

SAN DIEGO RIVER CRAFT NIGHT!

DIY bouquet of paper wildflowers



Paper wildflowers are fun to make, last forever, and (even better) you can leave the real deal where they belong in nature!

Follow along to make:

- California poppy (advanced)
- Arroyo lupine (beginner!)
- Indian paintbrush (same technique as the lupine... beginner!)

You'll need:

- colored paper
- colored pencils (or pastels or crayons)
- stiff wire (an old wire hanger works great)
- craft glue/hot glue gun
- floral tape or green ribbon (green paper works too, in a pinch!)
- tape
- scissors

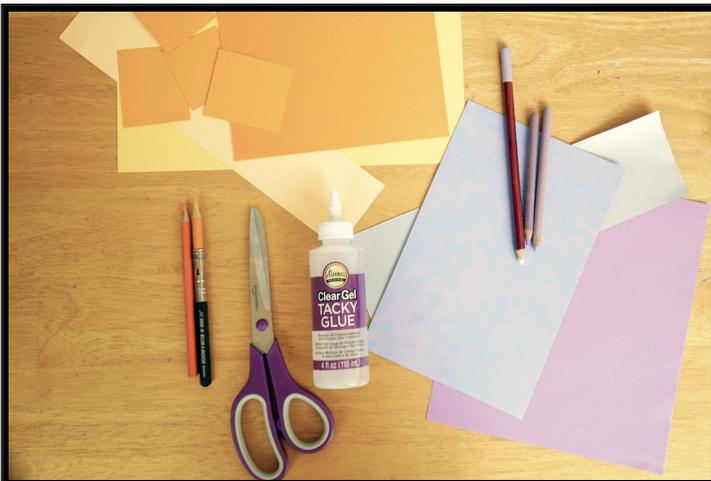
For the poppy, you'll also need:

- thin, flexible wire
- push pin
- toothpicks

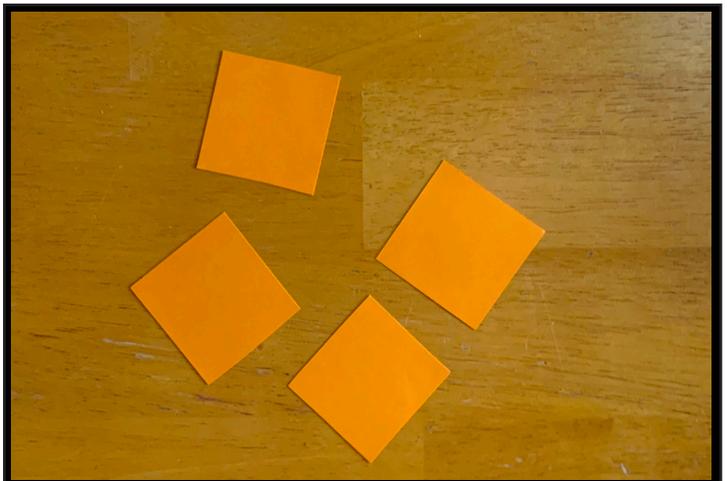


PAPER FLOWER TUTORIAL:

California poppy



1. Gather your supplies: colored paper, colored pencils, scissors, glue. Gather items for stems too: pin or nail, wire, green paper!



2. Cut four squares approximately 2 inch x 2 inch (eyeball it!). Native poppies are usually shades of yellow to orange.



3. Fold in half and cut into a petal shape with a base that is about 1/4 inch wide (while folded). It is not necessary for all 4 to be identical!



4. Use a toothpick to press lines into the petals to give them texture.



5. Shade the bottoms of the petals a little darker with colored pencil or pastels (also accentuates the pressed lines from last step!)



