

HOME Story Time Parent - Child Art Activity | September 2020
Lynden Sculpture Garden

HOME program: www.home-at-lynden.org

Recordings, worksheets and handouts: www.lydensculpturegarden.org/calendar/home-story-time

Books, English & Spanish edition: *Dreamers* and *Soñadores*, written and illustrated by Yuyi Morales

HOME Story Time Reader: Claudia Orjuela | **Art activity by Lynden art educator:** Claudia Orjuela

Activity 4: Fold & illustrate your own book

We all have a story to tell. Yuyi told you her story. Yuyi taught herself how to make books. When Yuyi started to make the book *Dreamers*, she provided great advice: “start small and go little by little”. First, she wrote the story with words. Then, she told the story through images. Making simple drawings, she started telling her story. *What is your story?* Help your child fold the book, brainstorm ideas together, and finally allow your child to draw and color the pages.

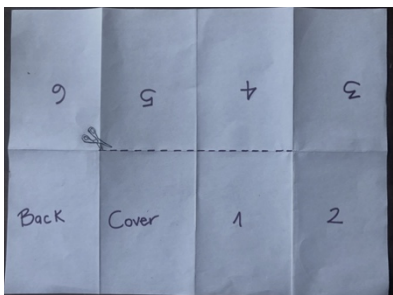
Materials needed:

- Writing and coloring materials available, such as: crayons, color pencils, markers.
- Paper. Preferably size A3 or A4. The bigger the paper, the larger the pages. Younger children will color better on larger pages.
- Child-friendly scissors. Please use with adult supervision.

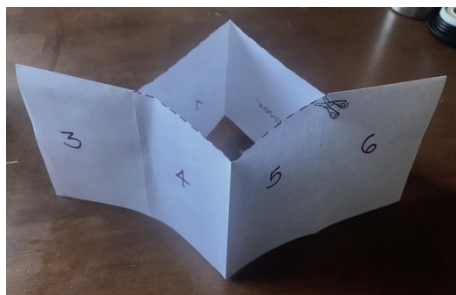
Folding instructions:

- 1) Fold your paper in eight equal parts. You can do this by folding your paper in half from width to width, and then folding your paper in equal parts of four on the length side.
- 2) Look at the template in step 1. Use scissors to cut through the dotted line.
- 3) Position paper like step 2. From here you can fold your book.

1.



2.



3.



Once you gather materials, and fold one or multiple books, it's time to get some inspiration to tell the story through drawings.

- **Inspiration and ideas:** Start with open-ended questions and conversation to explore child's ideas about the story. Does your story have colors, shapes, sounds, smells, feelings? What do they look like? Use pictures from your favorite book or from a personal experience. Who are the characters in your story? Where is it taking place? A prompt from the story: What is your favorite character/place of the story *Dreamers*? Or imagine you are the one traveling to a new country. What would you bring with you? What 5 items are so special to you that you would not want to leave behind? What objects would you bring as gifts? Let's draw them!
- **Title the story:** What is the name of the story? A title could be: "My Little Book of ... gifts, animals, toys". Add your name as the author and decorate the cover.
- **Draw and color:** Tell your story on paper through drawings, there's no need to include words. Draw big, use all the space in each page. Make your drawings colorful and fun. Children will create stories as they draw; observe and listen to your child's ideas. In the process, their story may change and grow. You can participate by drawing alongside and building on ideas your child proposes.
- Share the story with the ones you love!

Recommended link to learn more about the making of Dreamers:

<http://blaine.org/sevenimpossiblethings/?p=4707>