

## Paper Lanterns

NOTE: These paper lanterns should never be used with real candles – use ONLY battery operated candles or string lights for this project and check often to make sure they are not getting too hot.

### Materials:

- Sheet of construction paper, cardstock, or copy paper in red, white, or blue. Paper can be 8.5x11; 9x12; or 12x12 (scrapbook paper)
- Additional paper to make decorations for lantern
- Glue; scissors
- Optional: red, white, and blue ribbon
- Optional: battery operated candle or string lights (plug-in or battery operated)

### Instructions:

- Fold the paper in half so that the long sides meet. Draw a border along the long edge of the paper – it should be about an inch wide. Note: this project works just as well if you are using 12x12 scrapbook paper or cardstock.
- Using a ruler or straightedge, draw lines (approximately 1/2 inch apart) from the fold to the border that you drew in step 1. Cut along these lines, stopping at the border line. Unfold the paper.
- If desired, cut out small stars from the other colors and attach them to the lantern. If using glue, allow it to dry.
- Attach the long edges of the paper to make your lantern. Miss Kathie stapled hers. If desired, trim the top and bottom with ribbon.
- To display you can put a battery operated candle under the lantern. No candles? No problem, you can also use a string of lights. (Miss Kathie used a battery operated pillar candle in the red lantern; part of a string of mini-lights in the white lantern; and battery operated fairy lights in the blue lantern). It is easier if you can put the lights in a narrow glass or jar, but Miss Kathie didn't have any narrow enough to fit inside her lanterns when she took her photos.
- If you prefer to hang your lanterns, take another strip of paper and attach it to the inside of the top of your lantern to use as a hanger.

