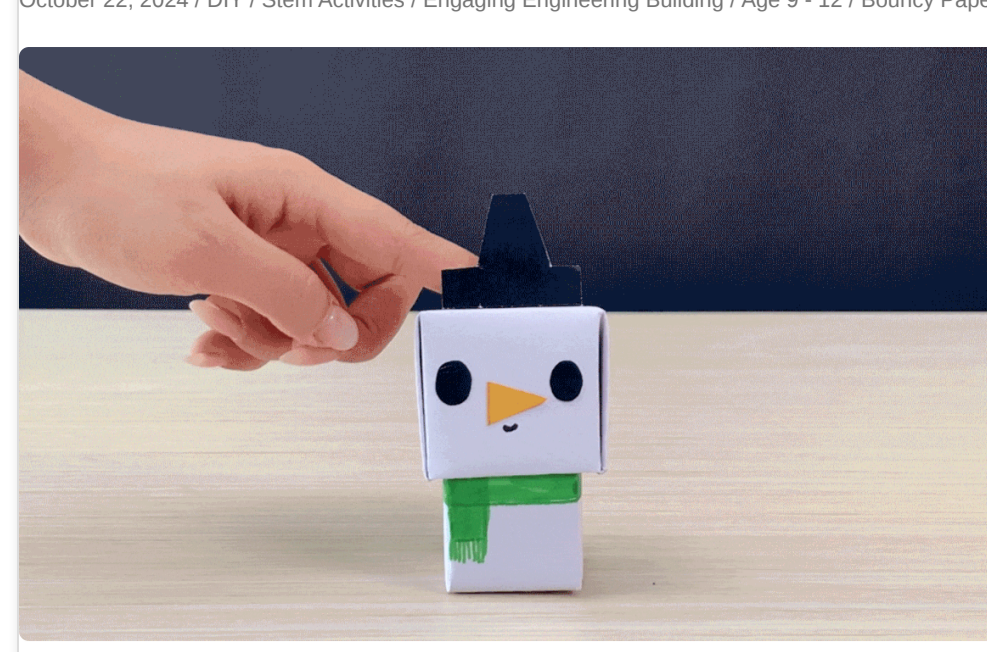


# Jolly Bouncy Snowman! A Fun Winter Craft!

October 22, 2024 / DIY / STEM Activities / Engaging Engineering Building / Age 9 - 12 / Bouncy Paper Snowman



Bring your favourite snow activity indoors. The best part is that this is a "bouncy" snowman with a spring-like neck that can nod and shake as if it's come to life! With simple materials like card and felt-tip pens, you can add fun and movement to your winter!

