



Diamond Fold: Lotus Variation

Grades/Age Group: K-12

Approximate Time Required:

Prep: 30-45 minutes

Teaching: 10 minutes

Making the Book: 20-60 minutes depending on age and the depth of information students write

Materials Needed:

2 pieces of 8 ½" square text-weight paper

Glue stick

Writing and drawing materials

Prep Instructions:

1. Cut text-weight paper to 8 ½" squares: 2 per person. You can cut down 8 ½" X 11" copy paper.

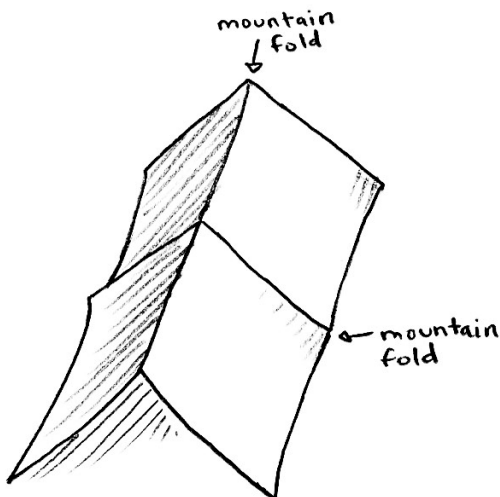
Teaching Overview:

Materials needed:

1. Pre-cut paper
2. Glue sticks

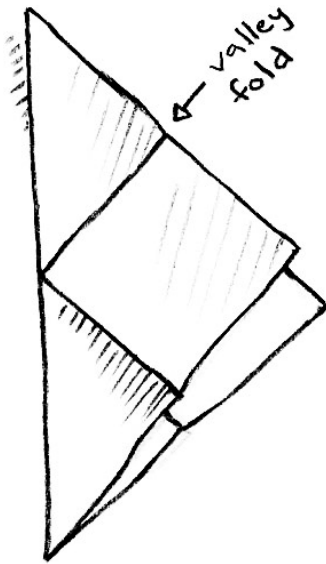
Procedure

1. Each student gets 2 pieces of 8 ½" square text-weight paper.
2. The 8 ½" pieces are all folded in the same manner as outlined in steps 3 – 6.
3. Fold paper in half both ways, with the two folds on the same side.

