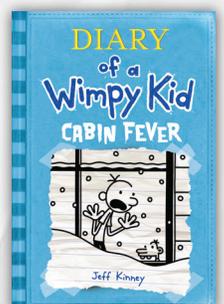
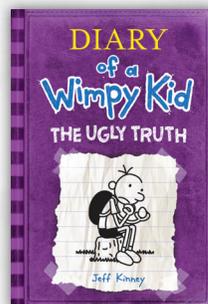
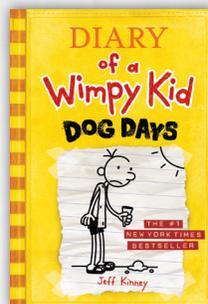
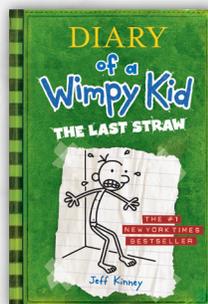
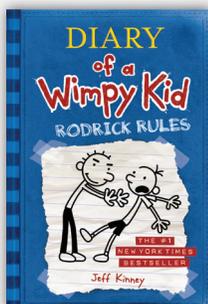
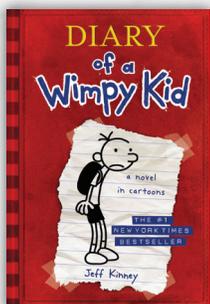
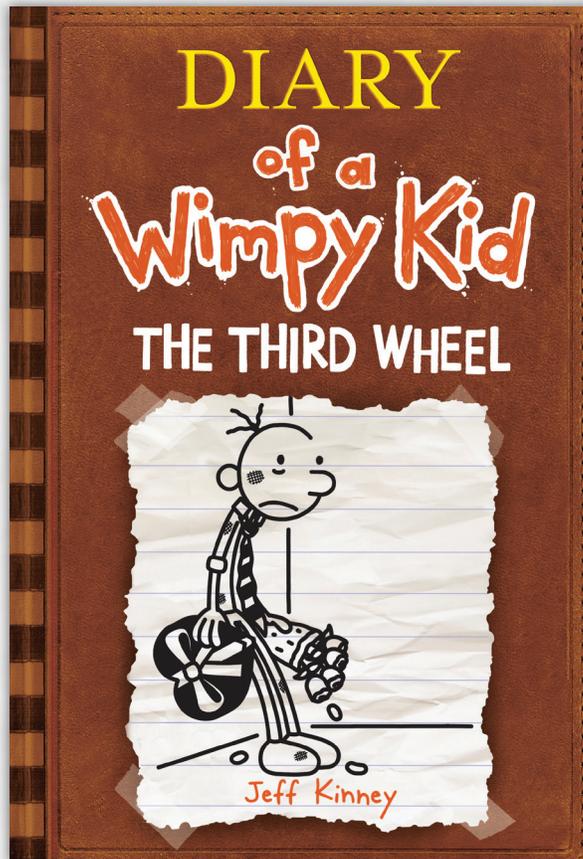


THE #1 BESTSELLING SERIES

Diary of a Wimpy Kid Throughout the Year!

Bring *Diary of a Wimpy Kid* into your classroom all year long! Each activity in this packet is themed around a holiday or special event throughout the year using characters and situations from the *Diary of a Wimpy Kid* series. Have fun!



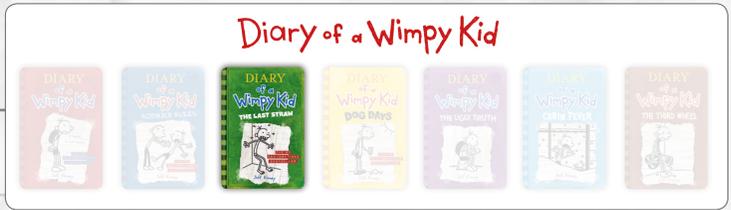
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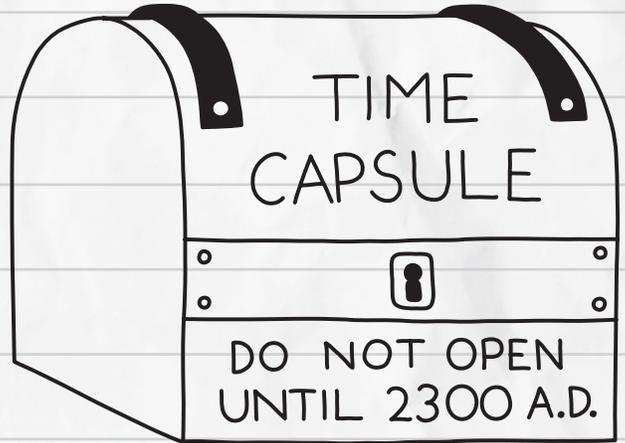
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Activity 1