- Age: 9-12
- Time: Less than 1 hour

## Materials Needed:

Square card  
Ruler  
Double-sided tape  
Scissors  
Felt-tip pens

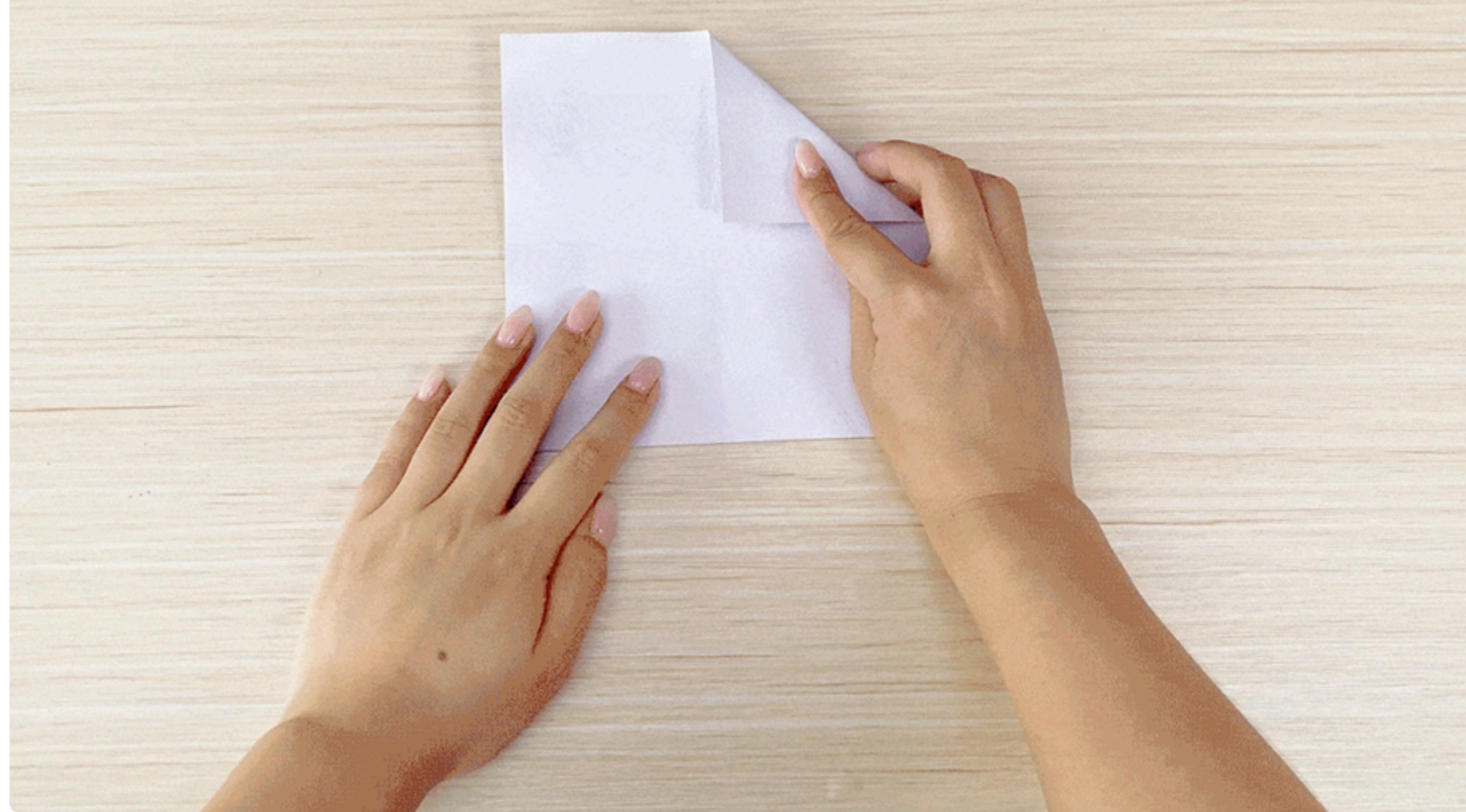


