

- ✓ What do snowflakes symbolize?
- ✓ What songs do you know about snow?
- ✓ Where do people hang paper snowflakes?
- ✓ What materials are needed to make a paper snowflake?



Let's Make Paper Snowflakes!

No two snowflakes are alike! Paper snowflakes are fun and easy to make. You can decorate your homes and classrooms with snowflakes. Turn any space into a winter wonderland in a matter of minutes. Try making the snowflake on page 3. Check out the demo on ESL-Library's blog if you need help. Don't worry if it doesn't turn out. Compare your snowflake to another classmate's snowflake. After your first attempt, research other ways to make snowflakes. Write a procedure for your class. Challenge your classmates to try to follow your steps! Decorate your class, or share your snowflakes with others.

Vocabulary

Here are some words you'll see in the following pages.

- stapler** (noun): a device for fastening paper
- slit** (noun): a narrow opening
- cylinder** (noun): a barrel-shaped object
- reverse** (verb): to go in the opposite direction
- hollow** (adjective): has nothing inside
- thread** (verb): to push through a small opening
- leftover** (adjective): remaining
- turn out** (verb): to result in a certain way
- challenge** (verb): to invite someone to try something

Materials

Gather these materials before you start your craft.

- 8 sheets of white paper (7 may be enough)*
- scissors
- a glue stick
- a stapler (or clear tape)
- a piece of string, thread, or ribbon
- a partner

*You could also make colorful snowflakes with any paper scraps you have.



Procedure

Follow these instructions. Circle all of the verbs you see in these instructions.

1. Gather 8 pieces of paper. Cut 1 piece of paper into a square.
2. Fold your square into a triangle.
3. Fold the triangle a second time.
4. Hold the triangle with the **tips facing up**. The **pocket-like openings should face to the left**. The bottom of the triangle should be a single folded edge. (Ask your teacher to show you the “How To” video on ESL- Library’s blog.)
5. Cut 3 diagonal slits from the bottom edge up to the tips. The slits should be equal width apart. Cut **almost** to the top of the paper’s edge, but not all the way to the end.
6. Open your paper. There should be six triangular-shaped slits in your square.
7. Grab the **two inner slits** and fold them into each other to form a hollow cylinder. Glue the two inner slits together loosely. You should be able to fit your finger inside the hollow area.
8. Repeat step 7 two more times with next slits. Reverse the direction of the cylinder each time. The hollow area will be a bit bigger each time.
9. Repeat steps 1–8 with each piece of paper that you have.
10. When you have 8 parts of the snowflake done (7 may be enough), fasten all of the tips together to form a wheel. (Use a stapler or clear tape for best results.)
11. Fasten the sides of each snowflake part together. You have a full snowflake now!
12. Poke a hole in the top of your snowflake. Thread the ribbon or string through the hole. Hang your snowflake **in** a window. You could also hang it **from** the ceiling.

Leftover Paper

When you are done this craft, you should have 7 or 8 strips of **leftover** paper. List some ideas for reusing these strips.

- *We could make bookmarks.*
-
-
-





Difficulties

Talk about the parts that were difficult to follow in the procedure. Write down the hardest parts.

- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5



Our Snowflake

Describe how your group's snowflake *turned out*. Use some adjectives to describe it.



Their Snowflake

Compare your group's snowflake with another group's snowflake. What is similar about the two snowflakes? What is different?

Similar

-
-
-
-

Different

-
-
-
-





Our Procedure

Research *How to Make Paper Snowflakes* online. Watch some videos. Find a new design that you like. Rewrite the instructions in your own words. Try to use some of the same verbs you found on page 2. Challenge a classmate to make your snowflake. (Be sure to try it yourself first to make sure it works.) You could also make a video demo of your procedure!

Materials



Procedure

- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5
- 6
- 7
- 8



Tips:



**Teachers' Notes**

Familiarize yourself with how to make this type of snowflake. There is a demo on ESL-Library's blog post: "Snowflakes for Sandy Hook."

Warm-up

Have a short discussion about snow and snowflakes. You might want to get some volunteers to draw one on the board. Discuss the questions provided.

Partners

Put your students in pairs or small groups to complete the activity.

Vocabulary

Have your students read through the vocabulary.

Materials

Ask your students to gather the necessary materials.

Procedure

Invite your students to read through the procedure and attempt to follow the instructions. Tell them to circle the verbs they find. (See list of verbs below.) Don't worry if they have trouble following the steps. They will surely come up with something! Tell them that it's okay to improvise. Show the video if you have access to a computer. Help the students construct sentences using "could" for the **Leftover Paper** task.

Difficulties

Ask your students to discuss the difficulties related to this procedure. Have a class discussion. Which part was difficult?

Compare

Ask students to get together with another pair or group to compare their snowflakes. What is different about the snowflakes? What is the same?

Research

Tell students to research other ways for making snowflakes. Ask them to rewrite a procedure in their own words. If students already know another way, they can write out that procedure.

Verbs from the Procedure

cut	open	reverse
fold	grab	glue
hold	fit	fasten
	repeat	

Spelling Note: This lesson shows the American spelling of the words *Symbolize* and *Colorful*. Most other English-speaking countries spell these words this way: *Symbolise* and *Colourful* (note: Canada uses *Symbolize*). Make it a challenge for your students to find these words in the lesson and see if they know the alternate spellings.