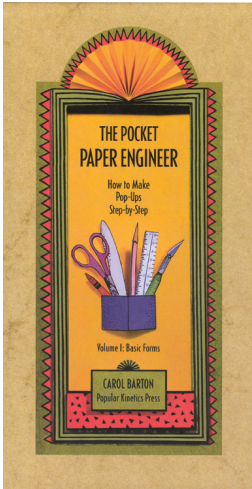


Livelier Learning with Pop-Ups!

Five ideas for using the “talking mouth” pop-up in the classroom



Kids love pop-up books, and they love making their own pop-ups even more! Creating pop-ups involves a lot of play and helps children develop a wide range of skills. Following the step-by-step directions in Carol Barton's **Pocket Paper Engineer, Volume 1**, workbook (*Popular Kinetics Press*, 2005) you can make simple “talking mouth” pop-ups that enliven lessons across the curriculum.

Learn about Animals

Children can document their encounters with animals and insects by drawing pictures of cats, caterpillars, birds and other creatures with pop-up mouths and beaks. Mouth edges can be shaped to suggest teeth or lips. This pop-up works wonderfully with pictures of all sorts of creatures. Stories or information about insects and animals can be added, either as running text below the pop-up illustration or as speech bubbles. Kids will love this project!

Learn about History

Students choose a historic figure such as a president, poet or inventor and find a thought-provoking quotation by that person. Children draw their chosen subject with his or her quotation as a text bubble coming from the moving mouth, or written across the page. In a variation on this theme, students pick a year or event and make a series of pop-up people who each talk about their lives and achievements, their period in history, and their role in events of that period. This is a wonderful way to encourage children to research a topic and to help them imagine times and locations beyond their everyday experiences.

Learn about Drama and Storytelling

Once kids learn to build talking mouth pop-ups, they have no problem turning them into illustrations for a story. Children weave their pop-up images together into a narrative or dialogue between characters and are inspired to develop their writing skills as a result. For students struggling with written and verbal communication, the fun of making pop-ups can break down communication barriers and help improve literacy and conversation abilities.

Learn about People Around The World

Understanding people of different ages, ethnicities, and cultural backgrounds can be encouraged by imagining what they might talk about. Students can illustrate people from around the world discussing where they live and who they are, with pop-up moving mouths. Interviews can be conducted in person or via the internet to learn more about people from other places.

Learn about Art

The mouth pop-up can be used in a variety of art lessons. A study of masks, a survey of various artists talking about their work, a series of self-portraits or facial studies all can be enhanced with moving mouths. Plus, figuring out how to build, alter, and develop new pop-up forms reinforces the trial-and-error technique of invention, a critical element in any design process.

For more ideas and examples, visit:

www.popularkinetics.com