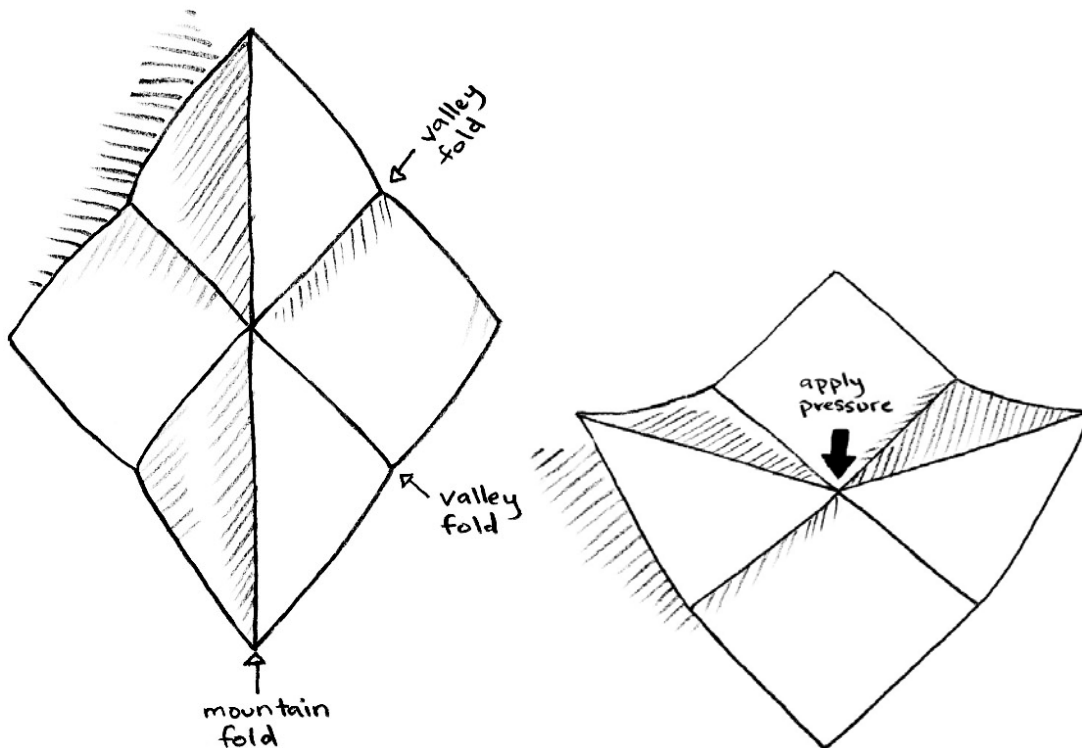




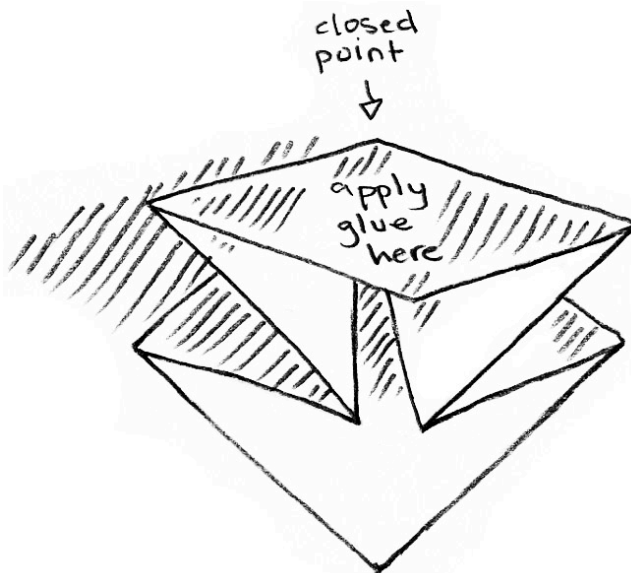
4. Fold in half diagonally on the *opposite* side of the two folds made in the previous step.



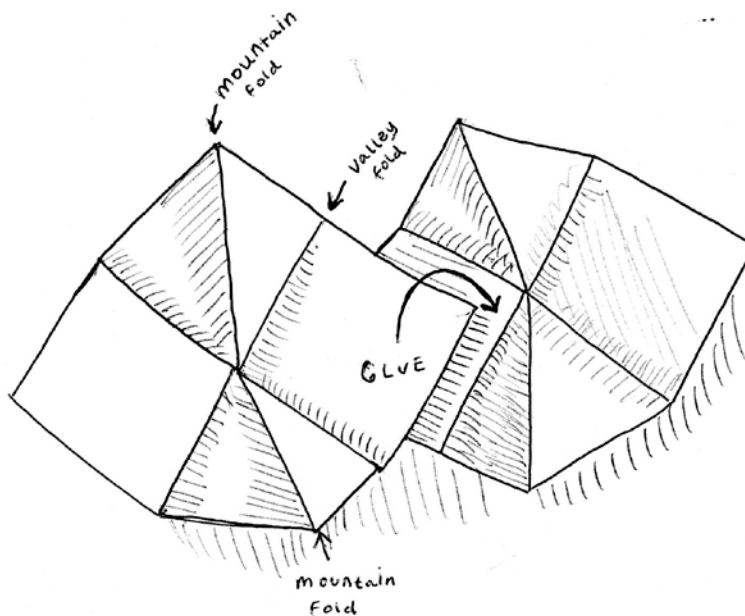
5. Open folds with mountain peak on top. Apply pressure with finger to the very center to "pop" the paper.



6. Gather the square and close it. There will be a *closed point*, and an *open point* on each folded square.



7. Put glue on the outside of one of your folded squares. Then press it glue side down onto the inside of your other folded paper square lining up the edges so that the glued portion perfectly overlaps the square underneath.



8. Have students decorate their diamond fold books drawing a picture of their past, present and future selves on the three flat square surfaces and answer questions about themselves on the smaller triangle surfaces. The book can be folded up into a compact square by folding one of the papers into the other or it can be hung on the wall or from the ceiling to display all of the panels at once.



Key Points:

1. Books can come in many forms that can present information in different ways.
2. Students are creating a visual autobiography that is helping them reflecting on where they are, where they have been, and where they hope to be in the future.

Learning Objectives:

1. Students will increase their dexterity skills by folding and gluing accurately.
2. Students will increase their ability to express ideas about themselves and will learn information about other students.

Sample Questions:

Past:

1. Where were you born?
2. Where did you grow up?
3. What was your favorite food when you were younger?
4. What was your first word?
5. What did you do for fun when you were younger?
6. What was your favorite TV show, movie, or book?
7. What was your greatest fear when you were little?
8. What did you want to be when you grew up when you were younger?
9. Did you have any pets when you were younger?
10. Who was your best friend when you were younger?

Present:

1. Where do you live now?
2. What is your favorite kind of food now?
3. What do you do for fun now?
4. What is your favorite subject in school?
5. What is your least favorite subject in school?
6. Who is/are your best friend(s) in class?
7. What is your favorite color?
8. Who is in your family?
9. What do you want to learn about this year?
10. What worries you?
11. What are you good at?
12. What are three words that describe you?
13. What is your favorite animal?
14. What is your favorite sports team, musician, or celebrity?
15. What makes you happy?



16. If you could travel back in time to visit your younger self, what advice would you give yourself?
17. What are you most grateful for?
18. What is your favorite time of year?
19. What is your favorite hobby or pastime?
20. What do you like about yourself?

Past:

1. Where do you want to live when you grow up?
2. What kind of job do you want when you grow up?
3. What kind of house do you want when you grow up?
4. What kind of pet and or family do you think you will have?
5. Where would you want to travel when you grow up?
6. Who would you want to meet when you are older?
7. What is one of your life goals?
8. What will you change about the world?
9. If you grow up to be famous what would you be famous for?
10. If you could invent something what would you invent?

About Diamond Fold Books:

This book is called a lotus variation of a diamond fold book. It is called a lotus variation because when you set the book on a table and open the flaps it looks like a lotus flower. There are many other variations of diamond fold books that can be made depending on how you glue together your folded paper squares and how many squares you glue together.