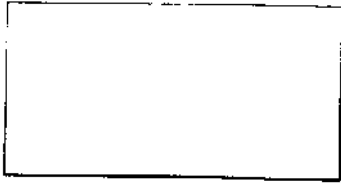
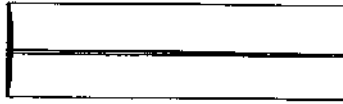


FANTASTIC FLEXAGONS

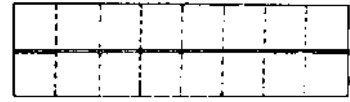
The flexagon is an amazing model. As you flex it on its centre, each time a different picture comes into view. It can be used to depict any four stage cycle or sequence. It is simply unbelievable that paper can rotate like this without tearing. You can make a flexagon using an old xerox paper.



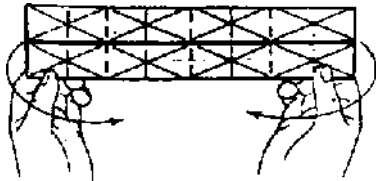
1. Take a 20-cm x 10-cm sheet of bond paper. This rectangle should be made up of two exact squares.



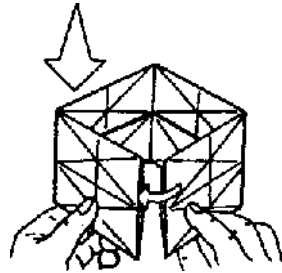
2. Crease the middle line along the length and fold the long edges to this midline.



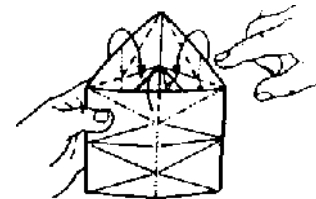
3. Fold eight equal segments along the width.



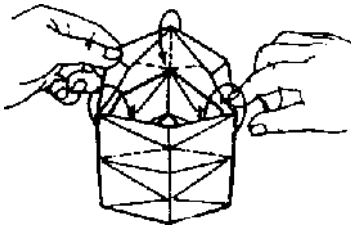
4. With the help of a pencil and scale, first draw the diagonal lines as shown and then crease them well.



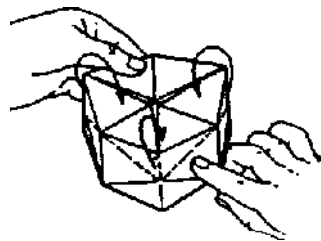
5. Bring the paper's left and right sides together and insert one side inside the other, thereby. Making a three dimensional prism.



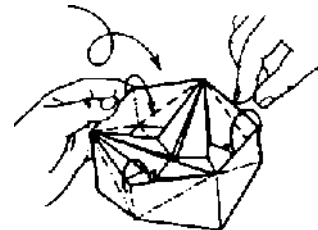
6. Push in the three triangular areas at the top of each other.



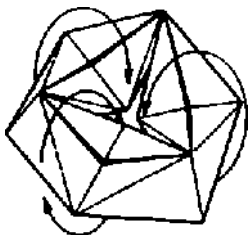
7. Press all the three top points down and through the centre. The next row of triangles will assume a similar shape.



8. Once again, press all three top points down and through the centre.



9. Turn the model over and push in the three triangular areas at the top of each other.



10. This will complete the flexagon. To make it rotate hold it on either side or twist the outer edges in towards the centre, so that the inner surfaces appear.

11. Every time you rotate the flexagon a different facet is exposed. You can depict a cycle or a sequence by drawing a different picture on each of the facets.

For instance, you can depict the **FOOD CHAIN** as **INSECTS** are eaten by the **FROGS**, who are eaten by the **SNAKES** - who in turn are eaten by the **EAGLES**.

Similarly, you could depict the **RAIN CYCLE**, **LIFE CYCLE OF A FROG** OR A **BUTTERFLY**, **A CYCLE OF SEASONS** etc on the Flexagon. The Flexagon is a very powerful model for depicting any cycle.