

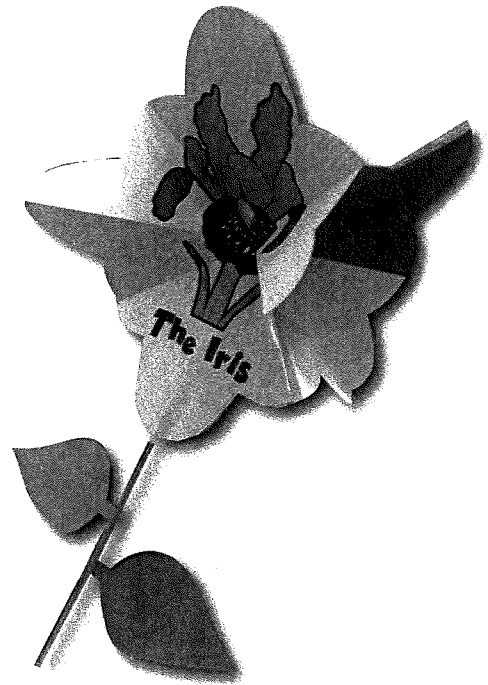
Creating the Blossom Book

Materials

- white copy paper
- pastel-colored copy paper (optional)
- green copy paper or construction paper
- card stock
- colored pencils
- scissors
- glue sticks
- wooden skewers
- tape

Author's Note: The instructions for this BLOSSOM BOOK use Tennessee's state flower as an example. And though this may look complicated, BLOSSOM BOOKS are truly simple to create. I suggest you follow these directions on your own, step-by-step, before you teach your class how to construct the BLOSSOM BOOKS.

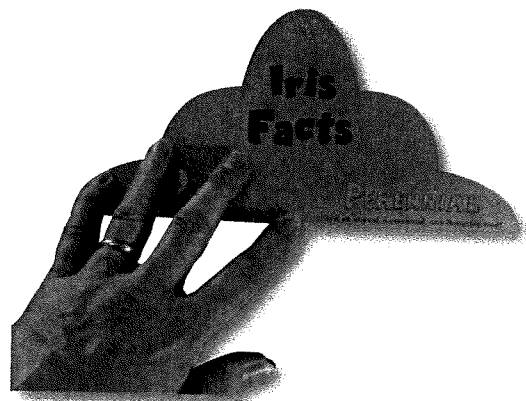
1. Copy PETAL TEMPLATE 1 onto white copy paper. Copy PETAL TEMPLATES 2 AND 3 onto sheets of pastel-colored copy paper. (You can use white copy paper, but the colored paper makes a brighter flower.)
2. Copy LEAF TEMPLATE onto green copy paper. (Or you can use white copy paper and the students can color the leaves green.)
3. Copy COVER TEMPLATE onto card stock.
4. Give one copy of each of these five templates to each student.
5. Ask students to use colored pencils to color the state flower and name on BLOSSOM BOOK PETAL TEMPLATE 1. Have them color the state shape and name on BLOSSOM BOOK PETAL TEMPLATE 3. Then ask them to research the state flower and fill in the information on BLOSSOM BOOK PETAL TEMPLATE 2.



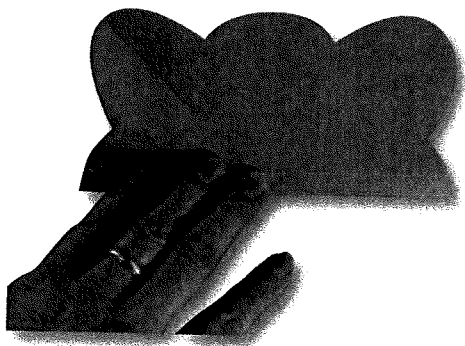
6. Instruct students to cut out all three of the petal templates. Tell them to place one of the shapes in front of them so the writing or illustration faces them.



7. Have students fold one of the petals in half along the long, central line, so that the writing or illustration is on the outside.

