

WET BREAK · K-Y4

Quick Paper Crafts

12 wet-break activities, paper only

Materials needed

Paper (any kind — printer paper works for everything). Pencils or pens. That's it. Some activities benefit from coloured paper or scissors but none need them. All twelve activities can run in any classroom on any wet day.

Easy (10 mins)

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| Paper aeroplane Classic dart fold. After making, draw a face/design. Fly contests in the corridor are not allowed but a 'best decorated' wall is. | Origami cup 8-step fold. Result: a paper cup that actually holds water briefly. Children love that it works. |
| Fortune teller 8-fold cootie catcher. Children write fortunes, ask classmates to choose. Old, but children rediscover it every generation. | Paper chain Strip paper, glue/staple/tape into rings, link. Class collaboration: how long can the whole class chain be by the end of break? |

Medium (15 mins)

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| Finger puppets Cut a 5cm strip, decorate as a character, tape into a ring that fits a finger. Add eyes, ears, hat. Children put on shows. | Accordion book Fold a strip of paper concertina-style. Each panel = one page. Write a 6-page story. Display as a standing book. |
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Tangram

Cut a square into 7 standard tangram pieces (template provided). Children rearrange to form animals, shapes, letters.

Snowflake

Fold paper into 6ths or 8ths, cut shapes from edges, unfold. Every snowflake unique. Display on windows.

Harder (15-20 mins)**Origami crane**

Classic 16-step fold. Older children love the challenge. First-time learners follow the visual instructions. 7-year-olds can do this with patience.

Paper chatterbox

Like a fortune teller but more advanced — child writes a story, classmate's choice determines next paragraph. Choose-your-own-adventure on paper.

Pop-up card

Cut two parallel slits, fold inwards, decorate. The image pops out when the card opens. Birthday card, friendship card, holiday card.

Paper basket

Weave strips of coloured paper into a simple basket base. Holds small items. Great hand-eye coordination practice for children who finish early.

Step-by-step: Origami fortune teller

Square paper. Fold both diagonals, unfold. Fold each corner to centre. Flip over. Fold each new corner to centre. Slide thumbs and index fingers under each flap. Number outer flaps 1-8. Lift inner flaps and write fortunes. Done.

Step-by-step: Origami crane

Square paper. Fold to triangle, unfold. Fold to triangle other way, unfold. Fold to rectangle, unfold. Fold to rectangle other way. Collapse along creases to form a square base. Fold sides to centre, top down, unfold. Inside-reverse fold. Continue with sides. Pull head and tail out. Bend tip of head down. Crane.

Cleanup

