



Great St Mary's Church

How to make a fancy paper star, an activity from Great St Mary's Church.





Great St Mary's Church is a large church right in the centre of Cambridge, opposite Senate House and backing onto the market. During opening hours visitors are welcome to come in and visit this historic and interesting church, otherwise known as The University Church. Last year we were able to illuminate the church for Twilight at the Museums with hundreds of candles which twinkled and gave the church a beautiful atmosphere. This year we can think about a very special star that can be spotted in the East Window of the church which tells the story of the birth of Jesus, otherwise known as the nativity.

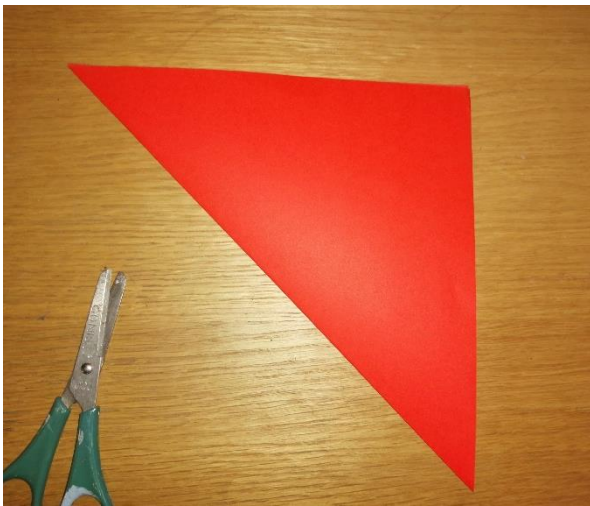
Can you spot the star that guided the wise men in the window?

What else can you spot in the window?



Here are some instructions for you to make your own fancy star

1. You need 6 squares of paper. You can make a square by carefully folding one corner to the opposite side, making sure the edges line up. Then carefully cut next to the triangle edge.



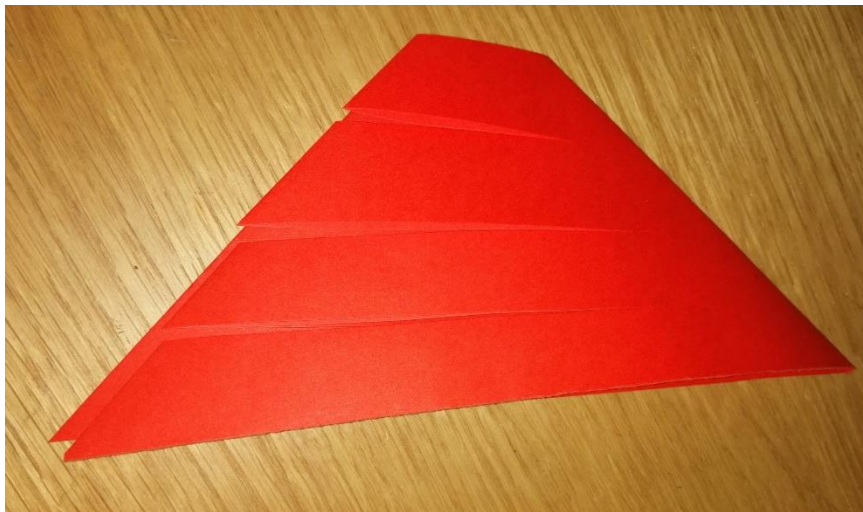
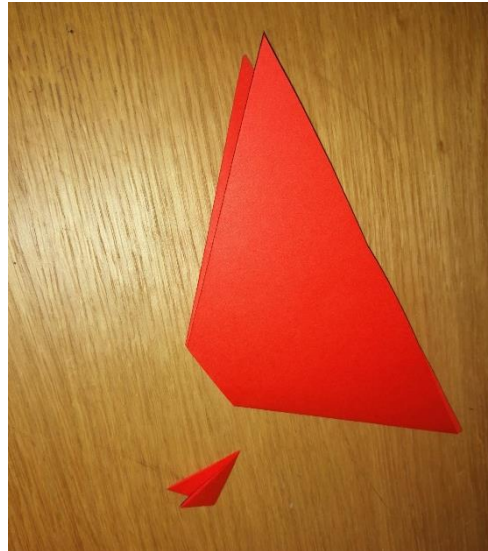
2. You will have a triangle.

