

Kites and Kids

By Dave Ellis aka Kiteguy

I like paper kites. KISS (Keep It Super Simple)

For many years I taught kite history/building classes to youth around the KC Metro area. We made at least a 1000 kites each summer at Pre-School classes, Day care, YMCA, etc. I taught classes in the schools when invited. I do not do that so much anymore.

In most of my classes I stayed with one kite. It is quick, easy to make, few materials needed, and it always flies! These kites need limited flying area, and the short lines keep the frustrating line tangles down to a minimum. Just the running speed of a child is all the kite needs to go airborne. And children love to run!

This is not my original design (Is there any such thing?) I thought I would share this with you now in case you have a youngster around that would like to make a kite, or two.

Materials needed for each student:

1 sheet of copy paper. 8 ½ X 14 works best.

Crayons At least red, yellow, and orange.

1 staple

1 piece of tape about postage stamp size.

Length of crochet thread, about as long as the student is tall.

Rogallo flying wing kite

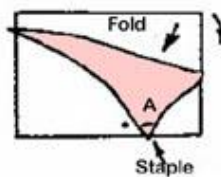
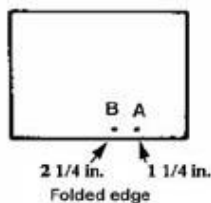
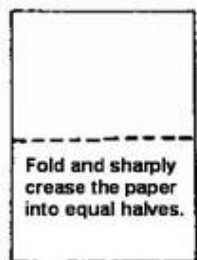
This is an easy kite to make and fly. It does not need a tail, but one may be added for interest. The Kanji writing on the kite translates to 'crazy about kites'. Make a kite of your own and go 'Kite Crazy'.

風狂
TAKO
KICHI
Japanese

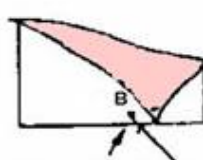
風箏
Fung Jung
Chinese
Flying Device

Directions:

1. Decorate your kite.
2. Fold the kite in half.
3. Roll the corners down and staple at point A. **DO NOT FOLD FLAT!**
4. Tape a flying line at point B. Thread makes an excellent flying line.
5. Tape a tail on the kite if desired. Tails are not usually necessary on this kite, but sometimes they may be added for decoration purposes.



Roll the corners down on opposite sides, and staple at point A. **DO NOT FOLD.**



Tape flying line at point B. Thread makes excellent flying line for a kite this size.



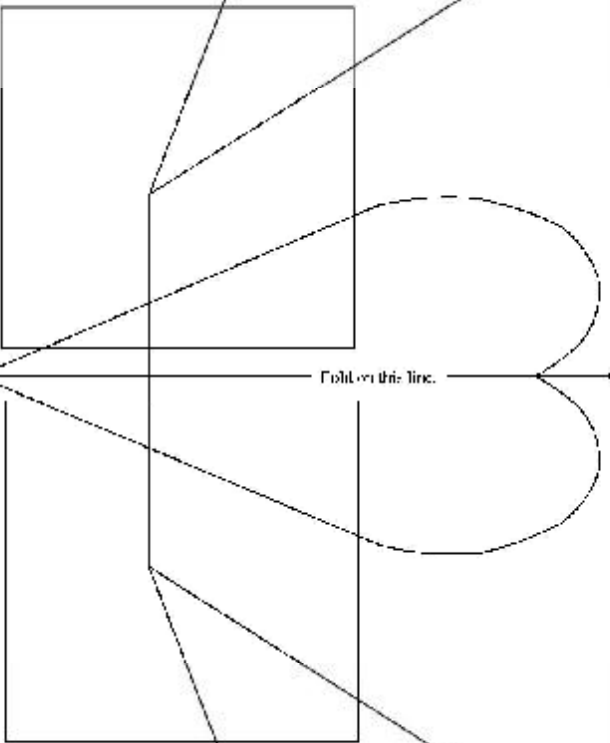
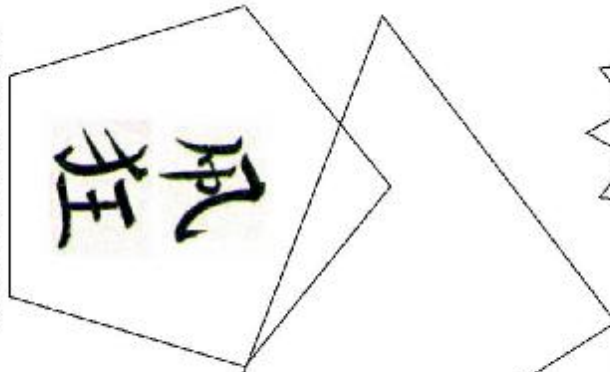
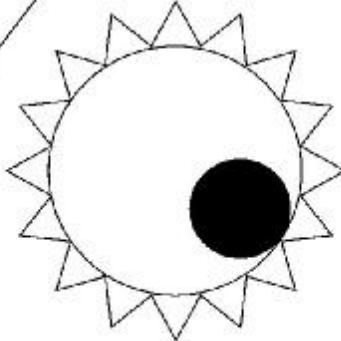
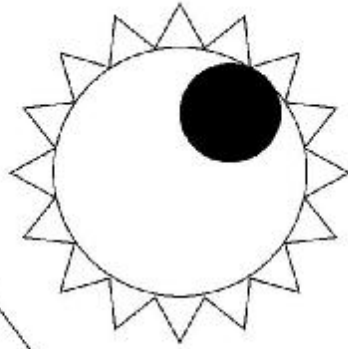
Tape on a tail if desired.

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This is a template for the kite that I used for the Japanese Kite program.



The sun is here.

38.5 cm x 10 cm.

Fold on this line.

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Color the space in each journal.

http://www.sound.net/~allegory
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