JACOB'S LADDER BOOK
also known as a Tetratetraflexagon

The first time you make this book color one side of the paper. This will aid in making the cuts and folds in this great multi-page book. In this example one side of my paper will be gray and the other side white.

Start with a piece of paper at least twice as long as it is wide. You can tape two pieces of paper together if you wish. Taping a letter sized (8½ x 11) and a legal sized (8½ x 14) paper together end-to-end makes a 6¼ by 8½ book.

Step 1 - fold the piece of paper in half

Step 2 - fold in half again and unfold this fold as it was at the end of step 1

Step 3 - Make two cuts from the folded edge to the fold mark. It is very important that these cuts are parallel with the top and bottom edge of the paper and should be placed approximately ¼ the way in from each edge

Step 4 - Unfold completely and carefully cut the right end of the center flap

Step 5 - Open up the center flap and fold it completely over so that it folds over the uncut page next to it

Step 6 - Fold the right page over to the left

Step 7 - Fold the right end over again

Step 8 - Turn the entire book over -- top to bottom

Step 9 - Fold the center flap over to the left and tape the flap (through the center hole) to the edge of the piece of paper nearest it

To open and close the flexagon, follow these steps:

A. Turn the book over so that the tape is in the back as in Step 10. You are now looking at pages 1 and 2.

B. Push pages 1 and 2 backwards toward each other as if you were bending a book back against its spine. As the pages go back, the center may begin to separate. Slip your thumbs inside the crack that appears in the center and open the book to pages 3 and 4.

C. Fold pages 3 and 4 back toward each other. Slip your thumbs into the crack that appears in the center of the fold and open the book again to pages 5 and 6. To fold the book reverse the process reaching to the back of the book and pull the separating pages at the back of the book forward. Repeat the process to get back to pages 1 and 2.