

Elephant Ride Centerpiece

Assemble colorful pieces of paper using glue stick and clothespins to make a whimsical elephant and rider.

You will need:

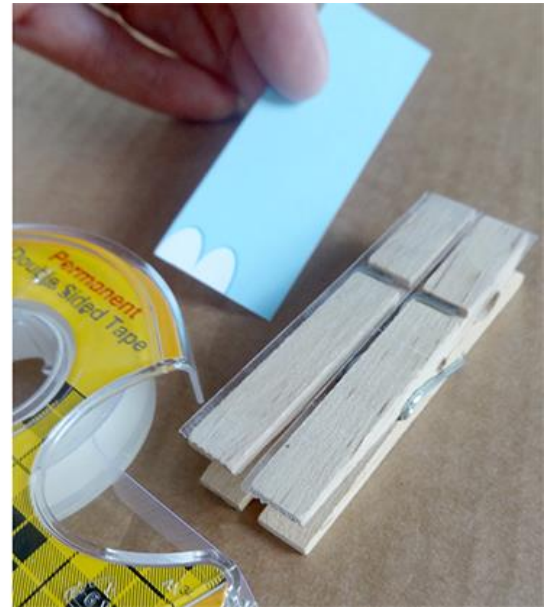
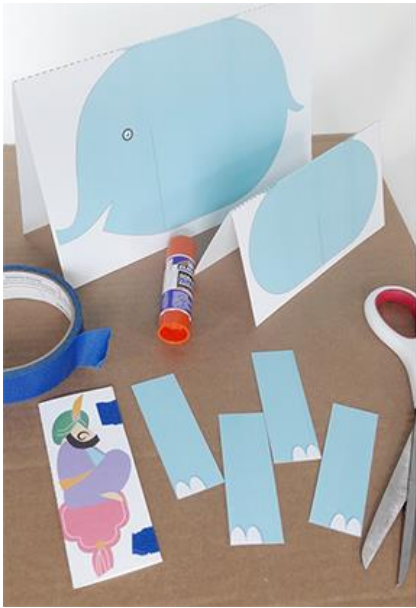
- [Color printouts](#) printed on card stock (2 pages)
- 5 spring-hinge clothespins (about 3" long)
- Piece of scrapbook paper (2 1/2" X 7")
- Double-sided tape
- Glue stick
- Masking tape
- Scissors
- (Optional) Fine-tipped markers (colors of choice)
- Mounting putty



Print a [picture of a completed centerpiece](#) to show crafters. Post a copy on your bulletin board to create interest in the activity.

Directions:

