How to Make a Paper Airplane

A Reading A–Z Level I Leveled Book
Word Count: 209

Connections

Writing

What is something you know how to make or do?

Write the steps in order.

Have a friend read your directions and follow them.

Science

Follow the steps in the book and make your own paper airplane. Throw your paper airplane five times.

Measure and write down how far your airplane flies each time.



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How to Make a Paper Airplane



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Illustrated by Jake Hill

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Focus Question

What are the steps for making a paper airplane?

Words to Know

level straight overlap third slanted width

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Diagram credits:

Pages 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14: Craig Frederick/© Learning A-Z

Folding Key

Use this key as a guide for folding your paper airplane:

---- Current fold (shows the step on the page)

•••••• Next fold (shows the step on the following page)

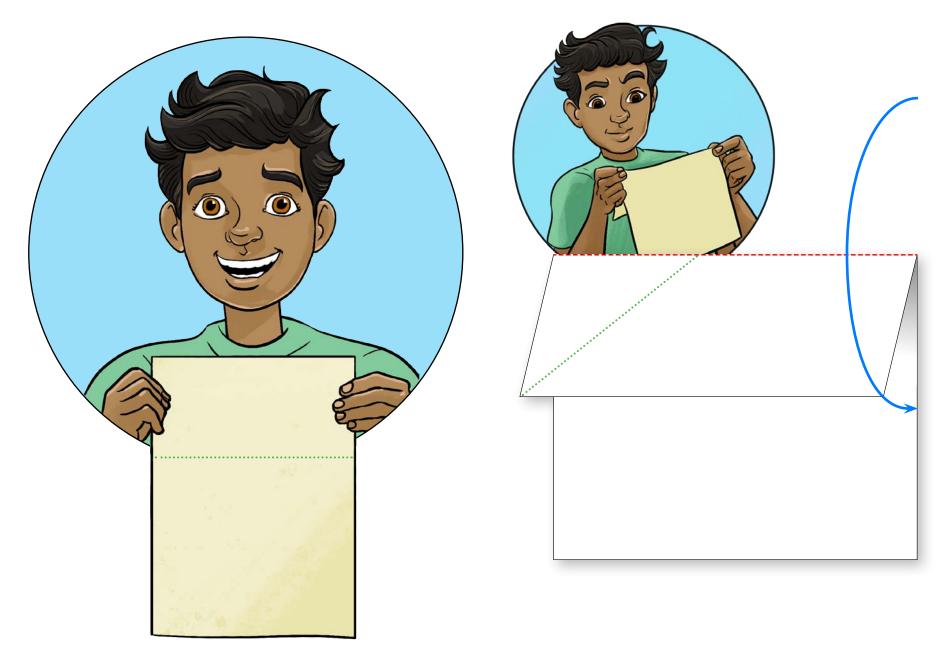
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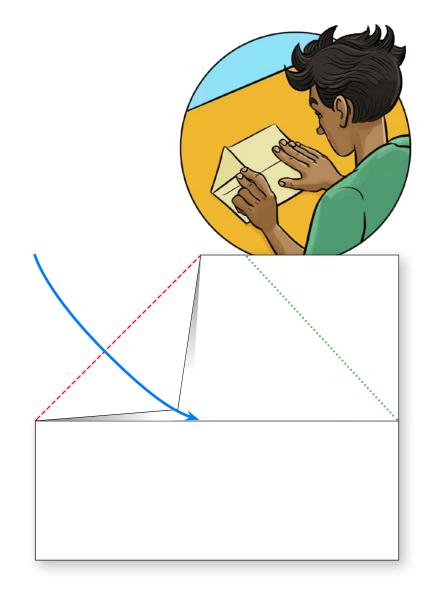
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Correlation

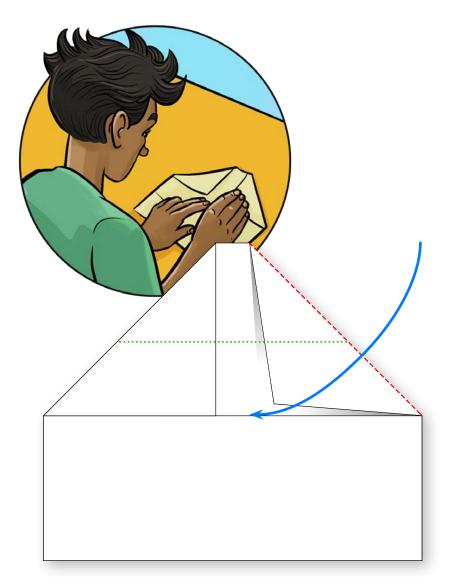
LEVEL I	
Fountas & Pinnell	I
Reading Recovery	15–16
DRA	16



