

**HOCPP 1034**

# **In The Hands of A Child**

**Grades 3 - 6**



**Project Pack**

## **Groundhog Day**



**A Ready-to-Assemble  
Hands-On Unit  
Including Reproducibles**



Thank you for your purchase from  
In the Hands of a Child  
Your Premiere Lapbook Provider since 2002!!

**Groundhog Day**  
HOCPP 1034  
Published: January, 2007  
Original Publication: March 2005

Authors:  
Katie Kubesh  
Niki McNeil  
Kimm Bellotto

For information about other products available from In the Hands of a Child  
Call 1-866-426-3701 or visit our website at [www.handsofachild.com](http://www.handsofachild.com).

Entire contents of this Project Pack © 2007  
In the Hands of a Child.  
6222 Pierce Street  
Coloma, MI 49038

Permission is hereby granted to the individual purchaser to reproduce student materials in this project pack for noncommercial individual or classroom use only. In the Hands of a Child gives permission for one copy of all written material to be copied and or printed. Classroom teachers have permission to reproduce one copy for each student in class. Members of co-ops or workshops have permission to reproduce one copy for up to 10 children per unit. Reproducible graphics may be reprinted as many times as needed. Permission is not granted for school wide or system wide reproduction of materials.

Printed in the USA.

From the time we first began using Project Packs we fell in love with them. We knew that this type of hands-on learning experience was just the thing that was needed to make boring academics not only educational but, fun and exciting too!

To help get you started we have included some of the questions we receive about Project Packs.

### What is a Project Pack?

A Project Pack is simply a great way of compiling key points from your studies into one spot that can easily be stored and available to be reviewed at any time

### How does this help me? and Why is this a better way for learning?

The number one reason is the students will retain the information covered so much faster. Children learn by doing. Project Packs put learning into their hands!

Another reason is it is a convenient way to store those wonderful projects. Students can go back and review them at any time and your schoolroom or refrigerator is not cluttered with bits and pieces of their projects.

And the final reason is they are great and the possibilities are endless! There are no age limits and no subject lines that cannot be worked into a Project Pack. We will be adding many units to help you in the education of your students.

### How do I make a Project Pack?

A Project Pack is simply a file folder refolded into a shutter style book. Open it flat and then fold the sides into the middle creasing neatly and there you have it.

***For a more colorful and eye-appealing Project Pack it is suggested that some of your Reproducibles be printed out on colored multi-purpose paper.***

### What supplies do I need?

You will want to have file folders, paper of different colors and weights, your students' favorite coloring tools, tape, glue, scissors, and a stapler.

## Adapting a Project Pack to Fit the Needs of Your Student

Adapting a Project or Research Pack is key to ensuring that you provide the best lesson for your student. At first glance, some might just skip over an activity because they feel it is too easy or too difficult for their student. We want you to use all the activities we provide...they are easily adaptable!

For example, if you have a PK-3 student the vocabulary activities might be difficult for him or her to complete. Here are some tips to help you adapt the activities that require your student to write:

1. Have your student dictate vocabulary words and their meanings as you write them.
2. Have your child draw a picture instead of writing.
3. You write the word or sentence first so your student can see how it is written.
4. Practice. Practice. Practice. In the car, on a walk, in the shopping cart! Practice saying the vocabulary words and what they mean. Before you know it your preschooler will be telling others what those words mean!
5. Contact us. We would be happy to give you ideas for adapting specific units to a grade level.

On the other hand, some of the activities may seem too easy for your student. Does your 5<sup>th</sup> grade level student want to learn about butterflies, but the Project Pack seems too easy? Try it anyway; just change things up a bit to suit that grade level. Here are some tips to help you adapt the activities to make them a little more difficult.

1. In addition to writing down vocabulary words and their meanings, ask your student to use the word in a sentence; either verbally or written.
2. Give your student 1 hour (or other reasonable time frame) to research the topic on their own; either online or at the library. Give your student a set of questions or see what he/she can find without your guidance.
3. Encourage your student to expand on the topic or choose a related topic to learn about.
4. Take a look at some of our preschool units...there is lots of clipart related to each topic. Have your older student cut these out and write a story or play about the pictures or perform a play.
5. Contact us. We would be happy to give you ideas for adapting specific units to a grade level.

These are just a few ways you can adapt a Project Pack to meet the needs of your student. Let your student be the judge if something is too easy or too difficult...you just might be surprised!

The Website links we have included in our guides are references we found that contain relevant information. However, the sites are not owned or maintained by In the Hands of a Child. The content may have changed or become a “dead” link. If you find the site contains inappropriate material or is no longer a site, please let us know!

