

Pocket Easter Cards

Homemade cards can be a lovely thing to send and receive. Using The Little White Hen as inspiration for her design, artist Rosi Thornton shows us how to make a Pocket Easter Card. You could hide surprises in the pocket; your artwork, good wishes for the Spring or a poem.

You will need:

- Two sheets of A4 coloured card or stiff paper
- Glue stick, pens and pencils, ruler or a straight edge
- Scissors, felt pens or coloured pencils
- Paints, brush and an unused kitchen sponge
- Bubble wrap, net from oranges, cork, paper scraps.



1. With your piece of paper placed landscape, the long edge in front of you, mark a line 8cm up from the bottom edge and draw a pencil line across from left to right. Fold the bottom edge upwards, making the sides match and crease firmly. This will form the pockets and give you a 'flap' 8cm deep.

2. Next fold the left edge across to match the righthand side and crease firmly along the middle. The pocket edge you created in step 1 will now be folded up inside the card.

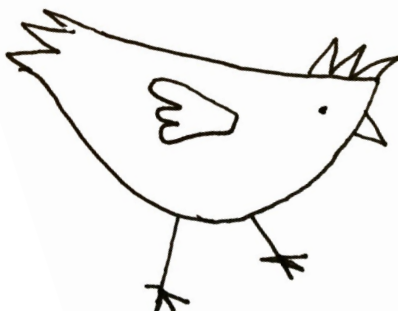
3. Open the card and taking each of the left and righthand edges in turn, fold towards the centre line leaving 1cm of space either side of this line. This will help the card to fold in smoothly. Crease firmly on the folded edges of the card, pressing down on the crease with a ruler can help give a crisp fold.

4. Unfold the card to see the inside with the pockets in place. Draw a simple farm or garden scene that dips behind the 8cm pocket edge in places. What shapes can be cut from the top pocket edges to make layers and help the story come to life?

5. Draw a wavy line that dips up and down across the pocket edge to create your scene. You can dip lower to add a pond and create nice plants and leaves. Remember to leave the very edges of both sides of the pocket at 8cm high. When you are happy with it, use small scissors to carefully cut out the pocket shapes and edges.

6. The example in this activity shows the story of the Little White Hen who hides her eggs all over the garden and finally appears with little chicks following behind. Using your other large sheet of paper cut a strip that is 5cm high and 30cm wide.

7. Using the template here draw a hen shape with eggs or chicks on the remaining scraps of card or paper. Attach them to the 30cm wide strip you created in step 6.



8. Use paints, bits of bubble wrap or net to print patterns to decorate the story card and strip of card with the hen or use a glue stick and scraps of coloured paper. Add extra detail with felt tips and pens once all the card is completely dry.

9. Glue 1cm of the left side of the pocket down to the back of the card. On the right hand side, glue down 2cm just at the top of the pocket edge, leaving the bottom open for the hen and chicks strip to slide along the card, peeping up and down. You could use sticky tape to secure the edges if you'd prefer.

10. Add an Easter greeting and message on the folded insides of the card and send!

