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Monthly Pencil Toppers

Directions:

- I've made these 4 on a page.
- When I taught 1st grade, my students loved to cut out a pencil topper each week.
- I did it as an incentive. If you finished your work, you could go to the little table and pick one out, fold it, cut it out, punch 2 holes, and insert your pencil. It was a "performance flag" of "look at me!" "I got my work done!" "I'm special!" "I'm proud of me."
- It was a great cutting skill and a nice way to reinforce the vocabulary word SYMMETRY too.
- For my Y5's that's why I do it. I omit the hole punch-pencil-topper concept, as we rarely use pencils.
- It's a nice "quickie" cutting skill that they enjoy. It's a MAGIC trick that they get to do, and it never ceases to amaze them, that once they unfold the paper...wahla! They have a cool shape!
- I sometimes run these through **Mr. Cruncher Muncher** as well.
- It's a must-have tool for your classroom.
- It runs around \$18. Print a coupon from the web for *Hobby Lobby* or Michaels Crafts for 40% off, watch for sales, or clip the 50% off one item coupon in the paper for *JoAnnFabrics*.
- The tool is a hand-held roller that crinkles paper just like corrugated cardboard.
- It's sold at most craft stores and places that sell scrap booking stuff.
- My students LOVE it, and it's a great fine motor skill.
- I hold the machine, they put their paper shape into it and crank away.
- Out pops a really "way cool" crinkled piece of art!
- We do a few each month. It's perfect for **100 Day** when they draw a picture of themselves on an oval and we run it through **Mr. Cruncher Muncher** for instant wrinkles! ☺