

## Activities with a Folded Paper Box

by the ComMuniCator Panel




<b>CONCEPTS</b>	Number, Measurement, Geometry, Mathematical Reasoning
<b>SKILLS</b>	Counting, collecting and recording data, estimating, using spatial sense
<b>MATERIALS</b>	Activity Sheet, scissors, paper, rulers, writing utensils

**DESCRIPTION** The ComMuniCator panel found this small folded box charming and generated several classroom uses for it. Some of the activities that you may want to try are listed below in order of difficulty.

**DIRECTIONS** All of the activities begin by assembling the box. First, duplicate one box pattern (following page) for each student. Then model how to carefully cut out the box on the solid lines. Demonstrate folding the pattern accurately into a box on the dotted lines. When each child has successfully made a box, try one or more of the following activities.



- ◆ Use the box to hold a small Valentine's Day, Mother's Day, or classroom volunteer thank-you present. Enlarge the original box to hold cards or letters.
- ◆ Play checkers! Create a large game board and use your boxes as checkers. Concentrate on how to win a game using the least number of moves. Share your strategies.
- ◆ Work in teams to create boxes. Then have a contest to see how high you can stack the boxes before they fall down. Have the winning team discuss their strategies.
- ◆ Write and illustrate directions for assembling the box. Check how clear your directions are by giving them to a member of your family. Was a correct model made?
- ◆ Change the pattern for the box to create a closing that is different from the star shape.
- ◆ Find the area of the net. Write an explanation of how you found the area of the rectangular shapes.
- ◆ Change the pattern for the box shape from a rectangular prism to a cube.
- ◆ Find the volume of the box (length x width x height). 

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**Student Activity Sheet Follows . . .**

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