## Table of Contents

Guide	Page 2
History of Groundhog Day	Page 2
The Groundhog	Page 3
Groundhog Day Celebrations	Page 5
Shadows	Page 6
Hibernation	Page 6
Vocabulary	Page 8
Activity Instructions	Page 10
Activity 1	Page 13
Activity 2	Page 19
Activity 3	Page 20
Activity 4	Page 21
Activity 5	Page 22
Activity 6	Page 24
Activity 7	Page 25
Activity 8	Page 26
Activity 9	Page 27
Activity 10	Page 28
Activity 11	Page 29
Activity 12	Page 31
Activity 13	Page 34
Activity 14	Page 35
Activity 15	Page 36
Activity 16	Page 37
Activity 17	Page 38
Bonus Activity	Page 39
Folder Instructions	Page 40

## Groundhog Day

People have relied on nature to predict the weather for thousands of years. Before technology, that was the *only* way to **predict** the weather! Some of these techniques really do work. For example, if crickets chirp louder than usual, it means the weather will be warm and dry. What about relying on a **groundhog** to predict the weather?

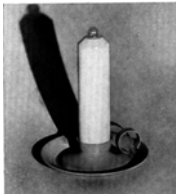


### History of Groundhog Day

Groundhog Day is a holiday celebrated in the United States on February 2. On this day, people anxiously await a groundhog's prediction of when spring will arrive. The **origins** of this day are traced back to a European holiday.

### Ancient Traditions

The ancient European Celts believed that if bears and hedgehogs came out of hibernation, slipped out of their dens and spied their own shadows they would be frightened back inside. When this happened, it was said that another four to six weeks of winter weather could be expected.



Around the same time, in other parts of Europe, Candlemas Day was being celebrated. The tradition surrounding that holiday was to have clergy bless candles and then hand them out to the people to light the long winter nights. The candles were given out on the mid-point day that fell between the winter solstice and the spring equinox. That day came every February 2.

Historians believe that Roman legions, who invaded the British Isles, adopted the ancient Celtic tradition, began calling it Hedgehog Day and observed it on, you guessed it! February 2. They then brought this holiday to the Germans who blended the traditions of Candlemas Day and Hedgehog Day with new ideas. They decided that if it was sunny on Candlemas Day the hedgehog would cast a shadow. If this happened, there would be six more weeks of bad weather. They called this the "Second Winter."

### How People Have Relied on Nature to Forecast the Weather

**A ring around the moon means rain.** This is correct. Halos form around the moon when light shines through high stratum clouds that move in before rain clouds.

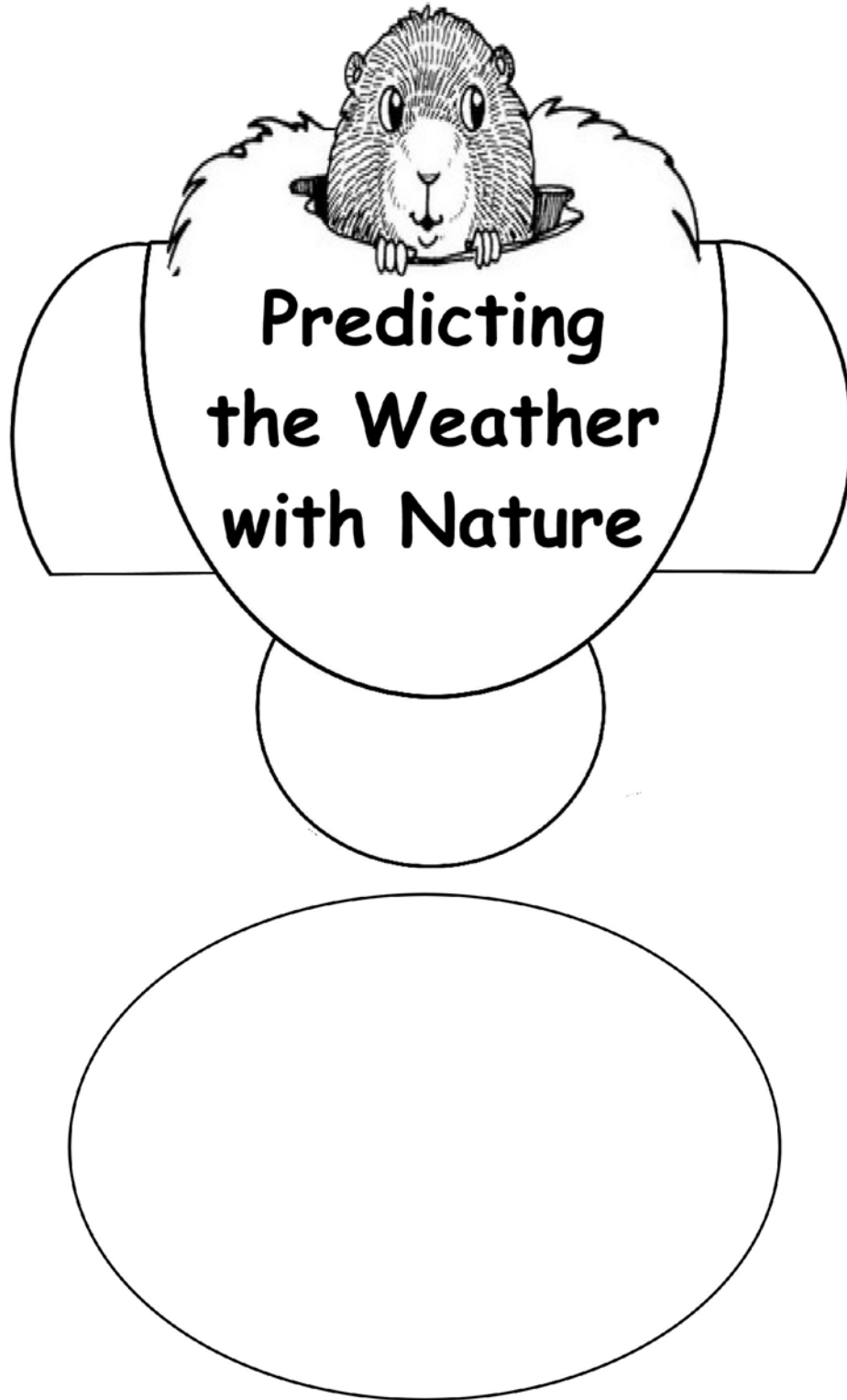
**Morning Glories only open up when the weather will be bright.** This is not always true, but it is true that some flowers are more sensitive to light days and may close up on dark days.

