Crankie Contraptions

A hand-cranked scrolling story, like a tiny theater.



SCREEN-FREE | AGES 6 TO 14 | ABOUT 60 MIN | MAKE AND KEEP

WHAT PARTICIPANTS MAKE

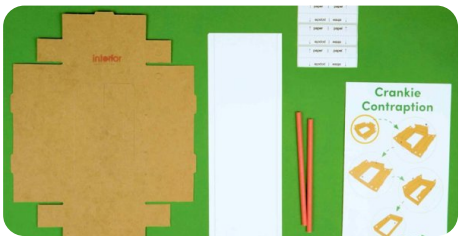
A folded cardboard theater with a paper scroll wound between two straws that tells the camper's own illustrated story.

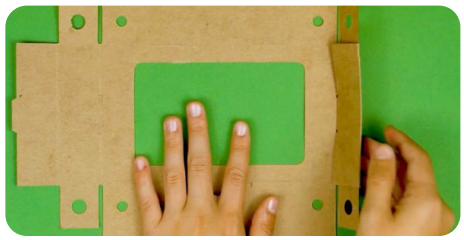
HOW IT WORKS

Campers fold a cardboard frame, wind a paper scroll between two straws, then plan and illustrate a story with a beginning, middle, and end. Turning the straws scrolls the story across the screen. It blends engineering, art, and language arts in one project and differentiates easily from early elementary to middle school.

CAMPERS EXPLORE

Visual storytelling structure (beginning, middle, end); mechanical winding and scroll mechanisms; engineering-meets-narrative design; measurement and scene planning; iterative testing of a physical mechanism







PACK SIZES

PACK	CAMPERS	SKU
Small Group Pack	10	G2 CRAN 010
Class Pack	25	CL CRAN 025

Every camper gets an individual reclosable kit with a printed visual guide. Scissors optional.

Educator video
8:32 min

Educator guide

Standards connections (from the educator guide): NGSS K-2-ETS1-2, K-PS2-1, 3-5-ETS1-2, 3-5-ETS1-3, MS-ETS1-2, MS-ETS1-4. Common Core RL.K-2.2, W.K-2.3, RL.3-5.5, SL.3-5.5, RL.6-8.5, W.6-8.3, K.MD.A.1, 1.OA.A.1, 3.MD.B.4, 4.OA.C.5, 6.RP.A.1, 7.G.A.1.