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Rippin' Through The Year! A Book Of Seasonal Shapes

Directions:

- You can make these once a month as a decoration to be glued on a piece of construction paper or use them whenever you choose.
- Or you can make one each month, keep them and make them into a Keepsake Book to be sent home in June.
- I've provided a cover if you want to do that.
- They are a great fine motor skill that strengthens finger muscles and increases finger dexterity as well as hand-eye coordination.
- Be aware of children who are LEFT handed. They sometimes have a bit more difficulty with this project, and aren't sure which hand to rip with as both hands really aren't all that strong yet.
- If your little ones are having trouble staying on the line using both hands to rip with, have them lay the piece of paper on the table and with their left hand hold the paper down, then using their pinchers (pointer finger and thumb) have them slowly rip the paper along the black line with the right hand. (If they are right handed.)
- My school buys rather inexpensive construction paper so it tends to rip rather easily, sort of like paper that has been left in the sun, it's pretty brittle. If you have good quality paper, ripping on a fold may be a bit harder for your little ones to get STARTED, so cut a beginning slit for them and it will be a breeze. ☺
- My students really enjoy doing them, and I like them for a quick art center.
- The torn affect also gives a unique look to the children's art work.
- You can also opt to punch a hole at the top and tie the piece with a bit of yarn. Suspend the work from the ceiling.
- If you still want to make the Keepsake Book, simply snip the yarn and mount the artwork on construction paper. I vary the colors to add more pizzazz to the pages.
- Besides the monthly shapes, you can also do each regular shape or a collage of all the basic shapes that you teach your students. I've given you patterns for those as well.
- I've given you a cover you can color and mount on construction paper, and one with small shapes that you can rip & tear.
- I typed up "*Rippin' Through The Year*" and then ripped around each word and glued it to each one of the shapes.
- To simplify things, you could type up the title and have your students just rip around that.
- They could also rip around their name or the letters in their name and glue that to the cover as well.
- This is one of my favorite books. I hope you enjoy it as well. ☺