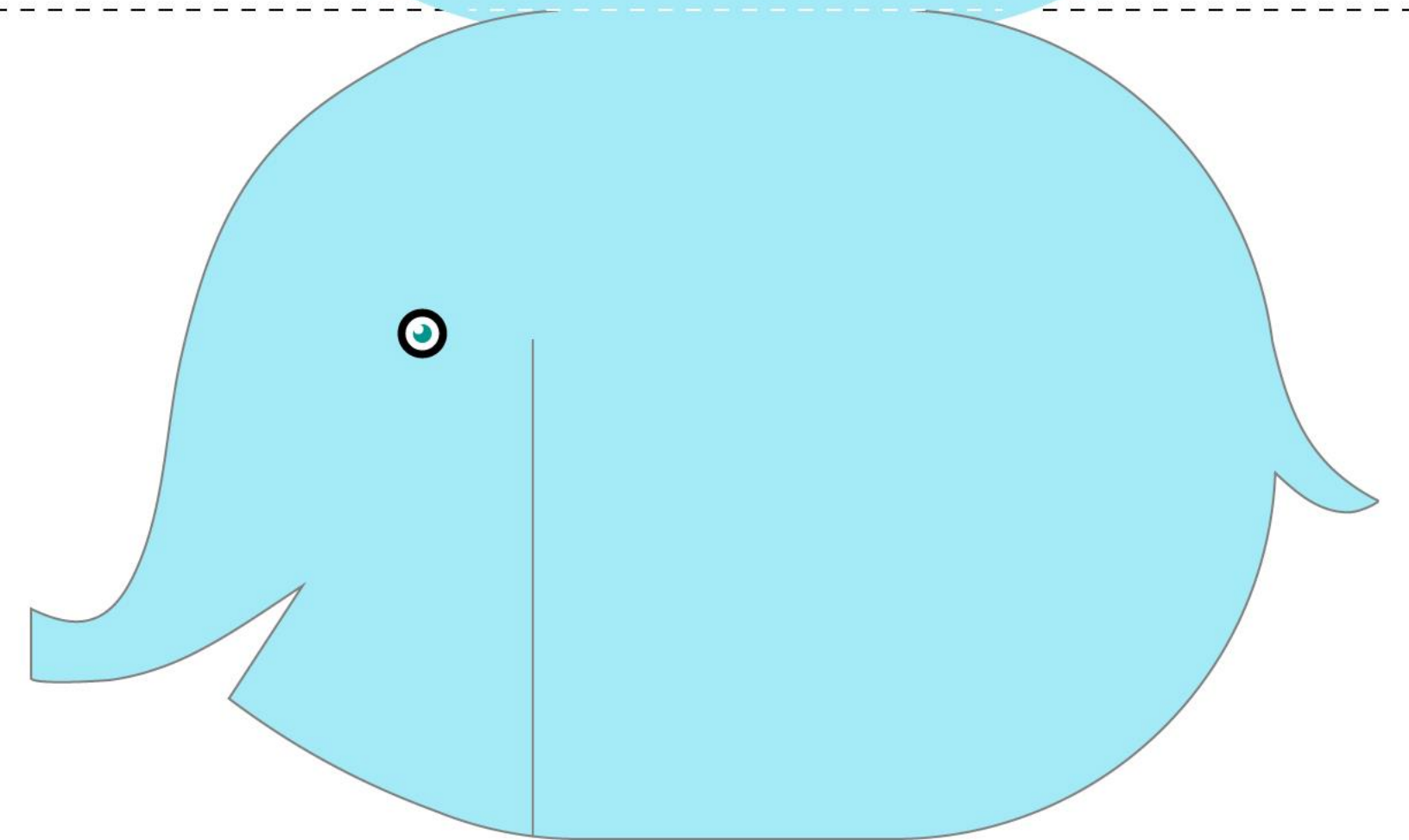
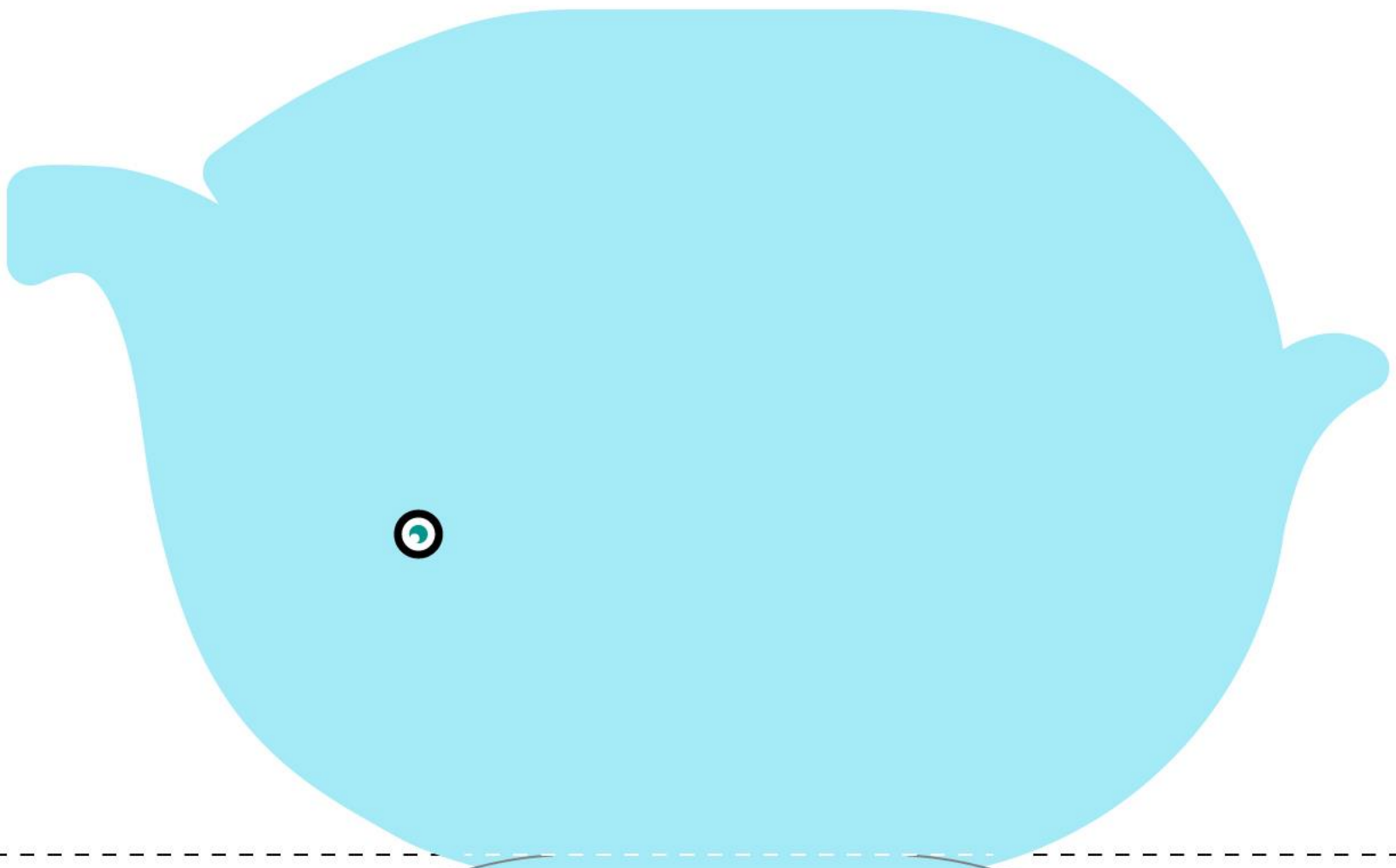
1. Cut apart the sections of the printouts (ears, legs, and rider) along the solid rectangular lines.
2. Cut apart the four legs and set aside.
3. Fold the elephant's body along the dashed lines and glue the front and back panels together. Repeat for the ears.
4. Fold the rider in half along the dashed line and tape the sides together with small pieces of masking tape as shown on the following page. Be sure to not cover the image with tape.