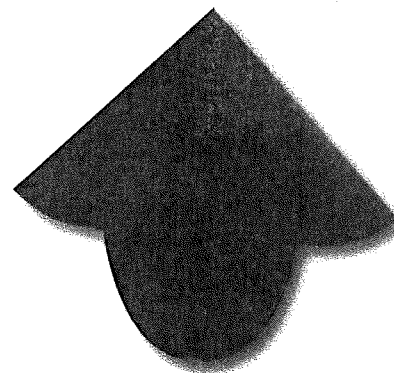
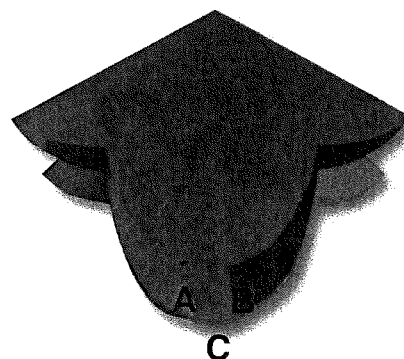
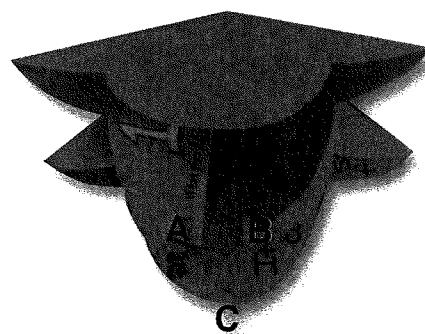
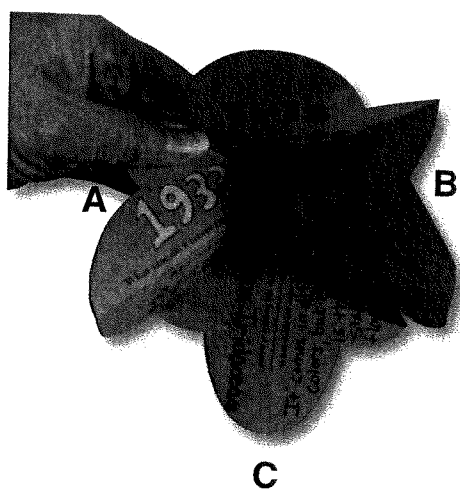


8. Then have students reopen the shape and fold it in half along one of the two lines that cross each other perpendicularly. The writing should be on the inside. (If students just match up the edges of the shape, it will crease along the line.)

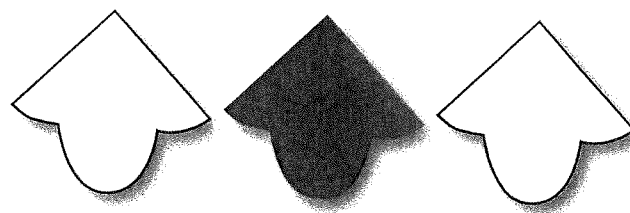


9. Ask students to open the shape again and fold it in half along the other perpendicular line. Again, the writing should be on the inside. When the shape is opened, there should be three creases.

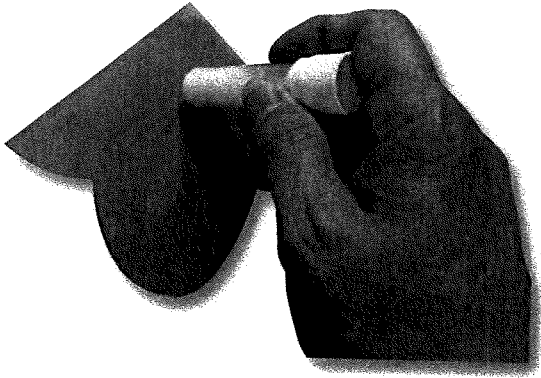
10. Have students place the shape in front of them so the writing or illustration is facing them. Then show them how to fold the top quadrant so it meets the bottom quadrant. As they do this, they should push points A and B into the inside to point C (see the next four figures).



