TANZAKU

Tanazaku are colorful strips of paper that people write wishes on and hang from branches.

Materials:

- 1 piece colored paper (both origami or construction paper are fine)
- Scissors
- String or ribbon
- Hole punch (optional)
- Stick or wooden rod (optional)

Step 1: Fold and cut the paper

Fold the paper in halves or thirds and cut into even pieces. Pieces should be big enough to write 2 to 3 lines of text.
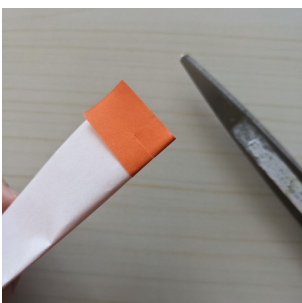

Step 2: Fold the top of each strip

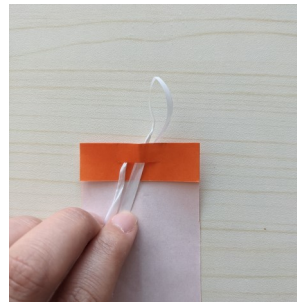Hold vertically and fold the top of the paper over ½ inch .

Step 3: Punch a hole

Where you have folded the paper over, punch a hole all the way through using a hole punch or scissors.
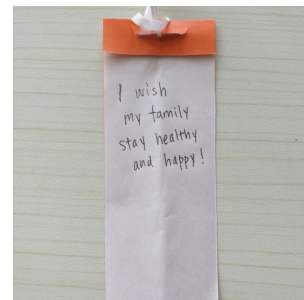

Step 4: Tie the ribbon

Either pull one end of the ribbon through the hole so that half of the ribbon is on each side of the paper, **or** loop the ribbon in half, put the looped end through the paper hole, put the 2 loose ends through the looped ribbon end and pull tight.

Step 5: Write a wish

You can write all your wishes on one or use each of the strips you made in step 1 for different wishes.

Step 6: Hang

This step is optional. You can leave it untied or tie it anywhere in your home!

PAPER LANTURN

Have you ever seen the Disney movie *Tangled,* in which paper lanterns are launched into the night sky? Some Tanabata festivals, like in Toyko and Kobe, launch paper lanterns too, filling up the sky with glowing lanterns that look like stars!

Materials:

    1 piece of paper (lighter paper like origami may be better)
    Pencil
    Scissors
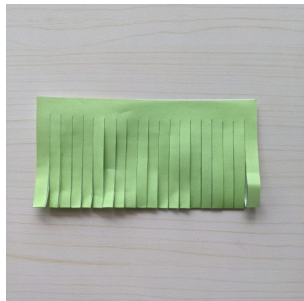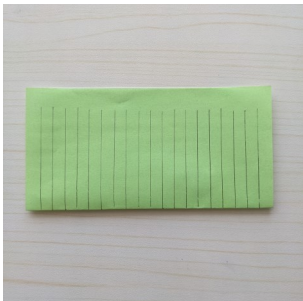   Ribbon (optional)
    Glue

Step 1: Fold the paper in half

If your paper has color on only one side, place it so that the color is facing you. Then fold the paper in half so that the color is still visible.

Step 2: Draw many lines and cut

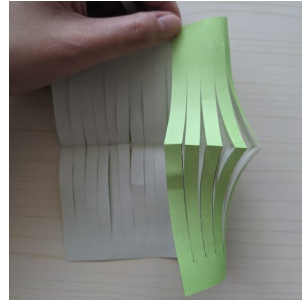Starting at the fold and going up, draw lines that are about ½ apart. Make sure that the lines stop ½ inch away from the unfolded top of the paper. Cut along the lines. **Do not cut lines all the way up the paper and through the unfolded edge**.

Step 3: Open the folded paper

Step 4: Glue

Take the two loose edges and glue their top and bottom corners together. Make sure the colored side of the paper is facing out. Let dry. Once dry the lantern should be in the shape of a cylinder.

Step 5: Hang

This step is optional. Glue the string on either the inside or outside of the top circle of the lantern. Let dry. Hang.