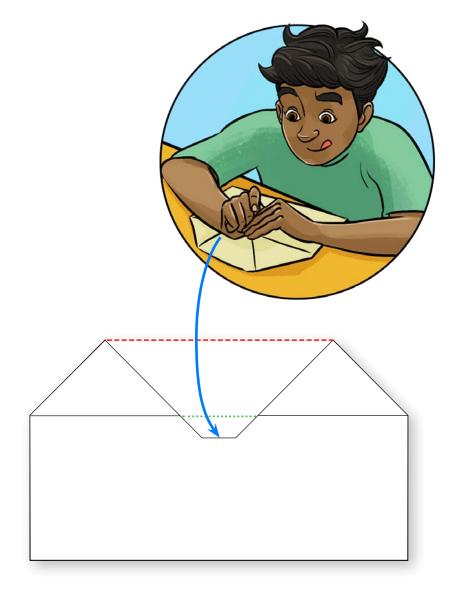
Start with a piece of printer paper. Hold it the tall way. First, fold a **third** of the paper down.

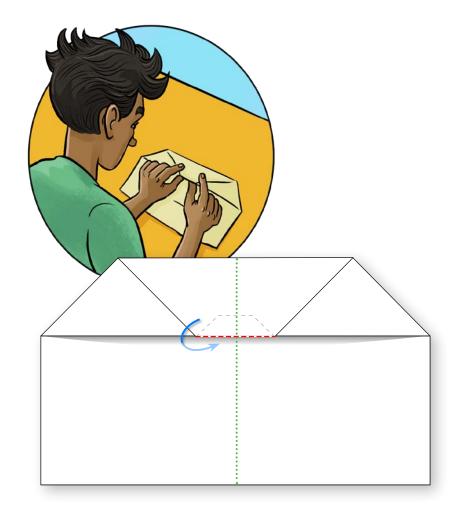


Next, take the top left corner of the part you already folded. Now fold it toward the center to form a triangle.



Now do the same with the top right corner.
This is the first step to making the nose, or front, of your airplane.

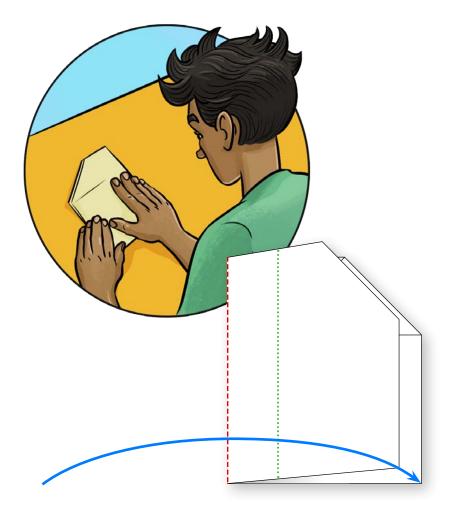




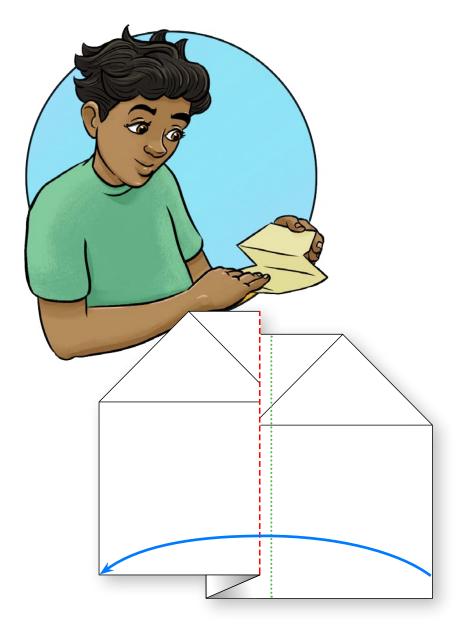
Next, fold the top down.

It should **overlap** the bottom of the triangle by about a finger's **width**.

