



Literacy



Art

PAPER POINSETTIA

Grade Level

2-4

Length of Lesson

45 minutes

Objective

By the end of this lesson, students will be able to identify poinsettias and describe their features.

Materials Needed

- Copies of templates on red paper (1 of each size per student)
- Green paper (1 sheet per student)
- Scissors
- Glue stick or tape
- Hole punch

Standards

Common Core

CCSS.ELA-Literacy:

RI.K.4; SL.K.1a;

SL.K.2; SK.K.6

Illinois Visual Arts

VA:Cr2.2.PK; Cr2.3.PK;

Cr2.1.1; Re7.2.1

*Lesson adapted from
Hamilton-Jefferson County
Ag in the Classroom.*

Lesson Summary

This lesson is a hands-on craft that allows students to learn about the parts of a poinsettia plant.

Suggested Sequence of Events:

1. Set Up: Print enough copies of both templates on red paper so that each student has one of each size. If you only have a few hole punches, you can also hole punch the green paper ahead of time so that students have the little circles for the center (the flower) of their plant.
2. Read "[The Legend of the Poinsettia](#)" by Tomie dePaola to capture student interest.
3. Complete the activity following the procedures:
 - Give each student one copy of the large circle template, one copy of the small circle template, and one sheet of green paper.
 - Cut the circles out on the bold lines.
 - Then cut down the dotted lines on both circles. Make sure they don't cut all the way to the center and only to where the dotted line stops. These flaps are the bracts!
 - For each flap, or bract, fold the outer corners toward each other so that they meet in the middle and create a point on the outside of the circle. (See pictures on Teacher Resources page)
 - Put a dot of glue in the center of the large circle and place the small circle, centered, on top.
 - Cut two large leaves from their green sheet of paper and glue them to the bottom of the large circle.
 - Lastly, use the hole punch to punch out small circles of the green paper scraps. These are the flowers. Glue several of them to the center of the small circle.
5. Whole class discussion and reflection of activity. Have students identify the parts of their paper poinsettia with their classmates.

TEACHER RESOURCES

Folding the Bracts:



Extension Ideas:

- Have students label the leaves, bracts, and flowers of a poinsettia diagram.
- Have students dissect the flower of a poinsettia and observe the seeds.
- Have students define the following terms: leaves, bracts, flower, horticulture, and greenhouse
- Have students write a narrative about a poinsettia or poinsettia farming.
- Teach students about horticulture and growing ornamental plants.
- Teach about greenhouses and then have students design their own greenhouse.
- Have students research the history of poinsettias. Where are they from? What year were they introduced to America? Are there other uses for poinsettias besides holiday décor?
- Have students research where poinsettias are grown in the United States today.
- Read through "[Twas' Nochebuena](#)" by Roseanne Greenfield Thong, discuss the Latino tradition, and reflect on other holiday celebrations and traditions.
- Go to agintheclassroom.org to contact your County Literacy Coordinator for free classroom sets of our Ag Mags!