3. Fold the triangle again, making sure the points meet. You should end up with a triangle like this.



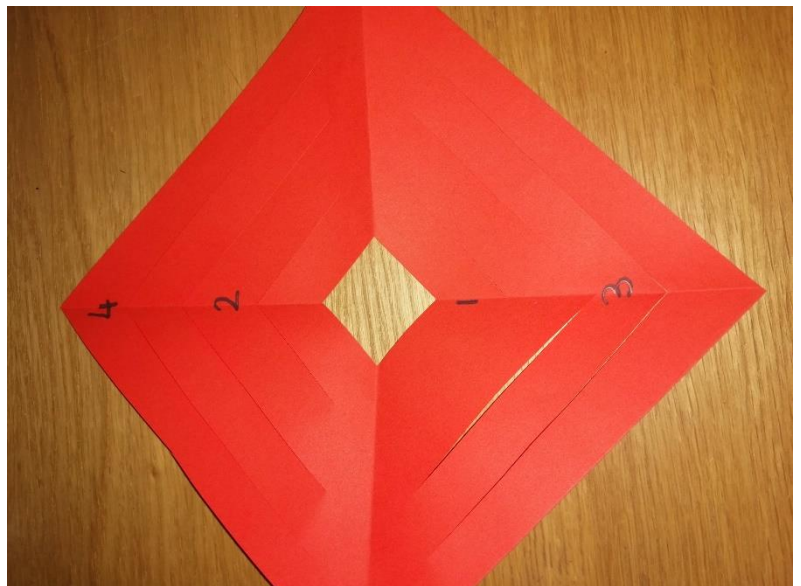


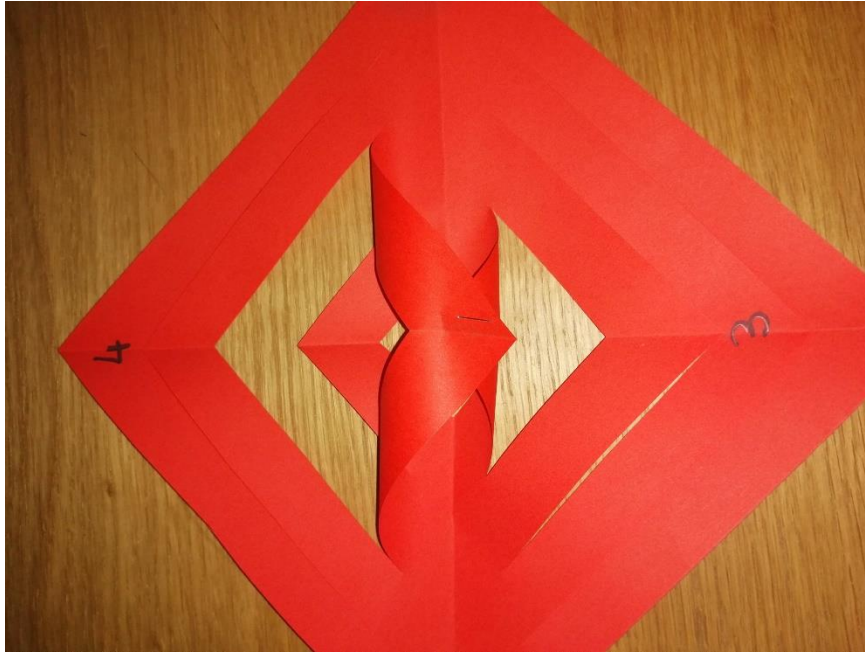
4. Cut the tip off the triangle.



