

MAKE A RAINBOW

Whether you're "Somewhere over the Rainbow" or finding "The Rainbow Connection," rainbows are a symbol of peace, serenity, and hope. They are also a beautiful, colorful reminder that the sun breaks through after a storm, and they may be the motivation you need to go searching for a pot of gold. Brighten up your space with a simple rainbow garland made with household items.



Supplies

- Six sheets of construction paper (rainbow colors)
- Scissors
- Stapler
- Pen or pencil
- Ruler
- Cotton balls
- String, twine, or ribbon

Instructions

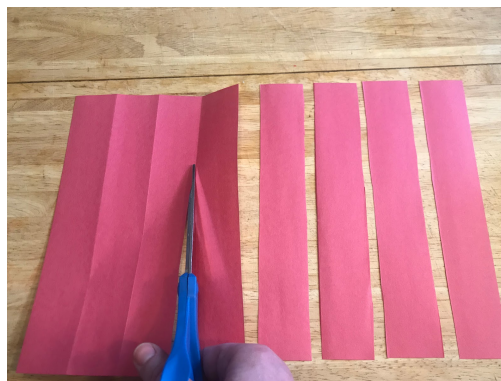
Step 1

Fold one sheet of paper in half along the long edge. Fold it two more times, until you have a thin strip. Unfold the paper. You should have eight segments.



Step 2

2. Cut along the folded lines. You should end up with eight strips.





Step 3

Repeat steps 1 and 2 with the other sheets of paper.

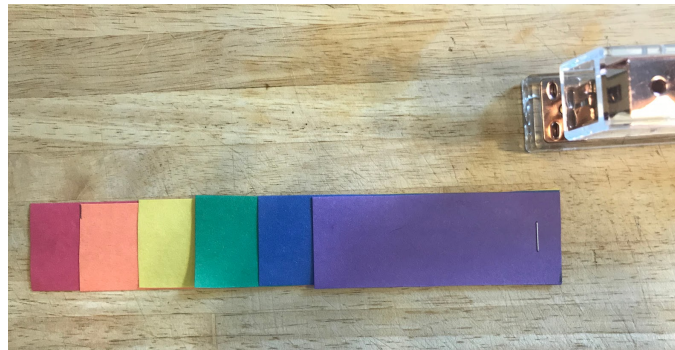
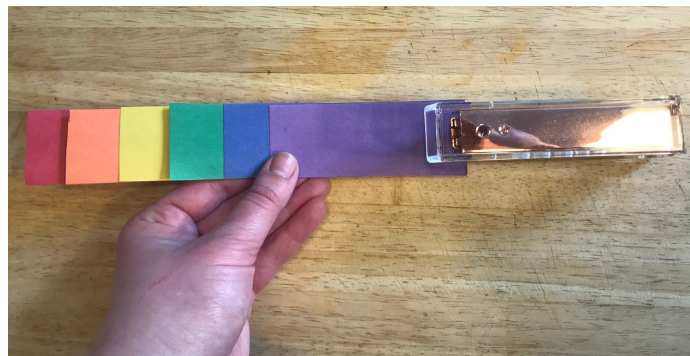
Step 4

One rainbow is made from one strip of each color. The curves are made because each color is shorter than the last. Measure and mark each strip—red at 9 inches (full length), orange at 8 inches, yellow at 7 inches, green at 6 inches, blue at 5 inches, and purple at 4 inches. Trim at your measured marks.



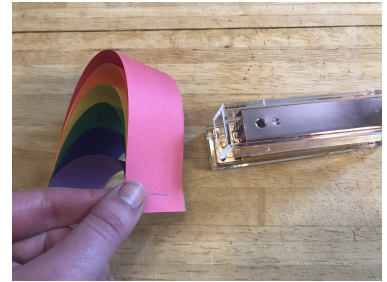
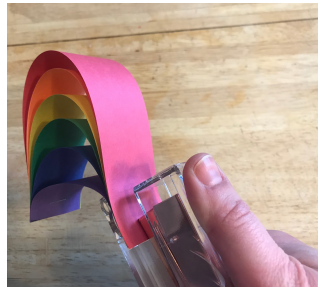
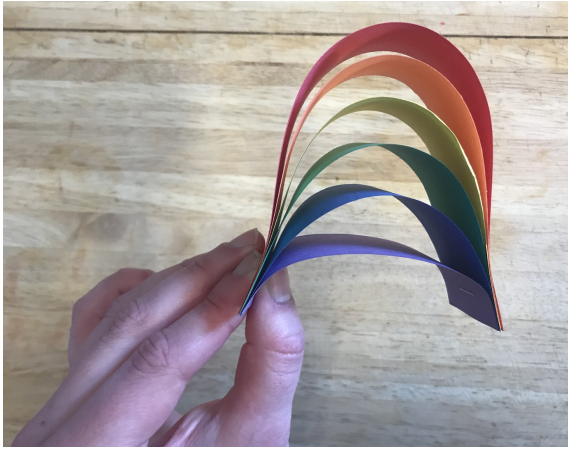
Step 5

Place the strips on top of each other, in rainbow color order, lining up the edges. Carefully staple the strips near the bottom.



Step 6

Match up the other edges, starting with purple and blue, to create the curve of the rainbow. Carefully staple the strips near the bottom.



Step 7

To make clouds, pull apart and fluff up a cotton ball. Place it on one side of the rainbow, then fold over the edge. Staple to hold it in place. Do this very carefully! It can be tricky to wedge the stapler over the cotton ball cloud. Work slowly and cautiously. Repeat with a cotton ball on the other side. It's a rainbow!



Step 8

Repeat steps 4 through 7 with the other strips. You should end up with eight adorable rainbows.



Step 9

To string your rainbows into a garland, measure a long piece of string, twine, or ribbon, about 6 feet long. Leave 6 to 12 inches of space on each end to help you hang it. Decide where you want your rainbows to go along the length of string. We spaced ours 6 inches apart. Place the string on top of the rainbow, then carefully staple the string to the paper. Repeat with the remaining seven rainbows.



Step 10

Hang your garland and smile!



Bonus Step

Experiment with different paper lengths...



...and paper colors!



Learn more about the science behind rainbows with some eBooks available on Hoopla (<https://www.hoopladigital.com/>):

Rainbows by Precious McKenzie

Rainbows by Katie Gillespie

Natural Phenomena: Rainbows by Alicia Z. Klepeis

Rainbow and other Marvels of Light and Water by Lynnae Steinberg

Adapted from a craft available from the One Little Step at a Time Blog: <https://bit.ly/2VuRf3T>