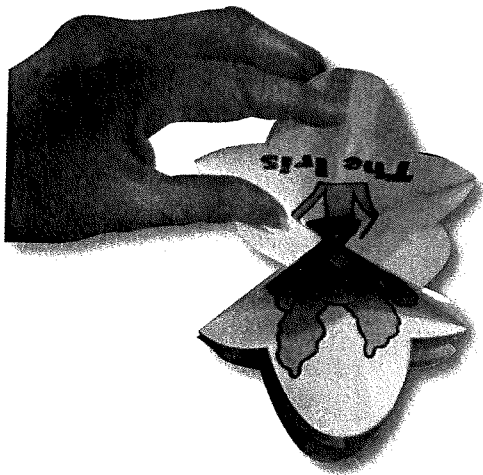
11. Have students repeat steps 6-10 with the other two petals.
12. Ask students to place the three closed petals in front of them.



13. Ask students to put glue on the top side of petal 2.

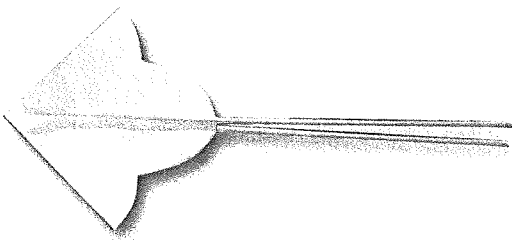


14. Have them glue the top side of petal 1 to the top side of petal 2.



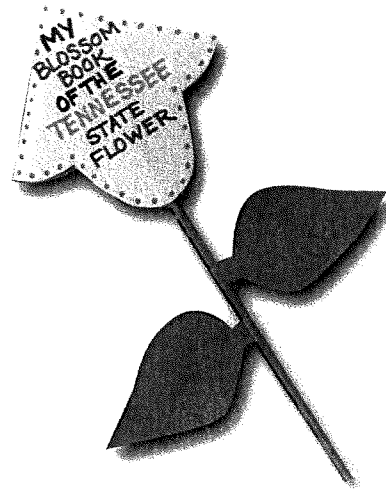
15. Then have students flip those two petals over and glue the bottom side of petal 2 to the top side of petal 3.

16. Ask students to tape a wooden skewer to the top and bottom of the folded shapes so it sticks out beyond the rounded edge as shown below.

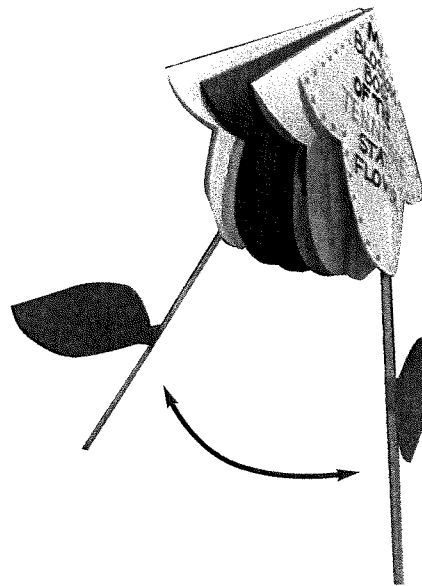


17. Instruct students to write a title for their BLOSSOM BOOK on the two covers (on the card stock). Then have students cut out the covers and glue them to each side of the BLOSSOM BOOK, covering the wooden skewers.

18. Ask students to cut out the two leaves, fold them in half, and glue them around each of the skewers. Students can write their name on one of the leaves.



