

Groundhog Pop-Up Card

As spring approaches, everyone looks forward to seeing what the groundhog will do. Will it come out of its burrow and see its shadow or not? Here is a fun and easy pop-up card that children will love to make and play with.



Materials

For each student:

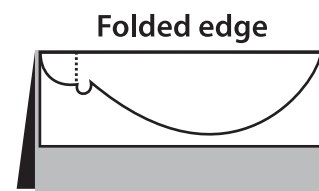
- ⊙ groundhog pattern (page 3)
- ⊙ 4-inch square of brown construction paper (for groundhog)
- ⊙ 9- by 12-inch piece of contrasting construction paper (for card)
- ⊙ two 1- by 3 1/2-inch strips of paper (same color as card)

Other materials:

- ⊙ scissors
- ⊙ tape
- ⊙ markers and crayons

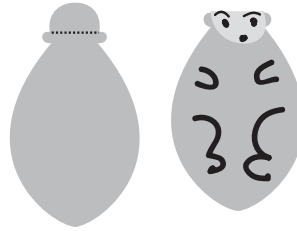
Pass out the materials and a copy of the pattern box to each child. Then model for children how to do the following steps.

- 1** Fold the brown construction paper in half. Line up the groundhog pattern box along the folded side of the paper and tape in place.

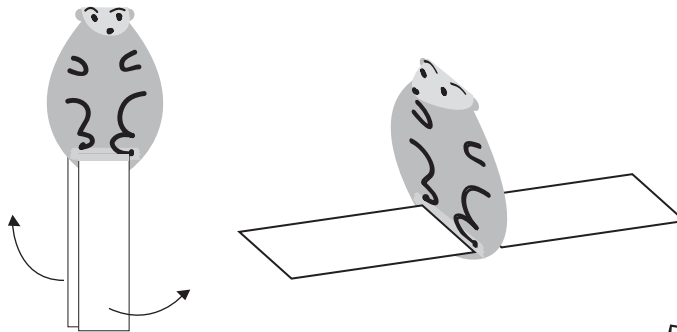


- 2** Cut out the groundhog shape, cutting through all layers of the paper.

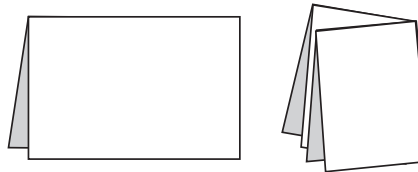
3 Open up the groundhog's body and fold the head down along the dotted line. Then remove the pattern. Draw in eyes, a nose, and paws with markers or crayons.



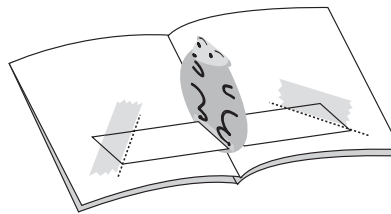
4 Tape the two strips of paper to the bottom of the groundhog, one in front and one in back, as shown. Fold up the strips.



5 Fold the paper for the card in half the short way. Then fold it in half again.



6 Open up the folded card. Line up the groundhog with its strips along the bottom open edge of the card. Place the groundhog with its strips flat on the card as shown.



7 Tape the strips to the card, with the tape angled over the corners as shown. Fold back the strips at an angle along the edges of tape. When the card is closed, the groundhog will peek over the top, and go back inside when the card is opened.

8 Decorate the front of the card with markers and crayons.

Book Break

The Story of Punxsutawney Phil, the Fearless Forecaster by Julia Spencer (Crown, 1977). How reliable is a groundhog's weather prediction? Read this appealing story to find out!



Ways to Display

Make these cards before Groundhog Day, and have students record their predictions about whether or not the groundhog will see its shadow when it comes out of its burrow. Make a two-column graph on a bulletin board. Title one column "Groundhog Will See Its Shadow" and the other "Groundhog Won't See Its Shadow." Let children tack up their card in their chosen column. Then wait for Groundhog Day and compare their predictions with the actual "results"!

Groundhog Pop-Up Card • Groundhog

