

Lesson Title: Papel Picado (perforated paper) Mexican Folk Art

Art Technique: Paper cutting

Objectives: The students will create a banner of colorful patterned paper designs.

Materials: 12"x18" multi-bright colored tissue paper, scissors, string, glue stick

Procedure:

Simplest

1. Place a colored tissue on table landscape direction. Fold it accordion style from bottom up making about 3-4 folds. Leave one inch at top to attach a string.
2. Cut a series of repeating shapes (half hearts, half circles, half diamond notches, half squares, etc.) along folded edges.
3. Unfold paper to reveal the pattern. You may refold and cut more patterns if desired.
4. To make an interesting edge, refold in half and cut scallops along the outside edges (except at the top fold). Skip to step 5 below.

Harder

1. With paper on table landscape style, leaving an inch at top for string sleeve, fold paper in half bringing the two short edges together.
2. Fold the paper in half from top to bottom. Make a diagonal fold bringing bottom right corner to top left corner. Optional: fold in half diagonally again-creating a narrow triangle.
3. Cut a series of repeating shapes (half hearts, half circles, triangles, squares, etc.) along folded edges.
4. Unfold carefully. If desired, re-fold in parts and cut into areas needing more designs. Cut interesting outside edges.
5. Flatten the tissue paper on the table. If possible, iron to remove the folds.
- 6 To prepare for hanging, lay the end of a long piece of yarn or string in the sleeve. Fold the edge of the paper over the string to create a 1/2 inch flap. Glue the edge of the flap down with the string under the fold.

Lesson By: Nancy Jordan

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