6. Crinkle your edges.



7. The next four steps all go together... first, pinch to fold the base in half lengthwise.



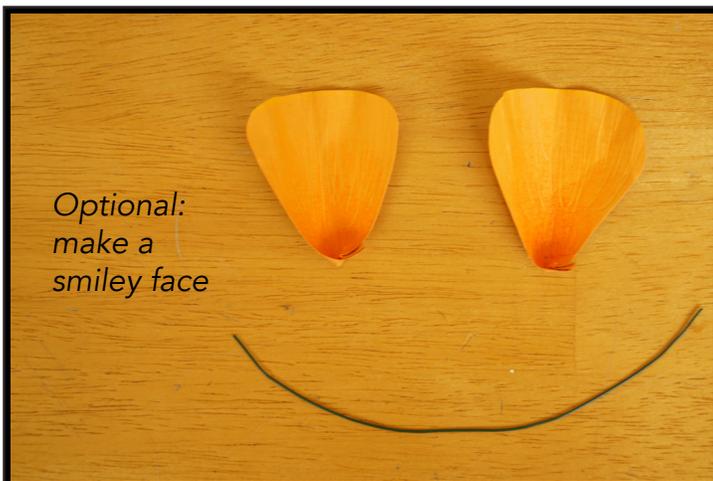
8. Second, fold the pinched part over as pictured.



9. Third, add a dab of glue (I used craft glue, but wished I had used a glue gun! Choose whatever you have handy.)



10. Lastly, once the glue is dry, use a pin or nail to punch a hole in the folded base. Repeat steps 7-10 for all four petals.



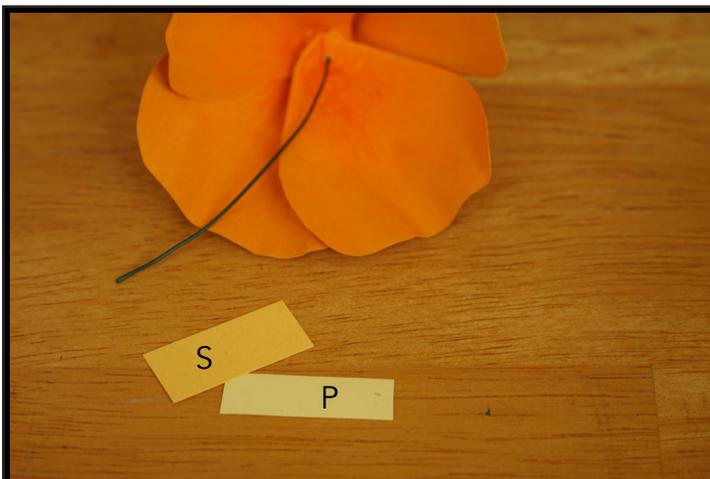
11. Cut a small length of wire (I used 18 gauge floral wire, but use what you have! An old Christmas ornament hanger may work too).



12. Thread petals onto wire in pairs (opposite petal pairs, so top/bottom petals, then right/left petals).



13. Fold your wire in half and thread it back through all 4 petals (using the same hole) leaving a little loop of wire in the center.



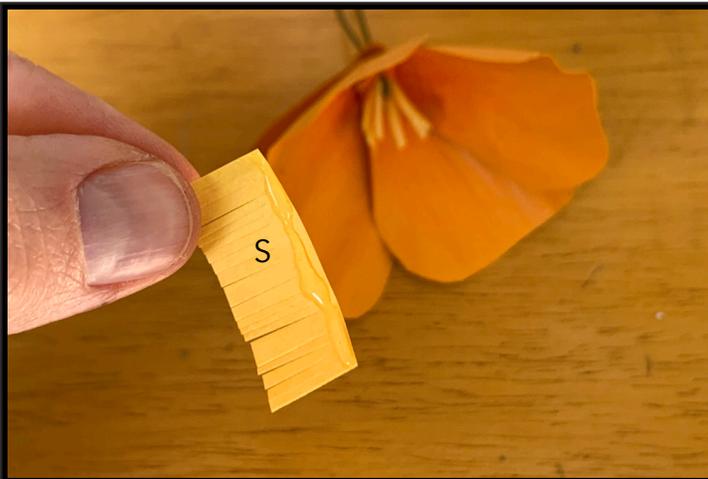
14. Cut 2 small yellow rectangles for the pistil (P) and stamens (S). See photo for approximate size.



15. Cut a fringe into both short sides of the lighter colored rectangle, and into one long side of the other rectangle.



16. Roll the pistil rectangle (P) lengthwise and then thread through wire loop, fold in half so fringe sticks up, then pull wire down to tighten.



