

The “My Name” Family Storybook

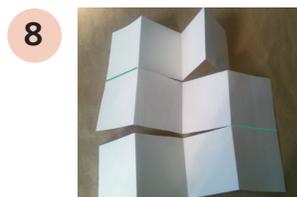
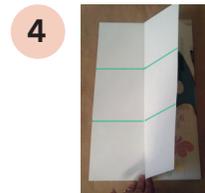
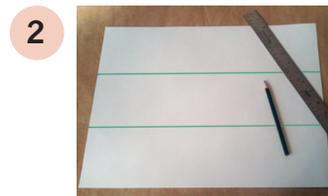
What is the story of your name? Share that story in this book in which a name can be seen in different ways.

Make the Book: You will need a large sheet of paper,* scissors, a ruler, a thick black marker, crayons, and writing tools.

1. Keeping the sheet of paper horizontal, write your name (first, last, or nickname) in big letters using a thick black marker. Use crayons to decorate it with pictures of things that begin with each letter in your name.
2. Flip the paper to the blank side, keeping it horizontal. Measure the short sides, and draw two lines across the page to divide the paper into three equal bands.
3. Fold the sheet in half bringing the right short side to meet the left short side. Crease.
4. Now fold the top left edge of the paper back to meet the fold on the right. Crease.
5. Flip, and do the same on the other side. Crease.
6. Open the sheet and lay it flat with the lined side showing. It is now divided into twelve equal rectangles. Cut on the top line starting on the **right** short side. Cut through three rectangles and stop. Do NOT cut the last one.
7. Now start from the **left** short side and cut on the bottom line. Cut through three rectangles and stop. Do NOT cut the last one.
8. Starting from the top right, fold the rectangle pages you have cut toward the left, like an accordion.
9. Then fold down on the top left line so the pages fold on top of the far left middle band.
10. Fold the rectangles of the middle band toward the right. Then fold the stack of pages over the far right bottom band. Fold up the pages in the bottom band.
11. You have made a book! The blank pages make the inside of the book where you can write your story.
12. Close the book and write the title on the cover.

Write the Story: On the blank pages write the story about your name. Who gave it to you? Where is it from? What does it mean?

Share Your Story: Post pictures of your “My Name” family storybook on the Smithsonian Heritage Programming Facebook page.



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