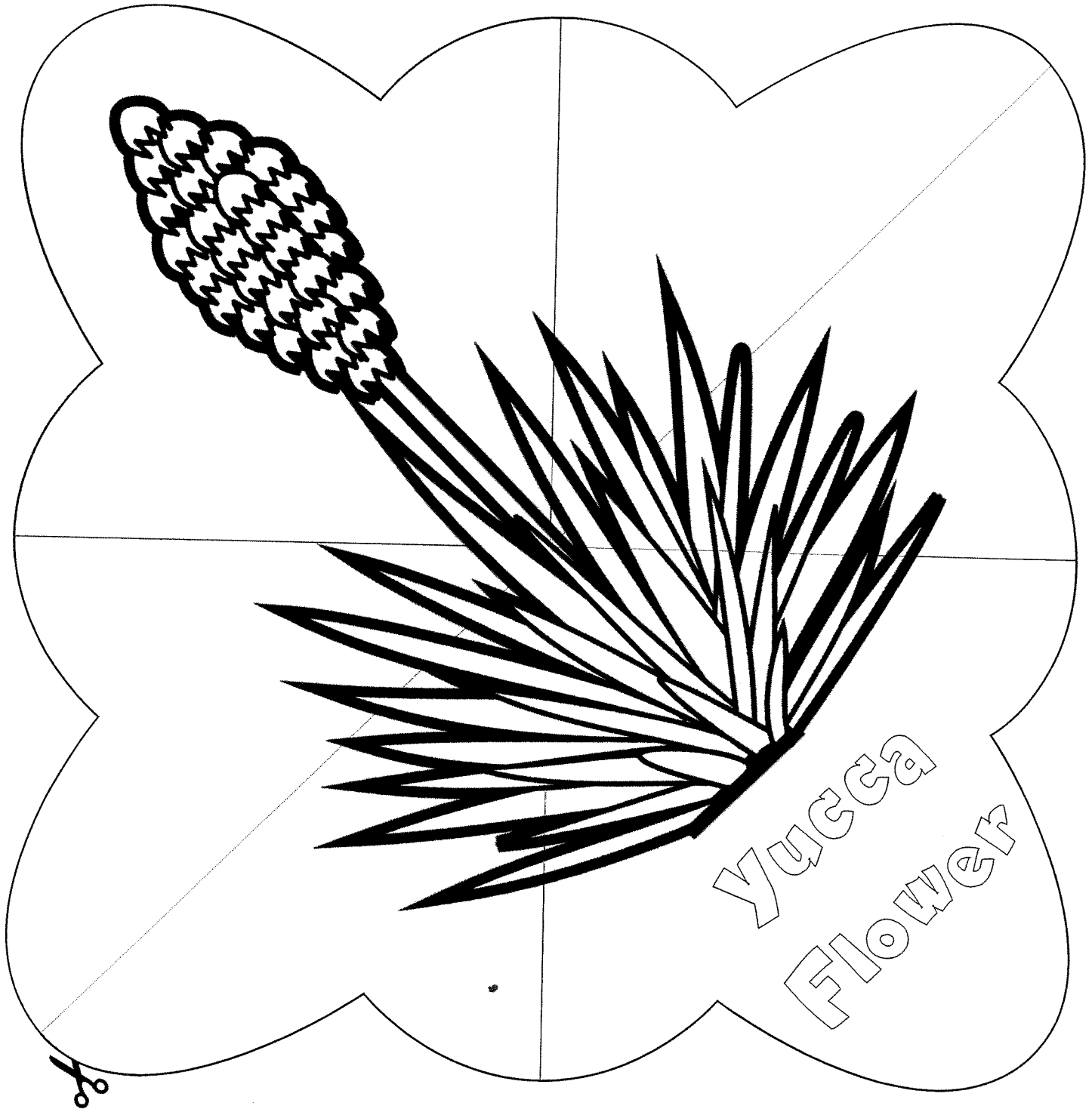
19. To open the BLOSSOM BOOK, pull the skewers apart and around so that the front and back covers meet.



20. To display the blossom books, open them up and stick the skewers into blocks of floral foam. Line them up on a shelf or table to create a GARDEN OF STATE FLOWERS.