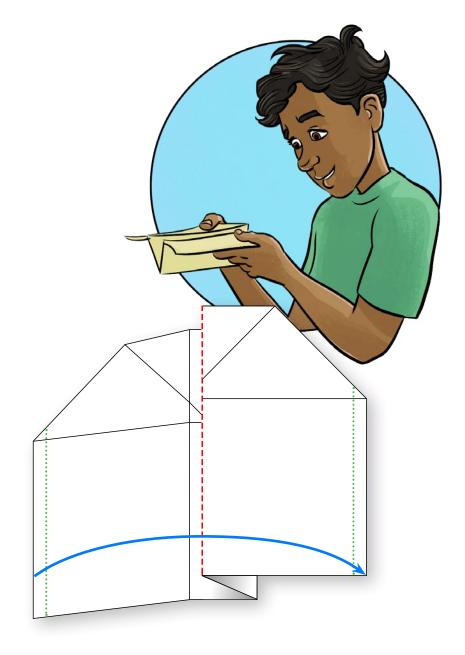
Now, take the overlap from the top of the triangle. Fold it under the bottom. This helps keep the nose in place.



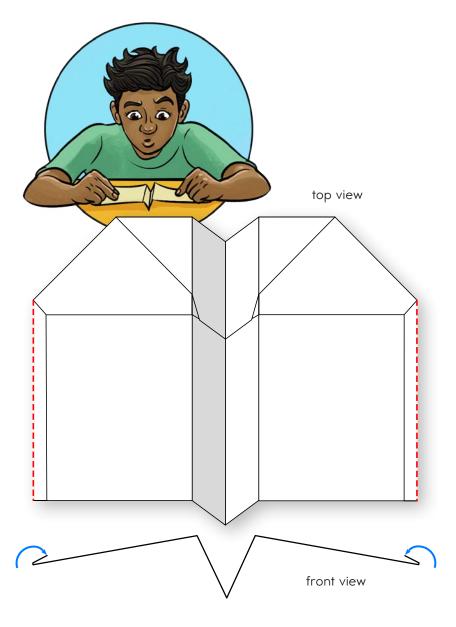
Next, fold the whole paper in half with the folded triangle facing in.
The **slanted** edges should line up evenly.
These will become the wings.



Fold the left wing out and press down along the dashed line.



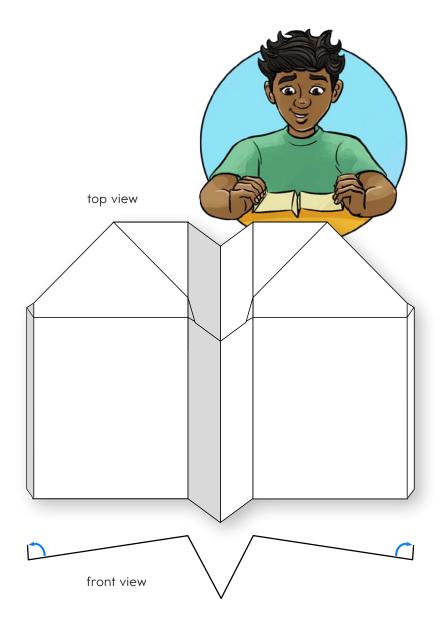
Now do the same with the right wing.

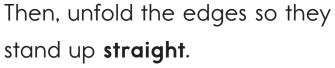


Next, fold the outside edge of each wing up about a finger's width.

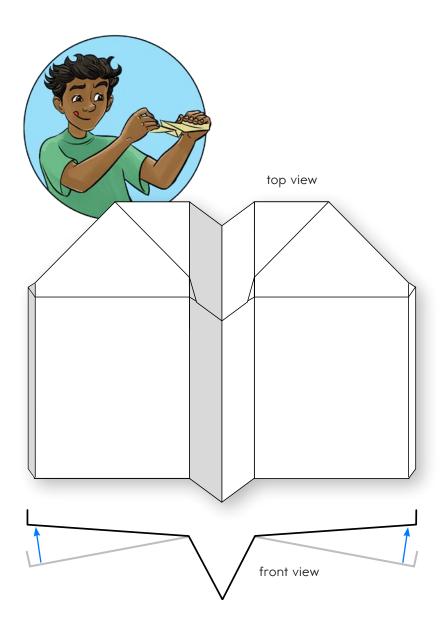
Press down.

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They will help your plane fly straight.



Now lift the wings from the body so they are **level** with one another.



Hurray! You have just made a paper airplane! Now, send your new airplane flying!

Glossary

level (adj.) flat or even; at the same height as something else (p. 14)

overlap (v.) to go over something and partly cover it (p. 7)

slanted having a line or shape (adj.) that slopes (p. 9)

in a line or direction (adv.) that does not have turns or curves (p. 13)

third (n.) one of three equal parts (p. 4)

width (n.) a measurement from side to side, or across (p. 7)