

Flip-Book Fun

6 and up

A flip-book is a small book with the same images on each page that change slightly, so that when you quickly flip through the pages of the book it gives the illusion of movement or animation. Making an original flip-book with your child is simple – all you need are the following materials and some creativity.



Supplies:

- White sketch paper is best as it is heavier and flips well, bond paper will do
- Pencil, eraser, pencil crayons, markers, (wax crayons may make the pages sticky)
- Scissors
- A method of binding the pages together - a bulldog clip is the simplest, or use a hole punch and round-head brass fasteners (or recycle an old duo-tang), a report cover slide bar cut to fit, staples are your last choice as they make it difficult to add, remove or rearranging pages as you work.

Steps:

- 1:** Cut the paper into hand-held sized rectangles or squares. This makes it easy to flip the book's pages quickly and get the desired animation effect. A 20x28 cm piece of paper divides nicely into 8 - 7x10cm flip pages. The more pages in your book the better, be cause it will also help your book flip more effectively. A card stock back page adds support and can help the pages flip quickly.
 - 2:** Clamp the first few pages together. This way you can see you book's spine, where the pages meet, and where your pictures should be on each page.
 - 3:** Fill in your book. Keep the image simple, use stick figures to start. Draw slight changes and make lots and lots of draws. Work in pencil and add colour later. Try something that gradually 'moves' across the page, like an inch worm. You can draw a story about something that changes size like a seed growing into a flower. Show how a tadpole becomes a frog, a dragonfly chases a mosquito. With some practice, you can add words to your project too.
- Tip:** It can be helpful to trace parts of your picture from one page to the next. This can keep your horizon and scenery in the same place and your character's basic size and shape the same.
- 4:** Add pages to you book as you finish them. Do a flip check frequently to see if you need to add any pages to smooth out the animation.
 - 5:** Add a cover page and you're done. Time to flip, flip, and flip some more! Make personalized flip books as gifts for friends and family.



A few key pages from *The Snowman's Nose*



Tip: Creating a flip book is a fun way to study the mechanics of movement.