## Step-by-Step Instructions:

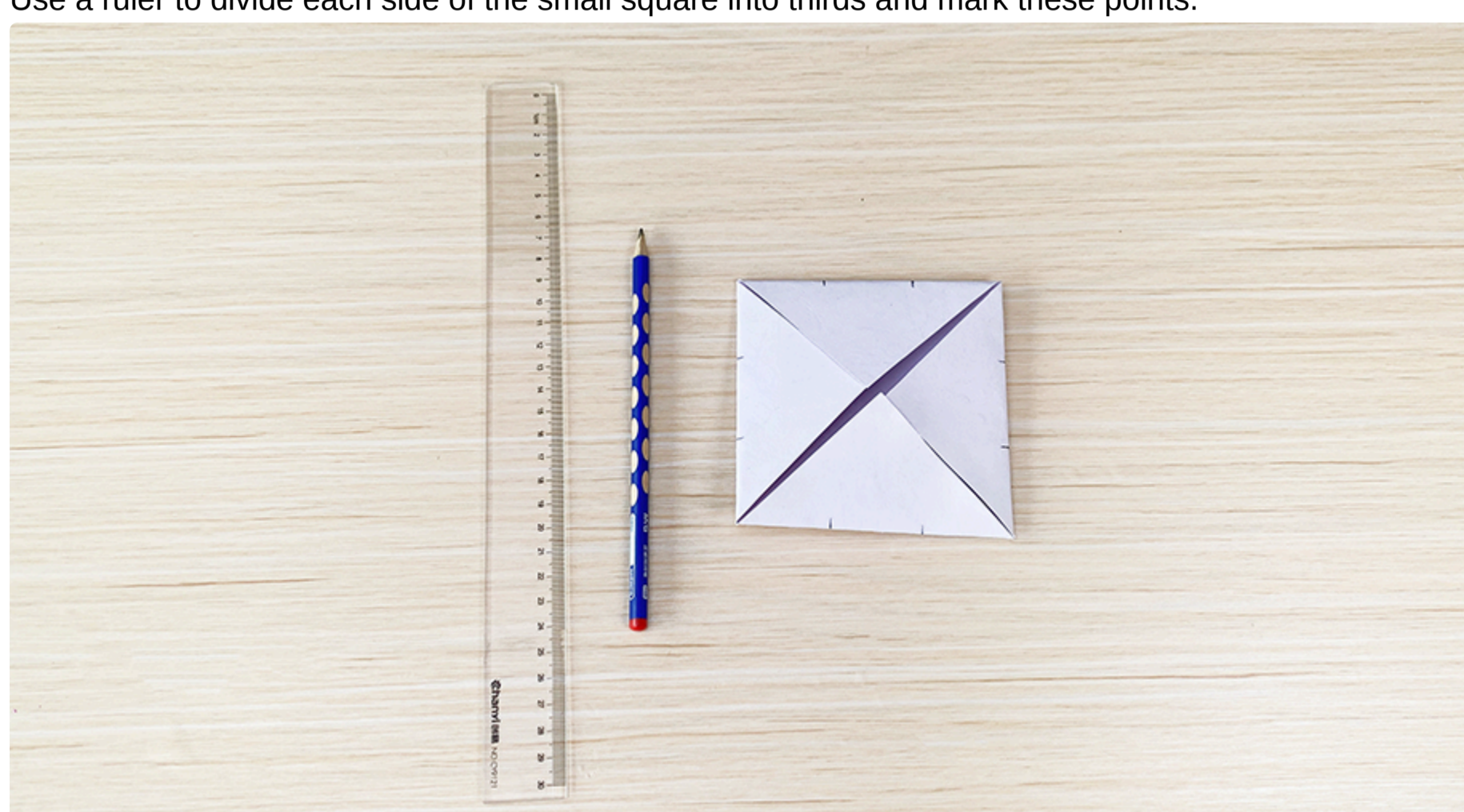
1. First, we'll make the snowman's body. Cut a 21cm square from the card. Fold the card in half twice to create a cross-shaped crease.