17. Run a stripe of glue along the unfringed end and wrap around the outside of the pistil. It's ok to wrap around more than once.



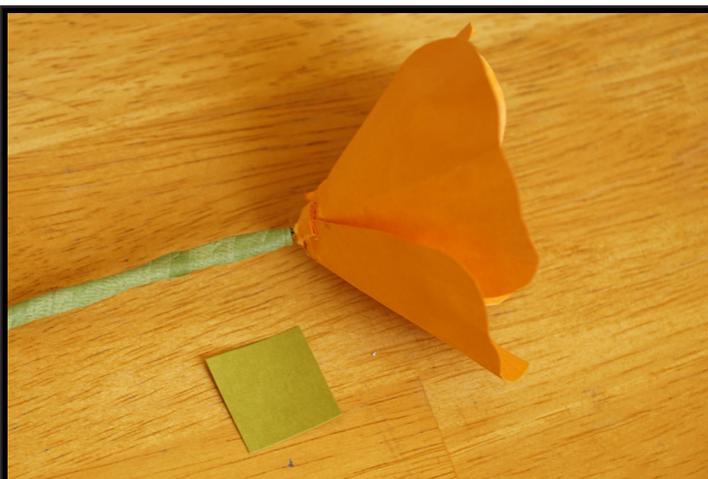
18. Once the glue dries, fluff the fringe to separate the stamens.



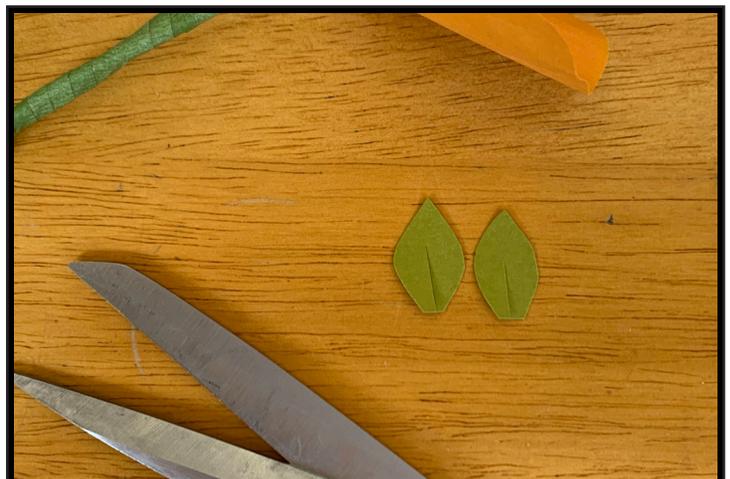
19. Use tape to affix the small wire onto a thicker wire or stick. (I used a piece of a wire coat hanger and floral tape, but any tape works)



20. Wrap the stem (the coat hanger, in my case) in a strip of green paper or with floral tape, if you have it.



21. Cut a small square of green paper.



22. Cut the paper in half, and then cut each half into a leaf shape. Cut a slit halfway up each leaf.



23. Overlap the halves at the slit, and add a dab of glue.



24. Glue to the outside of the poppy (this helps cover up any weird mistakes too!) to make it look a little more finished.

You did it !

The California poppy is the state flower of California, and a favorite wildflower along the San Diego River, found along all 52 miles of the river.

Want to make a bouquet of poppy variations? These poppies are also native to the San Diego River watershed:

