

Art: Kinara Pop-Up Card!

Ages: 7 - 13

Hello everyone. This is Bill from the Okanagan Regional Library System. Welcome to the fun and inventive world of making STEAM projects in your own home. Each month, I will share a fun and interesting project that you can make using materials commonly found in your own home.

This month's project: Kinara Pop-up Card

Kinara Pop-Up Card



The *kinara* is the candleholder of Kwanzaa. It is decorated with seven candles: three red candles on the left, a black candle in the middle, and three green candles on the right. Black, red and green are the colours of Kwanzaa. Black stands for the African people, red symbolizes continuing struggle, and green represents the future for the people.

This pop-up kinara and its candles are made from paper, and tissue paper is used for the flames. It can be used as a greeting card, a decoration, or both.

Materials Needed:

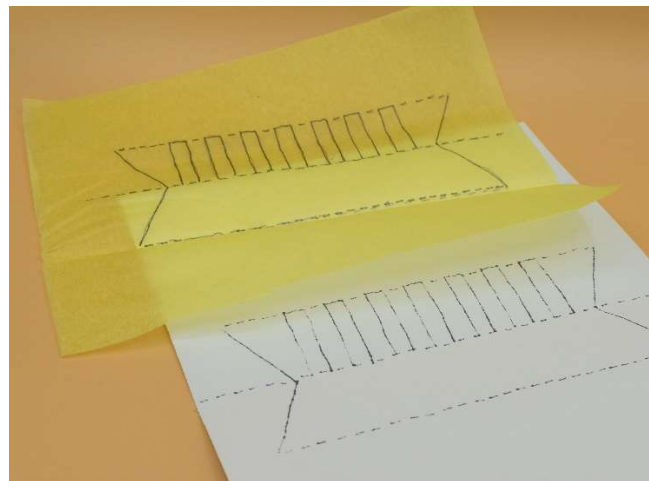
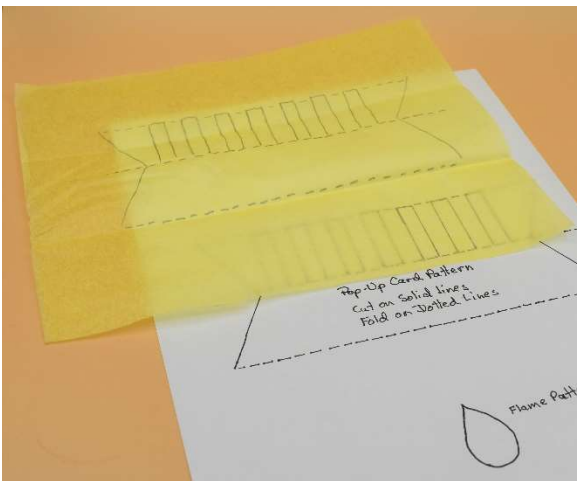
- Kinara Popup Stencil
- Candle Flame Stencil
- Pencil
- White Card Stock (8.5" x 11")
- Markers or crayons
- Scissors / Xacto Knife
- White glue
- Construction paper (Any colour; 8.5" x 11")
- Yellow tissue paper
- Ruler



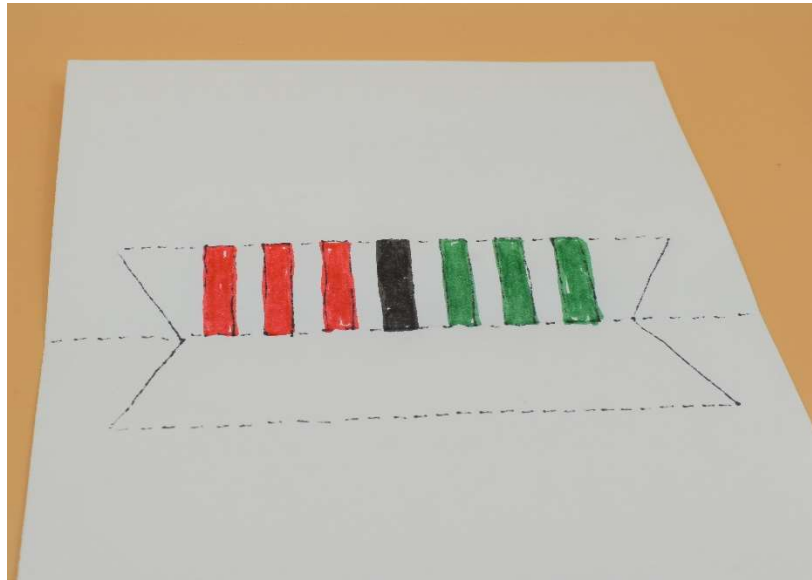
Time: 30 minutes to 1 hour

Steps:

1. Use a piece of the tracing paper to transfer the pattern found at the end of this document to the white card stock paper.