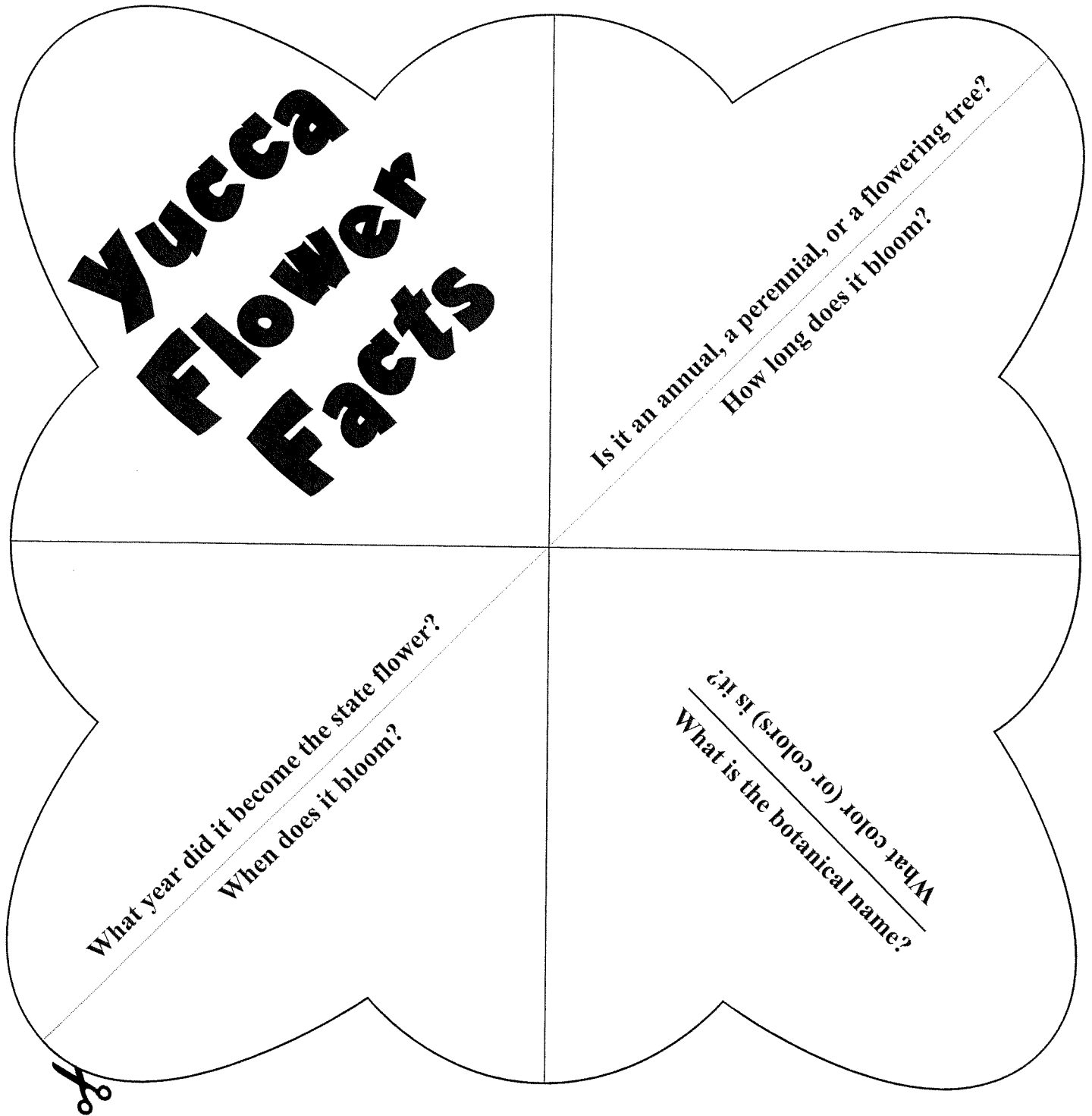
NEW MEXICO: Blossom Book Petal Template 1

Use colored pencils to color the state flower and its name. Cut out the perimeter of the petal.