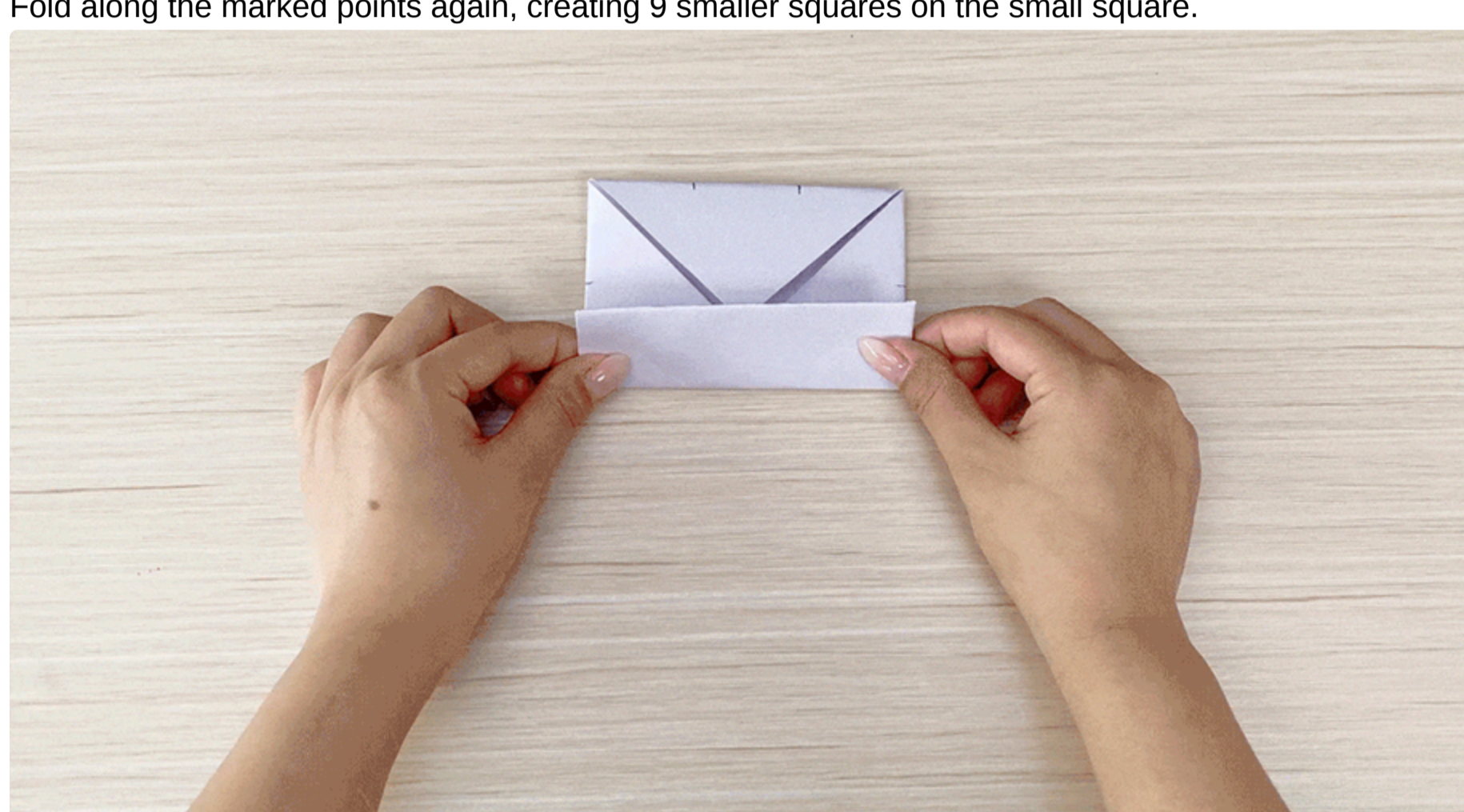
2. Using the two creases as guide lines, fold all four corners inwards to form a smaller square.



3. Use a ruler to divide each side of the small square into thirds and mark these points.



4. Fold along the marked points again, creating 9 smaller squares on the small square.



5. Unfold the triangles on both sides. Refold the triangles on the top and bottom edges along the creases to deepen them.



6. Press one side inwards with one finger, then do the same on the other side. Fold down the protruding parts on both sides. The snowman's body is now complete.



