

Soaring with Friendship: Make a Dragon Kite

“Soar upon the wings of joy in the atmosphere of the love of God.” –Bahá’u’lláh

Last night, my friends and I played Dragonflies & Dragons. I flew around roaring as Nurgon, a fire-breathing dragon! Everyone shook with fear! Then we started arguing about whether dragons are friendly. Our fun game turned into a fiery debate.

We decided to look it up, and it turns out that ancient, mythical dragons may be inspired by *dinosaurs*! We discovered that dragons have different meanings in

different places. In European stories, they’re often harmful. They can represent challenges like injustice, fear, or greed that heroes defeat. In many Asian legends, dragons are heroes and signs of knowledge, strength, or luck.

We realized it was silly to argue. I decided to play Nurgon as a hero who protects others. Inspired by dragons, we made these cool kites. You and your friends can work together on your own kites and *soar* with fun and kindness!

TOGETHER, MY KITE, FRIENDS, AND I CAN FLY SUPER HIGH!



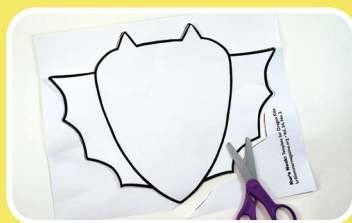
You'll Need

- pattern printed at 100% on 8½" x 11" (21.6 x 27.9 cm) paper*
- 8½" x 11" (21.6 x 27.9 cm) wax paper sheet
- colorful tissue paper
- tacky glue
- spool of thread
- scissors
- ruler
- black permanent marker
- two 10" (25.4 cm) wooden skewers

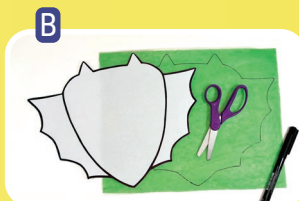
Check out Nur's video for making this craft!



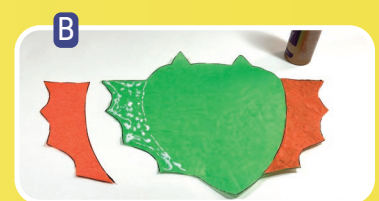
- 1 Go to our website and print the pattern. Cut out along outer lines.*



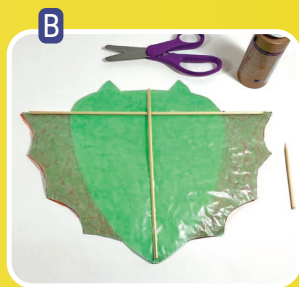
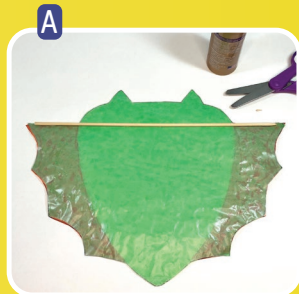
- 2 (A) For face, glue 8½" x 11" (21.6 x 27.9 cm) sheet of tissue paper evenly onto wax paper. Let dry. (B) On tissue paper side, trace pattern with permanent marker. Cut out.



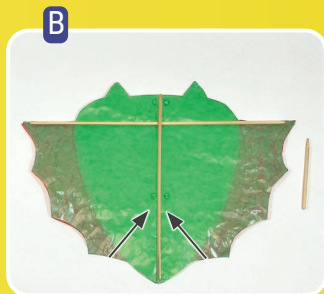
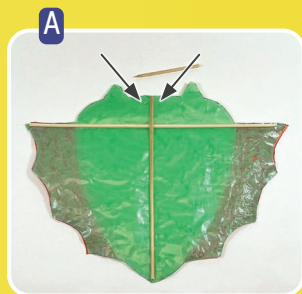
- 3 (A) Cut wing shapes off pattern. Place on tissue paper and trace. Cut out tissue paper wings. (B) Glue tissue paper wings to kite's wing shapes. Let dry.



4 (A) Flip kite over. Trim off one skewer's point. With glue, secure skewer to kite, so its ends extend evenly across top of wings. (B) Cut off other skewer's point to make skewer $7\frac{1}{4}$ " (18.4 cm) long—same height as dragon's head. Set point aside. Glue skewer vertically across center of kite. Press wax paper firmly to both skewers to help the glue completely stick. Let dry.



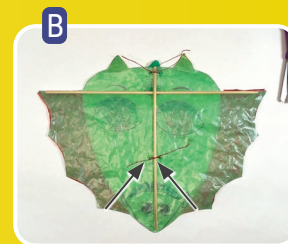
5 (A) Use point of skewer cut off in Step 4(B) to carefully pierce hole through kite at top left and right sides of vertical skewer. (B) Repeat Step 5(A), making new holes $2\frac{1}{4}$ " (5.7 cm) below horizontal skewer.



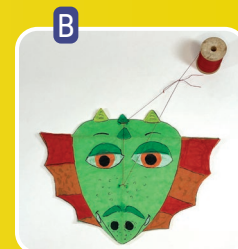
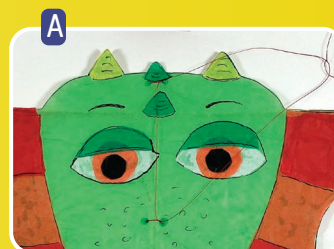
6 Draw details such as eyes, horns, and teeth on tissue paper with permanent marker. Cut out shapes for added features and glue to kite, not covering holes. Let dry.



7 (A) Fold 9" (22.9 cm) piece of thread in half to reinforce its strength. Insert its ends through holes at top of kite. Flip to back of kite and knot thread's ends together. (B) Repeat step 7(A) for other holes.



8 (A) Flip kite over to front. Insert 18" (45.7 cm) piece of thread through small loops at top and center of face and knot ends together. (B) Knot end of spool's thread to top center of large loop.



9 Cut three 24" x $1\frac{1}{2}$ " (61 x 3.8 cm) strips of tissue paper for tail. Glue strips to bottom of kite's back.* Have fun flying your kite in medium-speed wind!



*Add more tail length or weight if needed to improve kite's flight.