CELEBRATE THE ARRIVAL OF THE NEW YEAR BY CREATING A TIME CAPSULE



In *Diary of a Wimpy Kid: The Last Straw*, after seeing a segment on TV featuring scientists creating a time capsule, Greg convinces Rowley that they should build their own version, into which they both contribute things that are important to them.



Working with the entire class, in a small group, or by yourself, design and build a time capsule as a way to observe the coming of the New Year. Begin by discussing and brainstorming the purposes a time capsule might serve. After breaking into groups, help create a list of items you feel would be essential to helping someone in the future understand what was important to a typical kid like you in the year the capsule was created. Alternatively, build a family or personal time capsule, making sure to include copies of personal items that would offer insight on the world in which you live today.

Supplies:

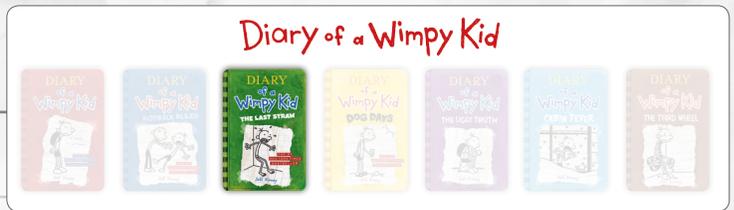
- ☞ Coffee can or large jar
- ☞ Miscellaneous items

Instructions:

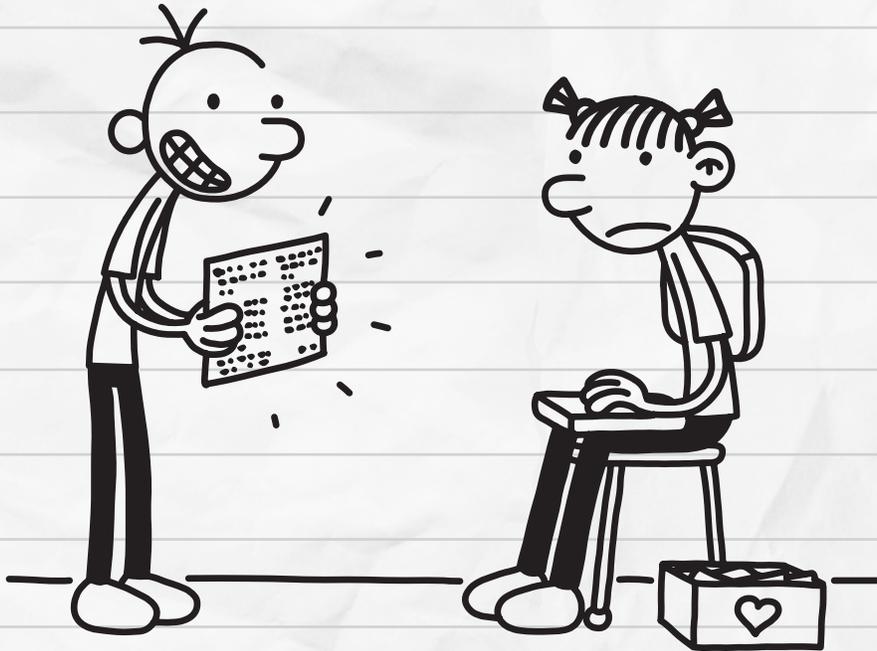
Decorate the exterior of the can or jar to make it distinctive. Gather all selected items and, using index cards, complete a profile for each item and explain why it was included. Place all capsule items with their cards inside the can or jar. After the teacher has collected capsules from another class period or group, imagine your role as an archaeologist or anthropologist as you select a capsule and investigate the contents placed inside. Afterward, generate a report explaining your findings.

