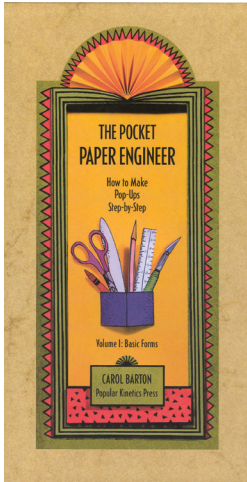


Making History and Geography Lessons More Dynamic!

Four ways to use pop-ups in teaching about our past and present world



History is most fun when it comes alive with people and places that resonate with kids' lives today. Making pop-up illustrations of historic events, characters, and places is a way for students to find their links with the past and with other cultures through art, narrative storytelling, and the making of dimensional illustrations. Follow the step-by-step directions in Carol Barton's **The Pocket Paper Engineer** work-

books (Popular Kinetics Press, 2005) to learn how to build dimensional history pop-ups.

Pop-Ups of Historic Figures

Students choose a historic figure such as a president, poet, or inventor, and find a thought-provoking quotation by that person. Using the talking mouth pop-up described in **Volume 1** of **The Pocket Paper Engineer**, kids can draw their chosen subject with his or her quotation written across the page, or as a text bubble coming from the moving mouth. Children can also find quotations dealing with a chosen theme or specific period in history, and can be encouraged to learn more about the speaker's life and work. This information can be included as a written text accompanying the pop-up.

Pop-Up Dioramas of Historic Scenes

Using the "prop" pop-up described in **Volume 2** of **The Pocket Paper Engineer**, students can construct a dimensional illustration of practically any historic event or cultural setting. A presidential inauguration, a scene from ancient Rome, the Apollo spacecraft landing on the moon: each of these events is a potential subject for constructing a pop-up. Kids can research the people and places involved and add written dialogue about the event. This is a great way to help kids imagine times and locations beyond their everyday experience.

A Pop-Up Lesson in Geography

The "floating platform" pop-up described in **The Pocket Paper Engineer, Volume 2**, can easily work as a map or sea chart. Using this device, a cut-out map appears to float over the page, supported by three tabs hidden underneath. This type of pop-up can highlight the shape of continents, countries, islands or states. A flag representing the region can be added as a vertical element through a slot in the map, while images of the people, industries, flora and fauna of the region can be drawn or collaged around the floating pop-up on the underlying page.

Incorporating Historic Images into Pop-Ups

Copies of historic photos or documents can serve as wonderful collage elements within pop-up illustrations. Use them as the background in a scene, or overlap them as a dimensional photomontage depicting a place or event. The search for relevant historic materials can teach kids valuable research skills and can help them develop the joy of uncovering a treasure from another time or place.

Creating pop-ups is an ideal cross-curriculum activity. It encourages kids to think and experiment, and can help them envision historic events and cultural activities in a way that is playful and fun. **For more ideas and examples, visit:**

www.popularkinetics.com

