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What is a Lapbook?

A Lapbook is a file folder that is folded in towards the center. Children make projects using paper and card stock and many different folds that will eventually go into the Lapbook to display the information that they learned in their particular study.

Benefits of a Lapbook:

- retention level of material is higher when using Lapbooks
- excites children about what they are learning
- easy way to allow children to display their work
- motivates children who don't like to write
- can be used with any curriculum
- may be used with any age from 3 up to 17

What materials are absolutely necessary?

- plain and colored file folders
- white and colored paper
- white and colored card stock
- mono-adhesive tape,
- pictures to cut up or use in lapbook
 - old magazines
 - old encyclopedias
 - internet
 - they can draw their own
- scissors—use a good pair
- colored pencils, markers
 - Prisma Color pencils are the best

What materials are very helpful?

- 2 gallon large resealable plastic bags
- Paper Trimmer that comes with:
 - a replaceable blade
 - a scorer
 - a ruler that pulls out
- Table Top Paper Cutter-used for bigger projects
- Larger Sizes of Colored Cardstock
- Rubber stamps and stickers
- Hole punches
- Small pair of really good scissors
- Scor-tape
- Velcro Circles

What resources are best?

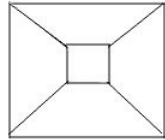
- [The Ultimate Lap Book Handbook](#) by Tammy Duby and Cyndy Regeling
- "Promise Series Bible Study Lapbooks"
- "God's Hand in History Lapbooks"
- Lapbooks that are fun and not just writing and busy work

How do you make the Lapbook?

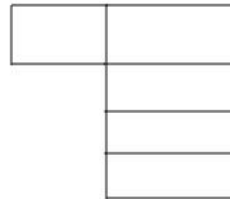
First start by teaching the children the different folds. Make a lesson of it for fun. Have them fold lots of paper and draw pictures on them. You can get ideas from Tammy Duby's book, [The Ultimate Lap Book Handbook](#).



Layered Book



Envelope Fold



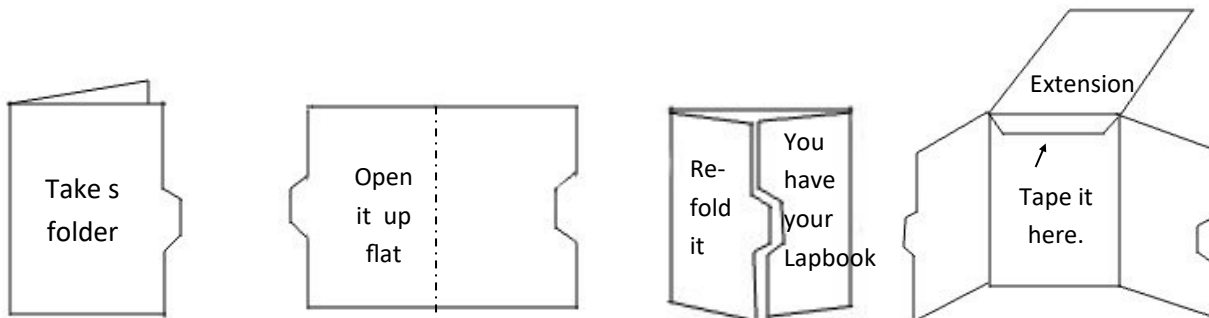
Question and Answer Book Fold

This book opens up. You can put pictures on the front and write about them on the inside.

Second, decide what topic you are going to cover. Do something that you are already studying. You can make many different projects with the books and materials you already have. You can teach outlining, note-taking skills, vocabulary, Bible verses, definitions, comparisons, etc. The possibilities are endless.

Third, as you finish a project, or even if you don't get one finished, place it in a large 2 or 2.5 gallon ziplock bag. In this way, everything is in the bag, and when you work on the Lapbook the next time, you will have everything that you need. Mark the outside with your child's name and which Lapbook it is. To help store them, cut off the bottom corner of one side to allow the air to go out. Each project that you finish will be stored in the bag.

Fourth, when you are finished studying the subject, decorate the front of your file folder that has been folded into the center. Decide where the different projects will be placed inside the lapbook. Add extensions, if needed. 3-9 year olds will need help placing the items. Older children will enjoy deciding where to put their projects.



Fifth, allow your children to bring out their Lapbooks whenever they want to. Keep it accessible on a shelf to make it easy to showcase. As the children tell others about the subject, they will actually be teaching the information and will easily remember it.

HAVE FUN WITH YOUR CHILDREN!