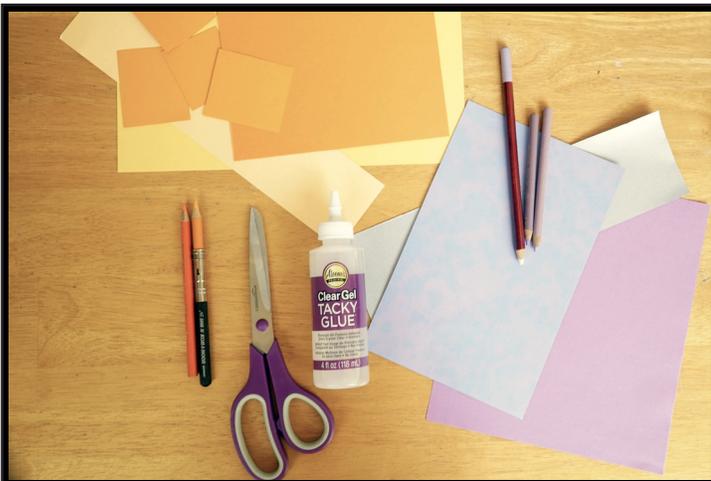


bush poppy

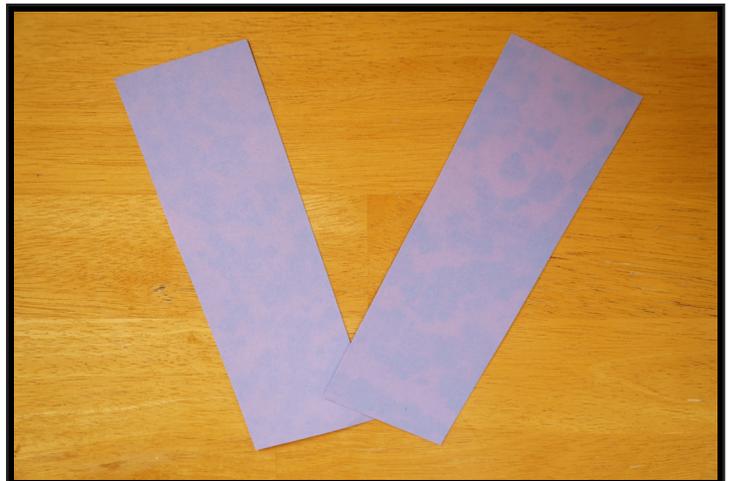


Matilija poppy





1. Gather your supplies: colored paper, colored pencils, scissors, glue. Gather items for stems too: wire, green paper/ribbon!



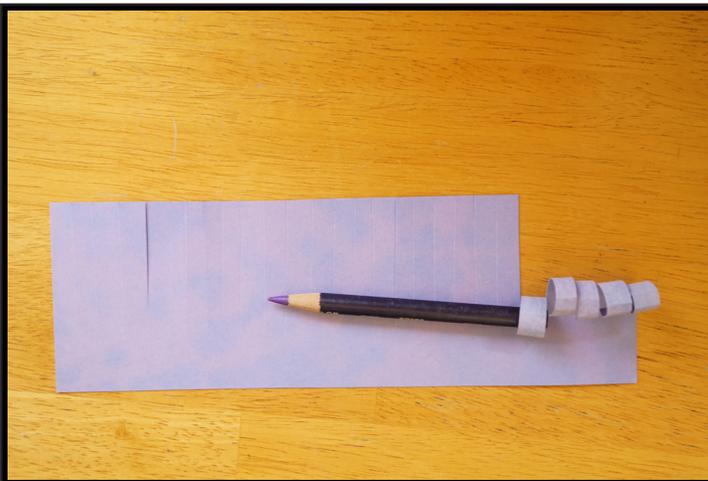
2. Cut one rectangle for each lupine. These are 8.5 inches by about 3 inches, but this doesn't have to be precise. Use what you have!



3. Use white and shades of purple pencils, pastels or crayons to create some gradient shading to the paper.



4. Use scissors to cut a fringe at least halfway through the paper along the long edge.



5. Turn the shaded side down onto the table, and use a pencil to curl the fringe down into little curls.



6. Use a stiff wire (this is a piece I cut from a wire hanger) to make a stem. Wrap in green ribbon, floral tape, or paper.