**Crickets chirp more when it is warm and dry.** This is true, and they may chirp even louder as the temperature rises!

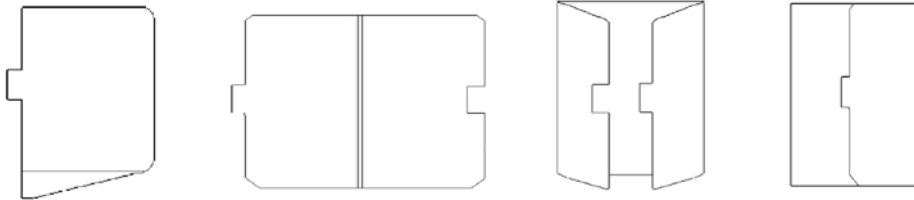
**Frizzy hair means it is a humid day.** Human hair does tend to curl more when it is damp!

**Pinecones only open their scales in dry weather.** This is true. The moisture in the air causes pinecones to swell shut on damp days.

## Activity 5



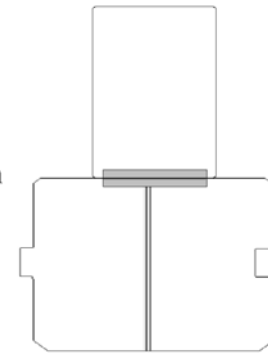
## Instructions to Re-fold a Folder



### Normal Fold:

Open folder flat

Fold both the right and left edge to the center crease creating a shutter  
 Cut a folder in half OR use a piece of cardstock to form your extension  
 Lay the extension in the center of the shutter fold folder  
 Attach at the top end using clear packing tape



### Double Folder:

Open folder flat

Fold both the right and left edge in toward the center crease creating a shutter

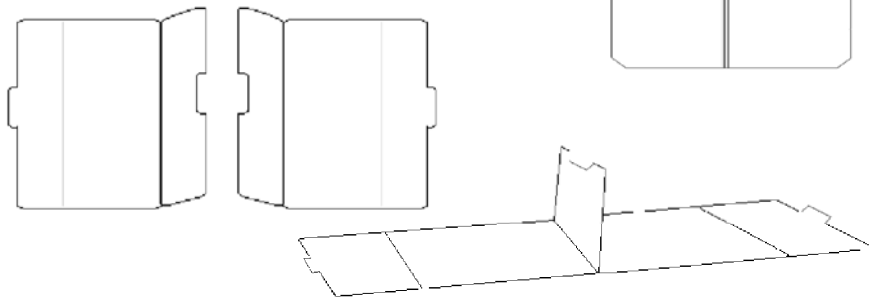
Do this again with a second folder

Set both folders side by side with their shutters opened (pointing straight up not flat)

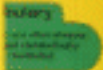
In the center where the two folders meet glue the outer flaps of each shutter together connecting the two folders

Fold both shutters closed and flip over and close

The back of one of the folders becomes your cover



\*\*\*You can add extensions to a double folder using the same method as for a single folder.



My Customary is to...

**Phil and Vernon Pringle**  
Phil and Vernon Pringle are the authors of "The Great Migration: How it Happened" (1991) and "The Great Migration: How it Happened" (1991). They live in Washington, D.C.

**When is Groundhog Day?**



...in ...



Pre-Ceremony Activities

**Phil and Famous People**  
Phil made an appearance on "The Oprah Winfrey Show" in 1995.  
Ronald Reagan was the first president to meet Phil when Phil lived in Washington, D.C. in 1966.

When is Groundhog Day?

IF THE  
CROWDING  
SEES ITS  
SHADOW



Shadow's Size & Shape



Hibernation

Ancient  
Holiday  
1

Ancient  
Holiday  
2

From Ancient Holidays

### Vocabulary

A list of words and their meanings,  
usually arranged alphabetically  
and defined or translated



Predicting  
the Weather  
with Nature



Shadow  
1 1/2 1/2

### A Day of Shadow Tracing



Animals  
in  
winter  
ways of  
Survival