Activity 2

CELEBRATE VALENTINE'S DAY



Greg's Valentine's Day experiences have been lackluster at best. In ***Diary of a Wimpy Kid: The Last Straw***, he decides to use homemade cards as a way to share his honest feelings about his classmates.



In a small group, brainstorm and create a list of all the characters from Greg's diaries. Next, your teacher will distribute valentines candy hearts. After receiving 5–10 candy hearts, make a list of the “sayings” listed on each heart (the candy hearts may be eaten after the phrase on the candy has been written down). Next, select a character from the ***Diary of a Wimpy Kid*** series, and as a group, write an original poem about your chosen character utilizing as many candy heart statements as possible. After it is completed, share your poem with the class.

Activity 3

Diary of a Wimpy Kid



WHAT'S COOL ABOUT FOOLS': EXPLORING THE HISTORY OF APRIL FOOLS' DAY

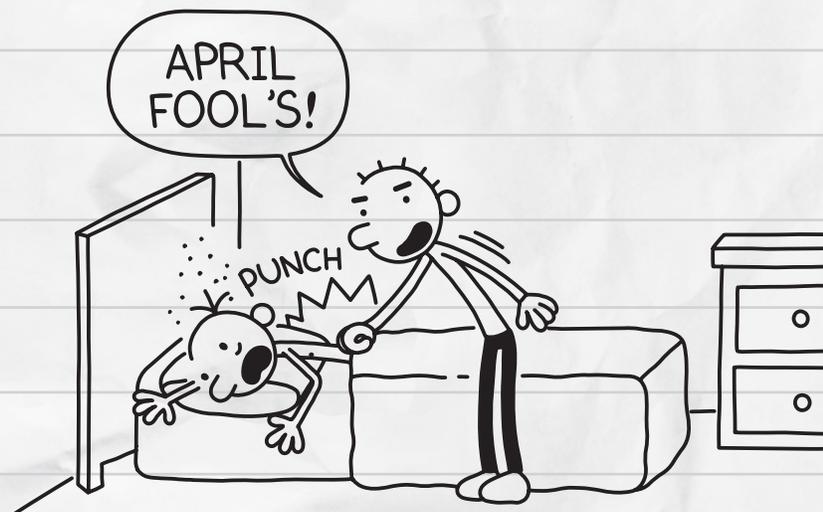
In *Diary of a Wimpy Kid*, Rodrick tricks Greg into believing it's time to get ready for school when, in fact, it's still the middle of the night. April Fools' Day is a day dedicated to tricks and pranks, but why? With your class, examine the observation of April Fools' Day and famous pranks played throughout the world. Begin by brainstorming about where the celebration of this unique day originated.

Using the library and the Internet, learn more about April Fools' Day and other practical jokes by answering the following questions:

- What is the origin of April Fools' Day?
- Where did the day of commemoration get its name?
- How is April Fools' Day celebrated differently throughout the world?
- What's the difference between a good-natured joke and a hurtful prank?

After conducting background research (including interviewing family and friends), list five of your favorite April Fools' Day jokes. After each one, describe what it is about this particular joke or prank that appeals to you.

Finally, working in small groups, have your class plan their own hypothetical (and harmless) prank or practical joke. What is needed to execute this prank? After planning, have each group share their plans with the class.



Activity 4

Diary of a Wimpy Kid

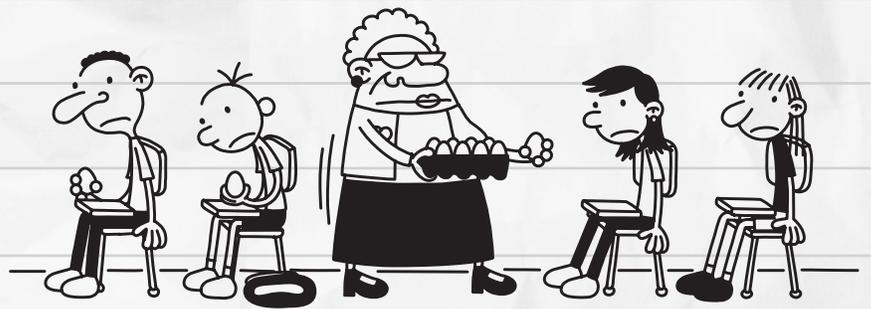


THE TRUTH IS IN THE EGG HUNT

Diary of a Wimpy Kid: The Ugly Truth is all about growing up and discovering who you are. In the book, Greg, Rowley, and the rest of their classmates are given eggs to care for as a take-home assignment. The ugly truth here? Being a parent isn't easy and it takes a lot of responsibility. Using the egg scene and the truth theme as inspiration, you can create a fun, two-day activity that will allow your class to learn more about their peers.

