How to Make a “Connections” Family Storybook

The two pieces of this book connect with each other.
Write a story about a connection in your life. Your family? A pet? The environment? Your community? It’s up to you!

Make the Book: You will need a large sheet of paper,* scissors, and writing and drawing tools.

1. Fold the sheet of paper in half horizontally and cut it in half along the fold.
2. Stack the two halves (A and B).
3. Divide the stack of paper roughly into thirds and fold on the marks, making sharp creases. Open the sheet and adjust the folds as needed to make the three parts even.
4. Carefully insert a scissor tip into one of the folds of piece A, about half an inch from the bottom. Cut upwards on the fold, stopping about half an inch from the top. Do the same on the other fold.
5. Trim about one inch off the top edge of piece B.
6. With pieces A and B facing each other, take each flap of B and ease it through the cuts in piece A.
7. Close the flaps of your book and decide which side will be the cover page. This is where your book title will go.

Write the Story: Use the inside pages to write and illustrate your story. Don’t forget to include a page “About the Authors.”

Share Your Story: Post pictures of your completed Connections book on the Smithsonian Heritage Programming Facebook page.

* We recommend 12” x 17” or a similar size paper.