5. Make 3 evenly spaced cuts parallel to the first cut, but don't go all the way to the top edge. Leave about 1cm so that the strips you cut are still attached.

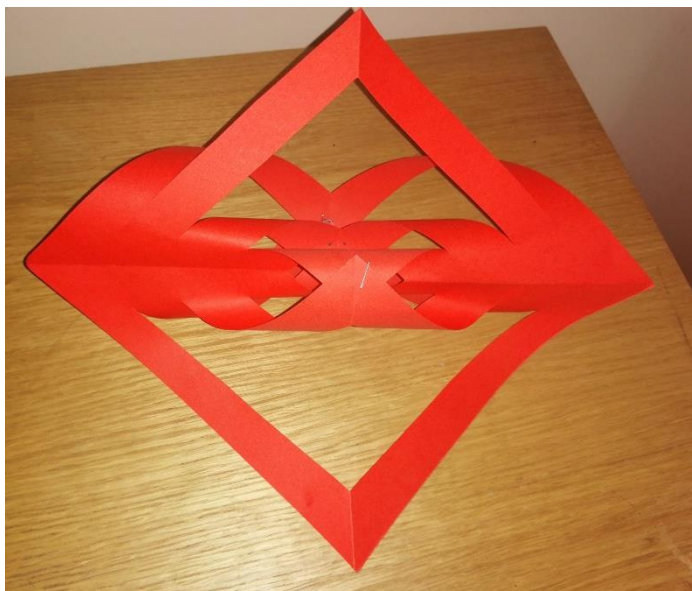
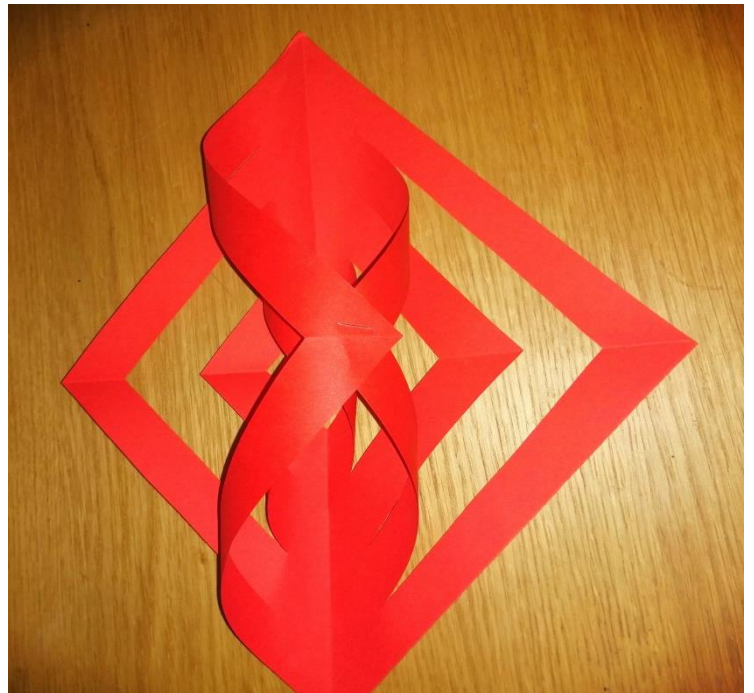
6. With your first star you might want to label the star with numbers like this.





7. Attach the point of strip 1 to the point of strip 2; a stapler is good to hold the strips together, but you can also use glue or tape.

8. Next attach point 3 to point 4.



9. Turn the paper over and join the inner 2 strips.



10. Join the 2 remaining strips. Then make five more in the same way.



11. Join three sections together with a staple in the middle section at the bottom and in the middles. Repeat with the other 3 sections.

12. Join the 2 halves together to make a star. Add a thread and hang and admire.





Try using different sized squares and papers such as wrapping paper, newspaper and magazines.

