

MEXICO

PAPER POINSETTIA

The poinsettia flower grows in Mexico and is used in homes all over the world to celebrate Christmas. To the first Mexican Christians, the flower's red leaves were symbols of a deep love for Jesus.

■ For each child, you will need:

- ❑ One large square green paper (about 8½" square)
- ❑ One medium square red paper (about 7" square)
- ❑ One small square yellow paper (about 4" square)
- ❑ One sheet of white card stock (about 8½" x 11")
- ❑ Glue

*For the green, red, and yellow paper, do not use card stock. Card stock will be too difficult for kids to fold and cut.

■ Instructions:

1. Take the green square and fold in half, then in half again.
2. Find the corner that is made up of all folds, no edges. Lay the folded square so this "fold corner" faces you (figure 1).
3. Fold the right corner over to meet the left corner (figure 2).
4. Cut as shown in figure 3, then as shown in figure 4, always keeping the "fold corner" toward you.
5. Carefully unfold the paper to reveal the green poinsettia leaves (figure 5).
6. Repeat with the red and the yellow squares.
7. Put a dot of glue in the center of the green leaves and glue to the white card stock. Put a dot of glue in the center of the red leaves and glue to the center of the green leaves. Put a dot of glue in the center of the yellow petals and glue to the center of the red leaves. It is best to offset each layer as shown in the photo above.
8. Write *Pray for Mexico* on the white card stock.

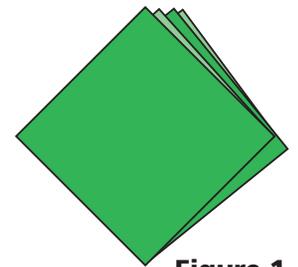
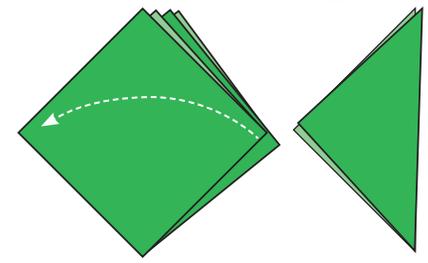


Figure 1



Fold like this — to make this

Figure 2

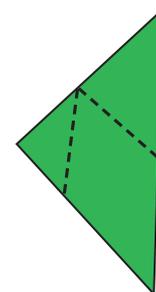


Figure 3

Cut where shown by dotted lines

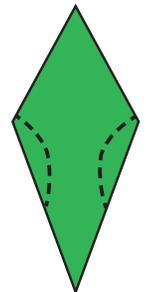


Figure 4

Cut where shown by dotted lines

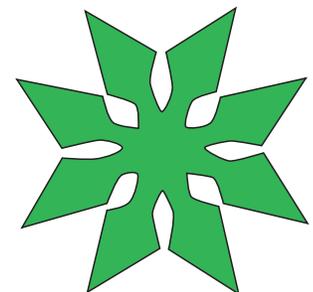


Figure 5