the pocket of their book and they can sort equivalent fractions written on their cards into the corresponding pockets.

Science:

3rd grade science. Objective: Describe the effects of gravity on the motion of an object. Have students draw images of different objects on one side of their card. Have students experiment by dropping these different objects. On the other side of their card have students describe how each object was effected by gravity.

4th grade science. Ecosystems specific: Use the “Across Curricula” plan to help students develop a short narrative told from an animal’s perspective. Leading questions might include: What animal will you choose? In what kind of environment does the animal live? What words describe the environment? What does the animal eat? How does the animal get food? How does the animal move? Can the animal swim or fly? As described above, each independent thought can be written on a card. The cards can then be placed in the pockets to organize the individual thoughts into a constructed whole, which they can then illustrate using a book form like the tunnel book. Encourage students to write a 'sloppy copy', (rough draft) on a piece of paper, edit as needed, and then have students incorporate their final narrative into the book to accompany the visual scene they’ve created. Or use pre-printed cards with specific prompts/categories.

9th-12th Chemistry. Objective: Identify evidence of chemical reactions and demonstrate how chemical equations are used to describe them. Application: Have students write evidence of chemical reactions on one side of their card and the chemical equations used to describe them on the other side of their card.

K-12th grade, general life science. Objective: Have students make a field guide to organize their observations about different environments and biomes found in nature. Using the five senses students will collect data, identifying different plants and animals as well as other living (biotic) and non-living (abiotic) things they encounter. Students will record findings inside of the pocket accordion using the insert cards as well as the blank surfaces of the accordion. They will place collected specimens into the accordion pockets to accompany the recorded information based on their findings.

Language Arts:

4th grade language arts. Objective: Write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective technique, well-chosen details and well-structured event sequences. Application: Have students write a story on the inside



panel of the book (leave the back flap open by only tabbing the pocket closed). Have students make paper dolls of their characters that they can act out the story with and place them in the pockets.

7th grade language arts. Objective: With some guidance and support from peers and adults, develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, editing, rewriting, or trying a new approach. Application: Teach students about the four steps of writing: planning, revising, editing, rewriting. On each card write tips and strategies associated with each step to aid students when writing.

Social Studies:

2nd grade social studies. Objective: Students will explain how the economy meets human needs through the interaction of producers and consumers. Application: Have students draw different products they would like to sell and place them in their pockets. Each student will have a pop up store and a set amount of money. Students can walk around and look at each other's stores and practice buying and selling things from each other.

8th grade social studies. Objective: Students will understand the significance of the Civil War Era to the United States. Application: Have students make cards of different important historical figures during the civil war and their contributions. Students can draw images of the historical figures on one side of the card and write information about them on the other.

English Language Learners:

For ELL students, you can use this book to quiz on new vocabulary in English. Draw a picture of the new vocabulary word and then write the word in their home language on the outside of the pocket. On the bottom of the card on the portion that is hidden by the pocket write the word in English so that they can quiz themselves by slipping the cards in and out of the pockets.