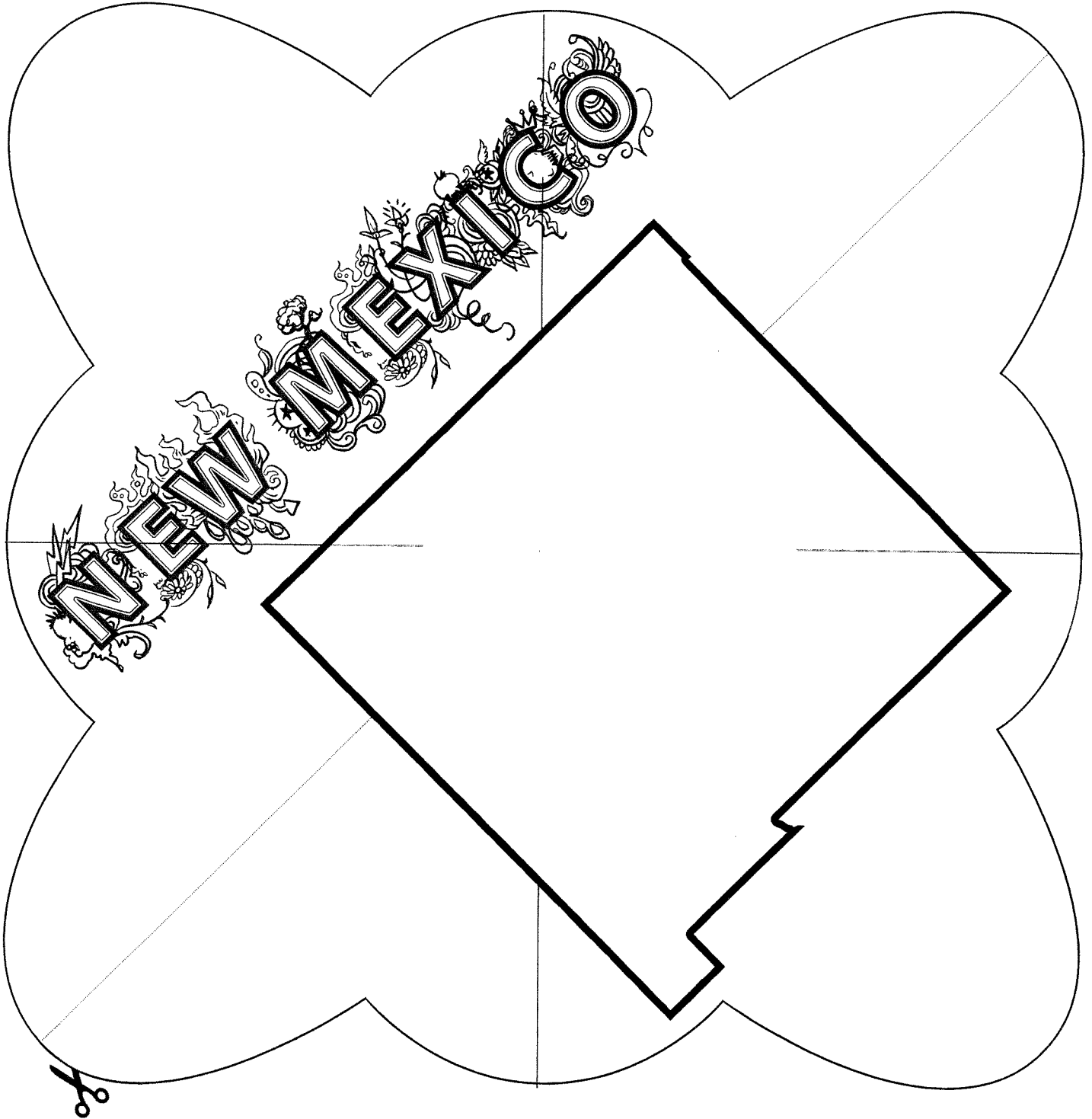
NEW MEXICO: Blossom Book Petal Template 2

Use colored pencils to answer the questions about the state flower. Cut out the perimeter of the petal.