7. Make the snowman's head using the same method.



8. Next, we need to make a paper spring. Cut a strip of card 21cm long and 9cm wide. Divide the width into thirds.



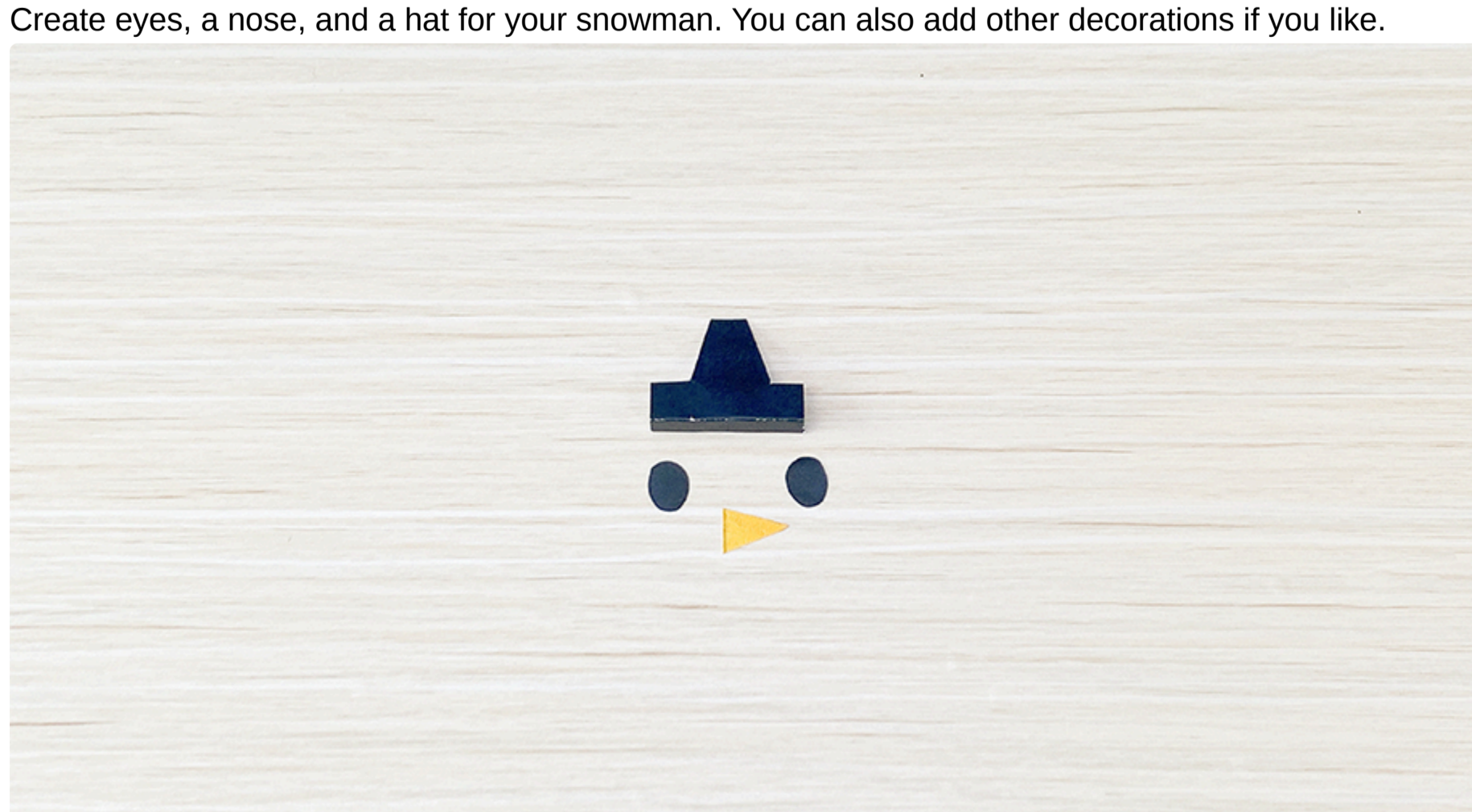
9. Fold the card along the third-marks.



10. Continuously fold the strip back and forth to test the spring's elasticity.



11. Create eyes, a nose, and a hat for your snowman. You can also add other decorations if you like.



12. Place the spring inside the snowman's body. Press the snowman up and down - can it bounce?



## The Science Behind It:

The paper spring utilises elasticity and layered structure from paper folding. By folding the paper into a specific shape, we can create an elastic effect that allows the paper to quickly return to its original state after being compressed.

Try adjusting the number of folds and the spacing between them to see if it affects the spring's elasticity. What happens if you use stiffer card?