Supplies:

- Egg-shaped pieces of paper for each student
- Writing instruments



Instructions:

Day One

Start by asking your class what they already know about their classmates. Are these things that they were told or that they discovered on their own through observation and deduction? Discuss the concept of having to seek out the truth rather than making an assumption.

After the discussion, ask each student to write their name and a truth about themselves (that was not mentioned during the discussion) on an egg-shaped piece of paper. Have them decorate the other side of the egg to personalize it and add a creative aspect to the exercise. Collect these truths and save for the following day.

Day Two

Before the class arrives, hide the egg-shaped truths around the classroom as you would for a regular egg hunt. Have your students search for the truths about their classmates. As each one is found, have the finder read aloud whose truth they found and what it is. Ask for a tally of who knew that truth about that student and who didn't. Keep going until all the truths are found.

Activity 5

THE BEST SUMMER VACATION I HAVEN'T YET TAKEN



In *Diary of a Wimpy Kid: Rodrick Rules*, Greg must endure hearing all about the exotic trip Rowley has taken with his family while Greg and his family have chosen a “stay-cation” close to home.

Consider your vacation experiences; are they more like Rowley’s or Greg’s? If you could go anywhere in the world, where would it be? What about this destination interests you? After determining your ultimate vacation destination, research and plan your dream trip. Create a digital brochure or a digital video (using Moviemaker or www.animoto.com) that offers your vacation plans. The detailed itinerary of your dream summer trip should include estimated costs with source citations, as well as all of the following:

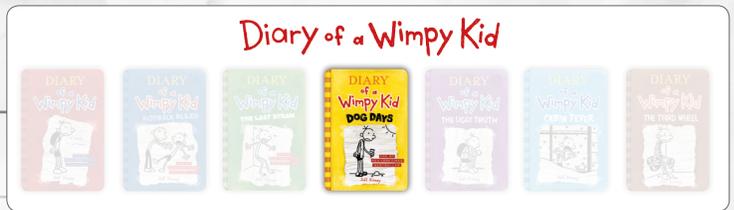
- Transportation information
- Number of days included in the trip
- Lodging
- Meals
- Local sights, amusement, etc.

After preparing your dream vacation package, share your plans with classmates, or alternatively, pitch your getaway idea to your parents.