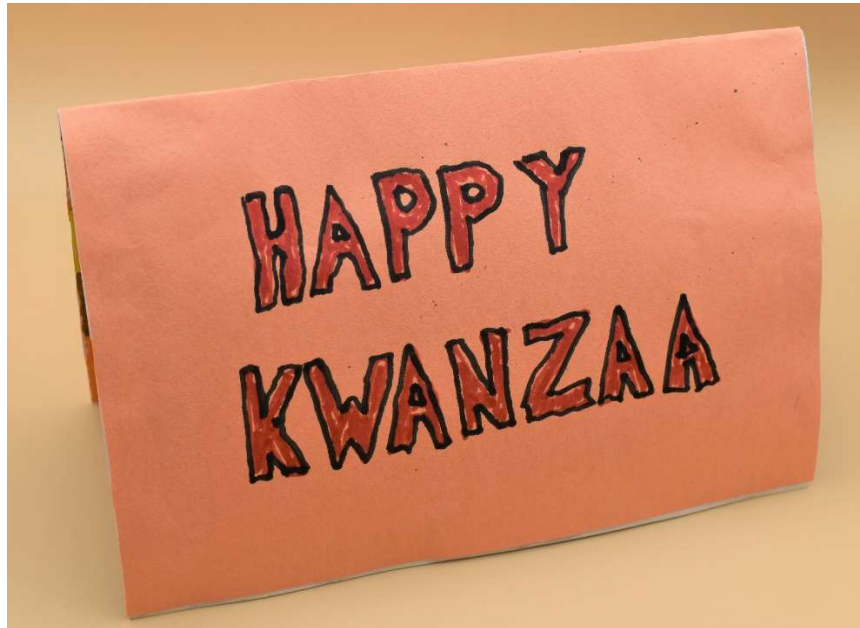
2. Colour the candles of the design with marker or crayons. Make three red candles on the left, a black candle in the middle, and three green candles on the right. Decorate the kinara and the inside of the card as you wish.



3. Cut the solid lines of the pattern. Fold the card stock along the dotted lines. Cut seven flame shapes from the yellow tissue paper. Use the design found at the end of this document. Glue the flames to the top of the candles and let dry.



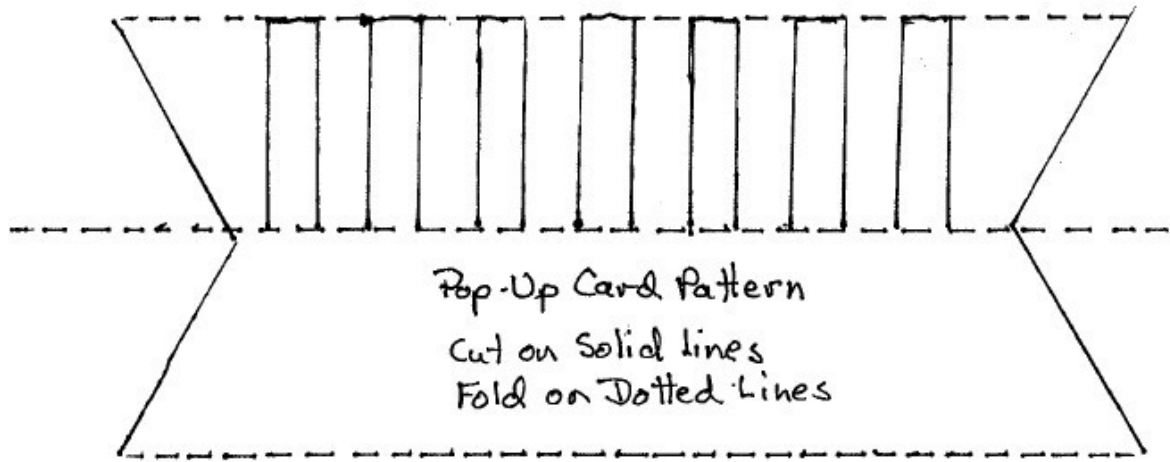
4. Write a greeting on the outside or inside of the card.



Background

Kwanzaa is a holiday celebrated by people of many countries around the world. It started in 1966 by Dr. Maulana R. Karenga, a professor of Black Studies at California State University, Long Beach. It is based on harvest celebrations from the people of Africa. Swahili is an African language, and it is the language that is used to describe the principles (rules for good behaviour), symbols, and actions that go with Kwanzaa. While Kwanzaa has African roots, its principles are one celebrated by all people.

Kwanzaa, which means “the first fruits” in Swahili, is a week-long celebration that begins on December 26th and ends January 1. Kwanzaa is not considered a religious holiday, but it is a time to celebrate one’s family, achievements, and heritage. It is a time to think about positive values, how to help each other, setting goals, and improving your community.



Flame Pattern