7. Starting with the lightest gradient, affix to the top of the stem, and begin wrapping at a downward angle.



8. When you get to the end of the paper, use glue to secure the wrap.



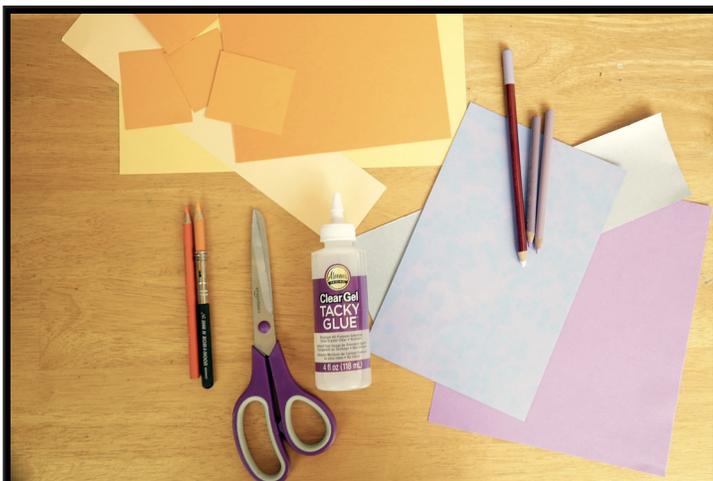
9. Using floral tape or ribbon, wrap over the rough end of the paper to make it look finished!



You did it!

PAPER FLOWER TUTORIAL:

Indian paintbrush



1. Gather your supplies: colored paper, colored pencils, scissors, glue. Gather items for stems too: wire, green paper/ribbon!



2. Cut one narrow rectangle. These are 8.5 inches by about 1.5 inches, but this doesn't have to be precise. Orange, red, coral, all ok!



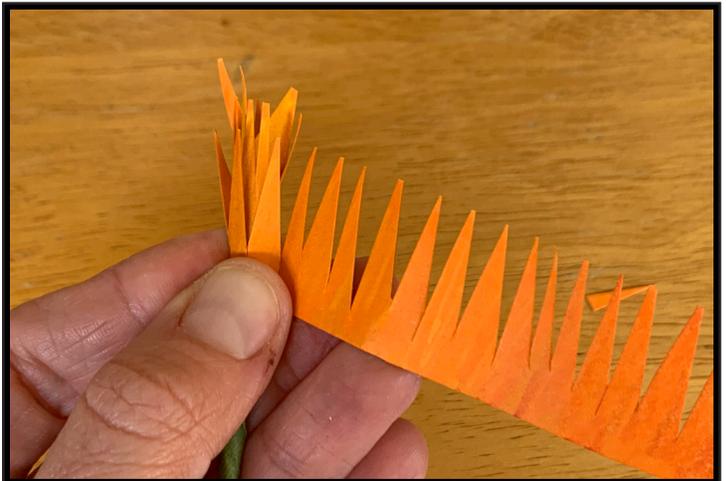
3. Use red, pinks, orange, coral and yellow pencils, pastels or crayons to create some gradient shading to the paper.



4. Use scissors to cut a pokey fringe at least halfway through the paper along the long edge.



5. Use a stiff wire (this is a piece I cut from a wire hanger) to make a stem. Wrap in green ribbon, floral tape, or paper.



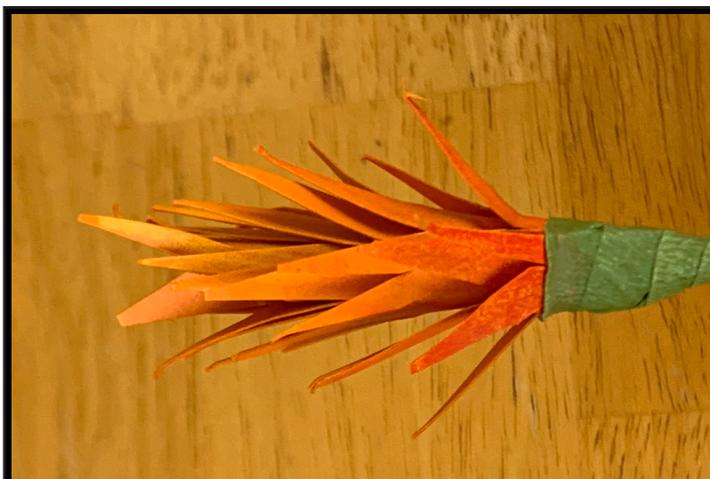
6. Starting with the lightest gradient, affix to the top of the stem, and begin wrapping at a downward angle.



7. When you get to the end of the paper, use glue to secure the wrap.



8. Using floral tape or ribbon, wrap over the rough end of the paper to make it look finished!



9. Fluff and fold the petals out to make it more realistic!

You did it!