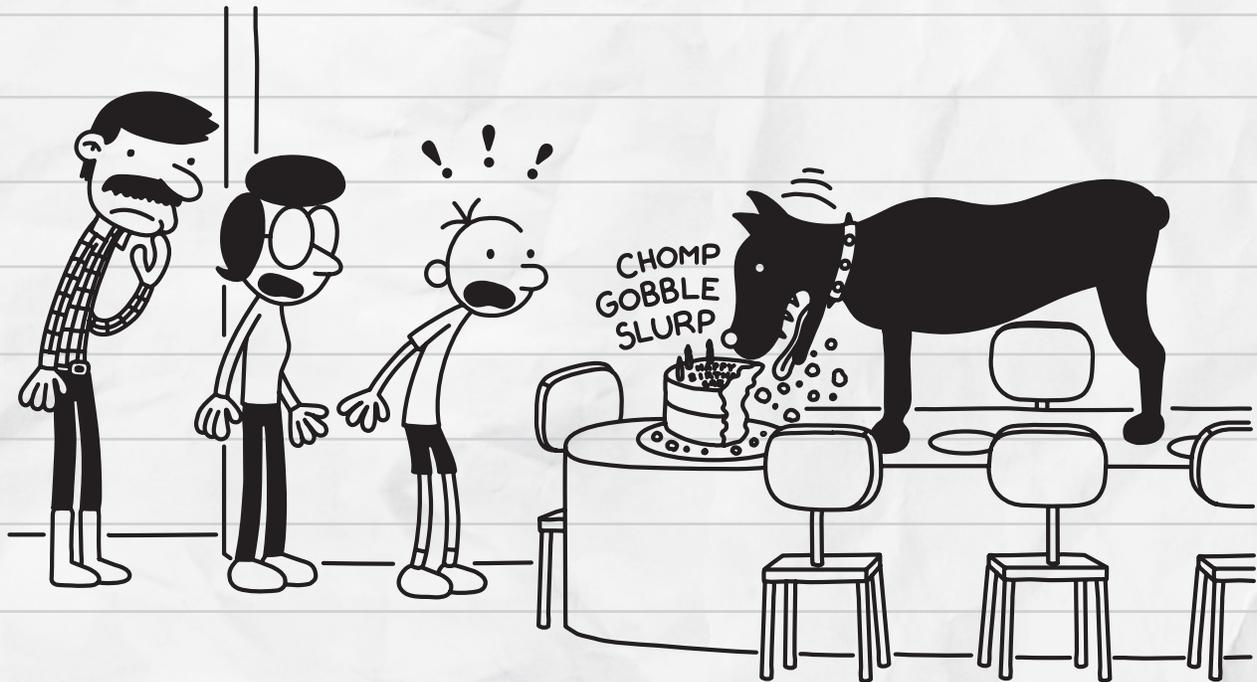


Activity 6

THIS DAY IN HISTORY: BIRTHDAY SURPRISES



In *Diary of a Wimpy Kid: Dog Days*, Greg celebrates his summertime birthday. When does yours fall? Have you ever wondered what historical events happened on your birthday? Using The History Channel’s “This Day in History” webpage (www.history.com/this-day-in-history), use the digital calendar to search for your special day. Besides your birth, what are the most important events that happened on your birthday? Design a digital poster at www.glogster.com that highlights the five events you believe to be the most historically significant (#1 can be your birth—be sure to include this event).



Activity 7

Diary of a Wimpy Kid



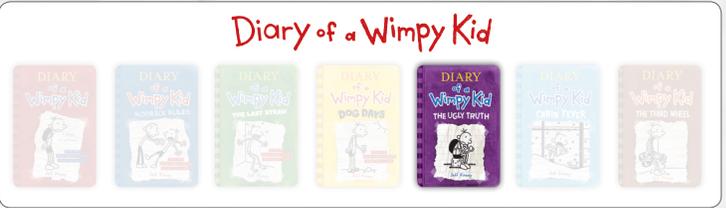
PREPARING FOR A NEW SCHOOL YEAR: WRITING A RECIPE FOR SUCCESS

At the end of *Diary of a Wimpy Kid: Dog Days*, Greg realizes that summer break is almost over (though he's not quite ready to embrace it). Besides the usual shopping excursions for new clothes and shoes, getting ready to begin a new school year can be challenging unless you are prepared. Consider what you need to ensure that your year is successful. Will this be the year you make straight "A's" on your report card or try out for a new sport? Will it be the year you finally get the nerve to speak to someone you've admired from a distance? After brainstorming, use the space provided below to create one of the following: A "Step-by-Step" Recipe for Success, a "Top Ten" List, or a "To Do" Checklist. Be sure goals include strategies to achieve your desired outcome.



Activity 8

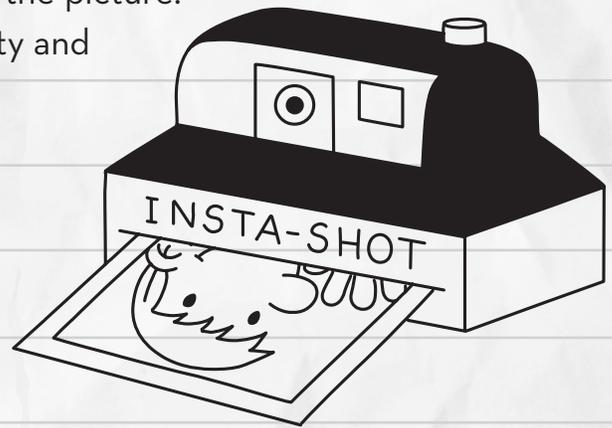
PICTURE DAY!: THE “GUESS WHAT? THEN, GUESS WHO!” ACTIVITY



Not every picture is a portrait. In *Diary of a Wimpy Kid: The Ugly Truth*, Greg and his classmates play a fun game that involves taking a close-up picture of a fellow student—such as a picture of an ear or hand—and then having to guess which student is in the picture. It’s an exercise that offers lessons in creativity and identification. And, it can be a lot of fun!

