

MAKE: A PAPER SLINKY



Kia ora! Marina here, the New Zealand Maritime Museums Māui dolphin.

Learn how to make a paper slinky with me!



The slinky was accidentally invented by naval engineer Richard T. James in 1943.

He was working with coiled wire to see if it could help keep ship equipment steady at sea, when he knocked some model springs over.

Expecting the springs to fall, he was amazed to see them flip end-over-end instead, moving as though it was walking. And thus, the idea for a toy slinky was created.

MAKE A PAPER SLINKY

Follow the steps below with the help of an adult

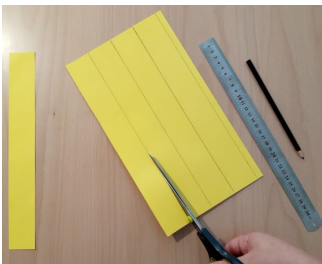
WHAT YOU NEED:

4 or 5 x A4 sheets of coloured standard paper (80gsm), scissors, ruler, pencil and a glue stick



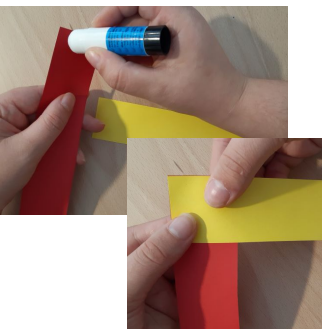
1. Create 14 strips of paper

Measure and cut out 14 different coloured strips of paper that is approximately 4cm wide. Make sure the paper you are using is of a standard thickness, not card.



2. Glue two ends together

Grab two strips of paper and glue the ends together at a right angle as shown in the picture. Hold down for a moment to ensure it is glued securely.



Glue the end



Attach a strip



Glue the other end



Attach a strip



4. Add more strips

Grab two more strips of paper. Glue one end of one of the strips to one of the folded strip ends. Repeat with the second new strip, attaching it to the other folded end.

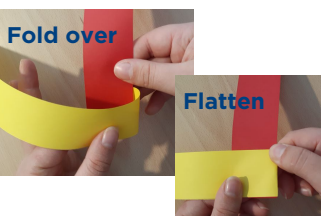
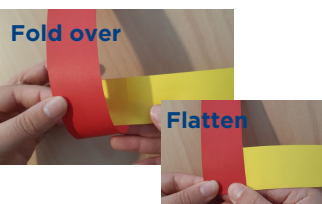
5. Keep adding and folding

Fold the new strips flat over top of each other as you were doing in step 3. Continue to add two strips at a time, and fold them over each other until you have used all 14 strips.



3. Start folding!

Fold the first strips flat over top of the other strip and then take the second strip and fold it back over top of the first strip. Keep folding the strips flat over each other until you run out of paper.



6. Finish it off

When you have used folded all 14 strips, finish the slinky off by folding the last two ends underneath the previous fold.



Your slinky is complete!

Have fun moving it side to side, stretching it out and twisting around your new slinky.