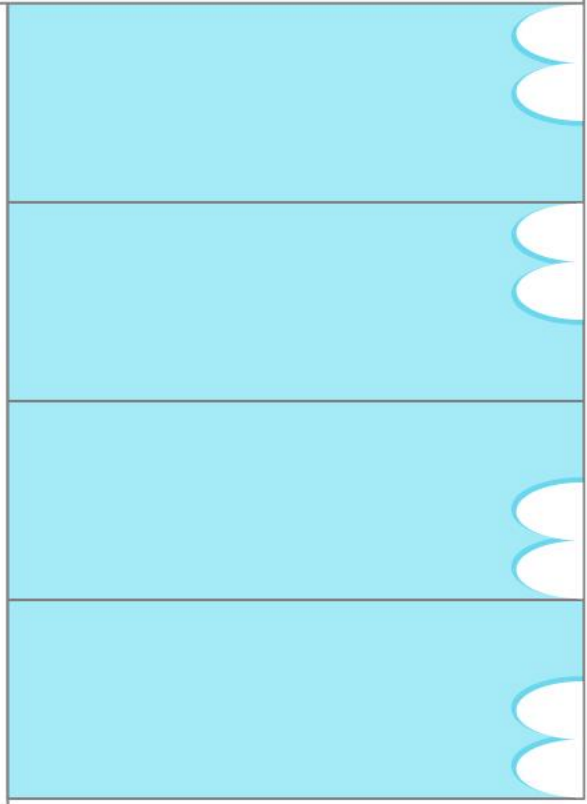
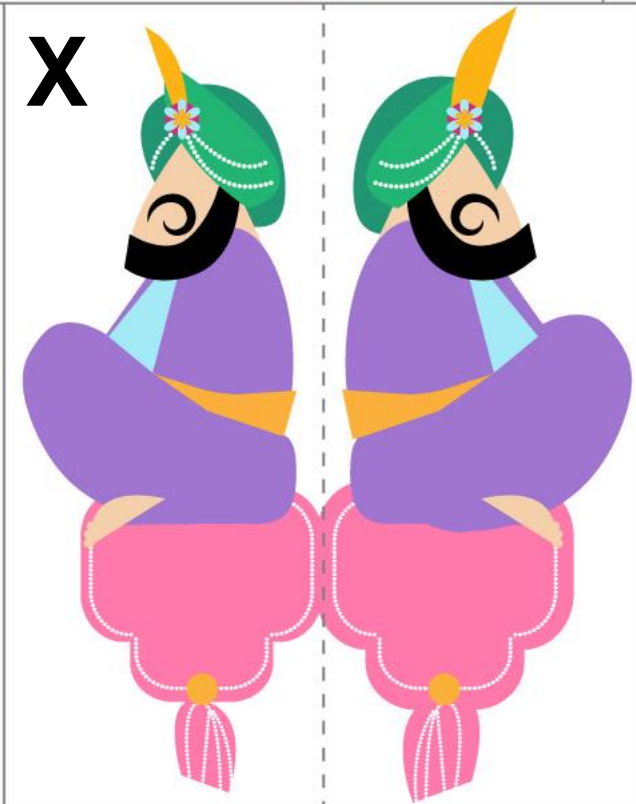
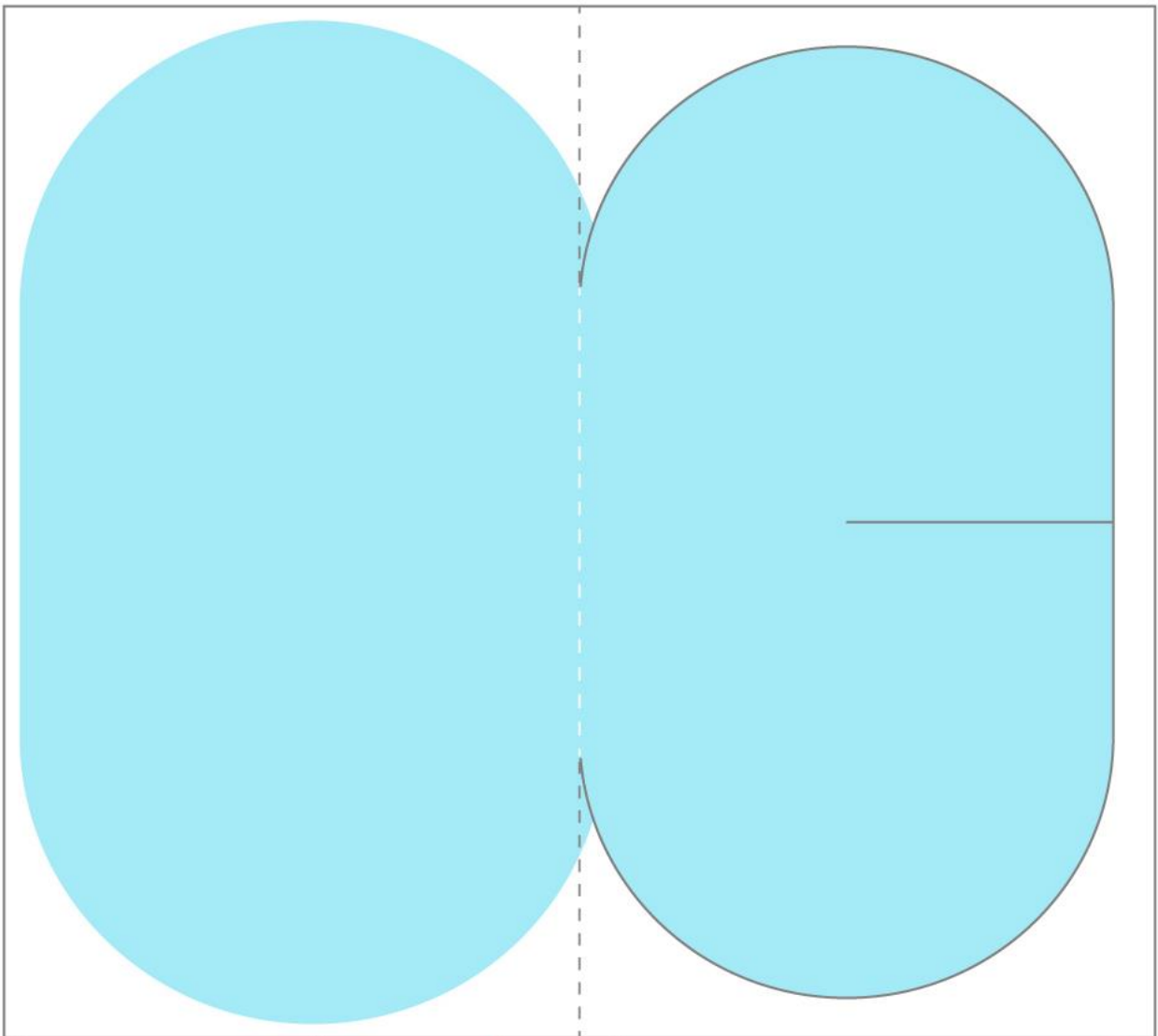