Supplies:

- ➡ One or more digital cameras
- ➡ A printer to print the pictures

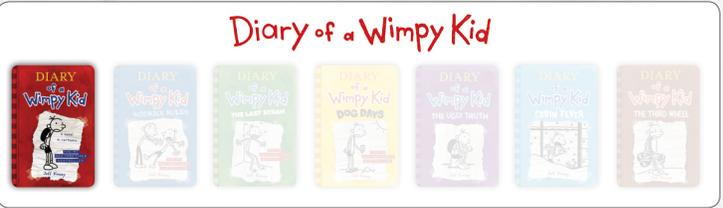


Instructions:

1. Randomly divide the participants into small groups of three or four.
2. Divide your total number of groups in half. Half will be identifiers and half will be photo subjects. Assign each photo subject group a camera.
3. Have each photo subject group find a private place to take a picture of one of their members. The image should be a close-up (a hand, nose, ear, eye, etc.) and hard to identify. If there is only one camera, have each group take turns taking their pictures.
4. After the images have been taken, print the pictures and lay them out on a table or place them on a corkboard or wall for viewing.
5. Next, have the identifying teams study the images to see if they can determine both the body part and its owner.
6. Repeat the activity allowing the identifiers and photo subject teams to switch.

Activity 9

PLAN THE ULTIMATE HAUNTED HOUSE



In *Diary of a Wimpy Kid*, Greg and Rowley attempt to create a haunted house for Halloween. Working with classmates, design the ultimate haunted house. What are its features? How many rooms does your spooky house contain? What are its scariest features? Draw a blueprint for the haunted house to share with the class, and be sure to give your spooky haunted house a name as well.



Activity 10

HOLIDAY WISH LIST

Diary of a Wimpy Kid



Throughout the *Diary of a Wimpy Kid* series, Greg receives a number of awful gifts from his relatives each Christmas. Think about your own holiday gift experiences—what’s the best or worst present you’ve received? Who gave you the gift? Why do you think the gift was selected for you? What made this gift so terrific or awful? Write a thank-you card for the gift giver sharing your honest feelings about their gift (mailing the card is optional).

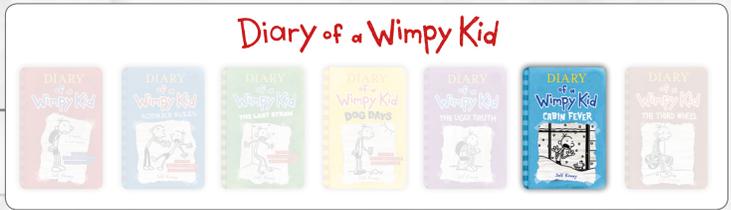


Like all kids, Greg dreams of a Christmas where his every wish is fulfilled. Using the online presentation tool, Prezi (www.prezi.com), create a digital holiday wish list with embedded images and shopping links for your parents and relatives.

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Activity 11

WHAT WOULD YOU DO WITH YOUR SNOW DAY?



Which of the following are your favorite things to do on a snow day?

Don't see your favorite way to spend the day? Use the blank spaces to add your own activities.

Share your answers with your class.

1. Build a snowman. 5. _____
2. Stay inside and play video games. 6. _____
3. Watch movies. 7. _____
4. Drink lots of hot cocoa.

Stuck inside? Make your own winter wonderland by cutting out snowflakes.



Supplies:

- Paper
- Scissors

Instructions:

1. Start with a square piece of paper. Fold it on the diagonal to create a triangle. If you don't have a square piece of paper, you can always make a square by folding a rectangle diagonally and cutting off the edge of excess paper.
2. Fold the triangle again to make a smaller triangle.
3. Take one edge of the triangle and fold it over halfway. Fold the other edge over it so that the two halves of the triangle overlap and the two long edges are aligned.
4. Cut off the bottom where the two corners overlap so you're left with an even triangle again.
5. Begin designing your snowflake by cutting shapes into the edges of the triangle.
6. Unfold the paper when you're done to reveal your snowflake!