Floral Frenzy:
Folded Paper Flower Card

Historians learn a lot about people and cultures from the clothes that they wear. Fabric and patterns can tell us about trade and even how technology has developed. Floral patterns bloomed in western fashion during the late medieval period (1250 to 1500 AD). Create a floral inspired craft with materials found at home!

Materials

- Folded Paper Flower Template (No printer? Trace the outline of the template from your computer screen)
- Scissors
- 2-3 pieces of paper (white paper, construction paper, or notebook paper)
- Colored pencils, crayons, or markers
- A popsicle stick or straw
- A paperclip
- Tape

Instructions

1. Print the template and cut out the flower and the bee. If you do not have a printer at home, zoom into the template on your computer screen (as big as you can make it without missing any pieces). Trace the outlines of the flower and the bee and cut them out with scissors. This will be your template. If you trace the paper from your computer screen, don’t forget to trace the dotted lined gently in pencil, these will when we start folding.

2. Now you have a template to use to create your finished product. If you have construction paper at home, feel free to pick which color you would like your flower to be. If you have white paper, you can use markers, crayons, or a pencil to decorate. Trace the outline of the flower on the piece of paper.

3. Keeping the template in place on top, fold both pieces of paper along the dotted lines (you will fold and unfold 3 times). Once you complete this step you will no longer need your template. Save it for later!
4. You may notice a familiar shape. The flower is made up of 4 symmetrical hearts (two with fold creases in the middle, two without). Fold the hearts with a crease in the middle inward.

5. Take some time to draw and design. Write a message inside or draw a picture. Be creative! If you are giving the card to a family member or friend, write who it is to and from on the front.

6. Using a piece of tape, attach the straw or popsicle stick to the back of the flower (this will be your stem). Also, attach the bee to the paper clip using a piece of tape. This will help keep the flower closed.

7. Give your creation to someone special!
Folded Paper Flower Template

[Diagram of a folded paper flower template]