

# Pop-Up Greetings



Thank a helper with your own 3-D creation! Identify helpers in your community and create a unique 3-D card to thank them.

4-H Project Area: Civic Engagement; Art

Time: 25 minutes

Life Skills: Concern for Others; Communications

## Materials:

- Examples of pop-up books or greeting cards
- Plain white paper
- Pencils and crayons, colored pencils, or markers
- 1 piece of heavy cardstock per child
- Selection of construction paper and additional decorative paper – scrapbooking paper, wrapping paper, etc.
- Scissors
- Glue sticks

## Advance Preparation:

Make an example of a pop-up card to show the youth

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON LEADING ACTIVITIES FOR YOUNG MEMBERS, SEE CLOVERBUD LEADER GUIDE

## Did You Know?

The earliest pop-up books were not made for children. The oldest identified book with a moving element was made in the 13th century by a Catalan philosopher who added



a revolving disk to one of his books. After that, books with moving parts were used to teach anatomy, create secret codes and tell fortunes.

It wasn't until the late 1800s when these types of books were made for children. Each

moving part was made by hand so pictures would move along with the story. In the 1930s, Blue Ribbon Publishing of New York was the first company to call these "pop-up" books.

Now, you can see pop-up elements in greeting cards. You can find lights and music in some of the pop-up books and cards made today!

# THE ACTIVITY

Explain that we are going to thank some community helpers by making pop-up cards for them. Our group will need to decide who we will make our cards for.

## Ask

*Who are some people that help our community?*  
(Police, firefighters, crossing guards for example)

*How do they help us?*

*How do you like to be thanked when you help someone?*

## Investigate

Share some facts about the history of pop-up books and cards, and show some examples. Let children examine them to see how the pop-up parts are made. **Ask, What do you notice?** Show the example pop-up card you made.



## Create

Give each child a piece of paper and pencil and have them plan their design first. Tell them to sketch some ideas and write a short message. Allow about 5 minutes. As they finish, ask them to share their ideas and let them pick out paper for pop-up cards.

Demonstrate making the card step by step:

- Fold cardstock in half, short sides together.
- Cut two equal slits in the folded edge.
- Push the section between slits out so it folds in and “pops up” when opened.

- Fold a piece of construction paper in half, short sides together, for the outer cover.
- Glue the pop-up card inside the construction paper cover.
- Decorate your card. Cut out paper shapes and glue to the pop-up. Add drawings and thank you messages to the community helpers.

## Share/Reflect

Ask children to show their finished card to the group and explain their design choices.

**Ask, Would you do anything different?**

*How do you think our community helpers will feel when they get your cards?*

When done, collect the cards and deliver to the community helpers.

## Relationship to 4-H

Community service is an important part of 4-H. As children learn new skills in 4-H activities, encourage them to share these skills with others to make your community better.

Explain that when you send your pop-up cards to community helpers, you are using your talents to thank them for keeping you safe, happy, and healthy.

## More to Explore

When children are ready for a new challenge, encourage them to create a card with more than one pop-up element. Watch Martha Stewart interview artist Robert Sabuda for inspiring examples: [www.marthastewart.com/918288/creating-pop-books-robert-sabuda#918288](http://www.marthastewart.com/918288/creating-pop-books-robert-sabuda#918288)

Source: *Pop-Up Book*, TIME Magazine; *A Concise History of Pop-Up and Movable Books*, Ann Montanaro.

Adapted by: Brianna Stapleton Welch, 4-H Youth Development Educator, UW-Extension Washington County



Today we made pop-up cards to thank helpers in our community.



## Pop-Up Greetings

**We learned...** As we made cards, we learned about the history of pop-up art. We also talked about the many people who help in our community.

### **Ask your child...**

What was the most enjoyable part of making your pop-up card?

What was the most challenging part of making your pop-up card?

Who are the community helpers that you wanted to thank?

Who are some other people who help our family?

**Explore more...** Talk about the way that your child helps out in your family. Discuss the ways that people in your family like to be thanked for helping. Do they like hugs, nice comments, or a thank you card? Ask your child to show you how to make a pop-up card to thank someone special to your family.

**Connect to 4-H...** Community service is an important part of 4-H. As children learn new skills in 4-H activities, encourage them to share these skills with others to make your community better. When we sent our pop-up cards to community helpers, we were using our talents to thank them for keeping us safe, happy, and healthy.