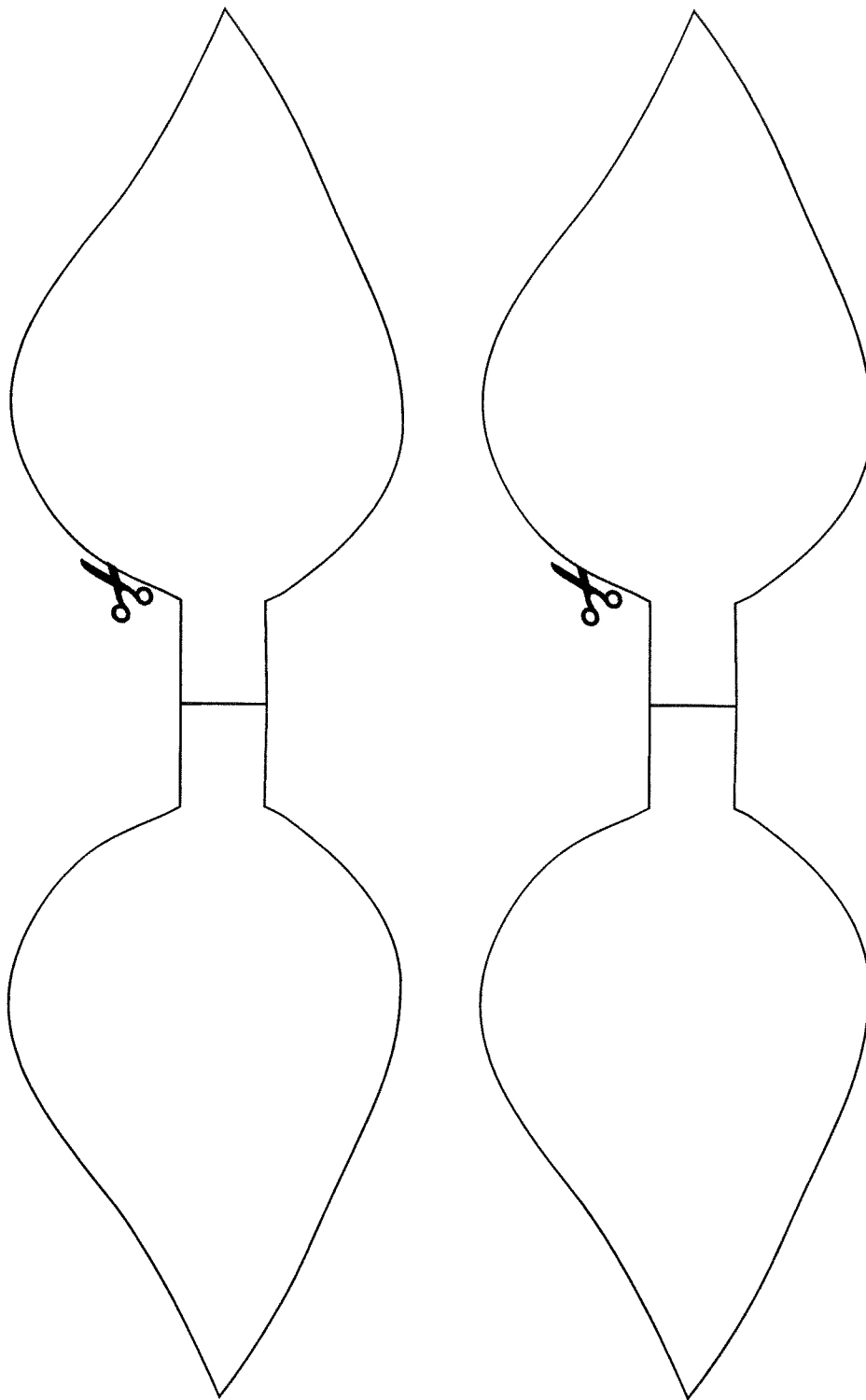


NEW MEXICO: Blossom Book Petal Template 3

Use colored pencils to color the state and the name. Cut out the perimeter of the petal.



Blossom Book Leaf Template



Blossom Book Cover Template

