

Flag Book

The flag book is a unique and sculptural book form. As you open the book the flags inside move. This movement changes the viewing experience based on how much the book is opened or closed. This book can be made by an individual or a group of people can each design a flag for a more collaborative approach. The flags can be decorated with photos or drawings or informational text.

Grades/Age Group: K-12

Approximate Time Required:

Prep: 30 minutes Teaching: 20 minutes

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

- 1. 11" x 3" text weight paper
- 2. 6" x 3" cover weight papers (2)
- 3. 3" x 7/8" text weight papers (9)
- 4. Glue stick

Procedure:

1. Start with your 11" x 3" text weight paper and fold it in half.





2. Next fold both edges of the paper to meet the first fold you made.







3. Open the paper you have folded and bring each fold over to meet the edge of the paper one at a time and press down to make a crease.



4. This will produce an eight panel accordion:



5. Next get your nine 3" x 7/8" text weight papers. Place and glue the flags on alternating sides of the accordion folds, with three aligned with the top edge of your accordion, three in the middle going the opposite direction and three aligned with the bottom edge. It might be easier to line up the top flags first; the bottom flags next, then the middle last so that the middle flags are right in between the top and the bottom.







6. Next take your two 6" x 3" cover weight papers and fold them in half. Apply glue to the inside of your covers, all around the perimeter and then two strips in an X-shape from corner to corner for a little additional glue in the middle of your cover. Take your cover and clamp it onto the last panel of your accordion. Rub and press to adhere. Do the same with the second cover.



Flag Book – Lesson Overview:

Key Points:

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

Ideas for Innovation:

- 1. Kids can fill their flags with words and pictures.
- 2. Can be used with predesigned pages.
- 3. Flags can be photocopied and exchanged with other students to create collaborative books.

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. Should they write their own story, they will enhance writing skills.

Core Standard Applications:

Math:



Kindergarten math. Objective: Know number names and the count sequence. Application: Have student write numbers on one side of their flag and draw a picture to represent that number on the other side of the flag (eg. A picture of six cats, or seven apples).

 7^{th} grade geometry. Objective: Draw, construct, and describe geometrical figures and describe the relationships between them. Application: Have students make a flag book drawing different kinds of shapes and angles on one side of the flag and identifying the names of shapes and angles on the other side.

Science:

2nd grade physical science. Objective: Communicate observations about falling objects. Application: Have students experiment with dropping different types of objects. On one side of their flag draw the object they are dropping, on the other side write their observations. 9-12 grade biology. Objective: Investigate the structure and function of

cells and cell parts. Application: Have students draw pictures of the different parts of cells on one side of the flag and write information about the function that part plays in the cell on the other side. Alternatively, draw the entire cell and cut it into pieces to use as the flags for the book.

Language Arts:

4th grade reading. Objective: Interpret words and phrases as they are used in text, including determining technical, connotative, and figurative meanings, and analyze how specific word choices shape meaning or tone. Application: Have students write vocabulary words from the text on one side of their flags and have them define these words on the other side. 6^{th} grade writing. Objective: Write arguments to support claims with clear reasons and relevant evidence. Have students write their arguments on one side of their flags and have a quote from their research as evidence of their claim on the other side. This could be used as an aid to a debate between two students to help them organize their argument.

Social Studies:

5th grade social studies. Objective: Students will understand the rights and responsibilities guaranteed in the United States Constitution and Bill of Rights. Application: Have students draw a picture that represents each of the amendments that make up the Bill of Rights on one side of each of their flags and summarize the amendment on the back.

8th grade social studies. Objective: Students will understand the significance of the Civil War Era to the United States. Application: Print out images of important figures in the Civil War. Have the students cut up the images to use as the flags for their book, then write facts about the figure on the bag of the flags.