5. Cut out the body and the ears along the thin gray lines on one side of the printout. Also cut the vertical slits indicated with a thin gray line. Set aside. (**Note:** The side without the gray lines is a bit larger so that if you don't fold exactly, the sides will look the same when they are cut out.)
6. Cut out the rider following the edges on the side indicated with an X. Unfold and cut apart where the pink cushion is connected.
7. Attach both halves of the rider to a clothespin using double-sided tape as shown in the center photo above. Position the head onto the handle portion of the clothespin and the pink cushion onto the clamp end.
8. To make the elephant legs, cover two clothespins with double-sided tape as shown above. Align the pins side-by-side with the handle ends pointing down. Attach a leg to the clothespins with the toenails positioned at the handle end.
9. Turn the clothespins over and repeat, but this time, the toenails should face the other direction. For example, in the right-hand photo above, the nails are on the bottom left. When the clothespins are turned over, the nails should be on the bottom right. When complete, the clothespins should look like the left-hand photo on the following page.



10. To make the blanket, fold a 2 1/2" X 7" piece of scrapbook paper in half and cut off the corners as shown. Drape the blanket over the elephant's back and glue it down.
 11. (Optional) For an added touch, use fine-tipped markers to make decorative designs around the blanket and on the elephant's trunk and ears.
 12. Attach the ears by sliding them up through the slit in the body.
 13. Clamp on the clothespin legs and the rider.
 14. Display using a little mounting putty at the bottom of the legs. Press in place in the center of your table.
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