Foldables study organizers are 3-dimensional, interactive graphic organizers that can help your students to organize, remember, review, and learn many kinds of information. They encourage students to use their creativity in a kinesthetic learning environment while reinforcing important thinking and communication skills. Listed below are a few basic Foldables instructions. On the other side you’ll find some of the most versatile Foldables designs.

**Hamburger Fold**
Fold a rectangular sheet of paper in half along the long side.

**Valley Fold**
A valley fold has sides that rise up from the center fold.

**Hot Dog Fold**
Fold a rectangular sheet of paper in half along the short side.

**Shutter Fold**
Find the midpoint on a piece of paper, then fold each side in to meet that point.

**Mountain Fold**
A mountain fold has sides that slope down from the center fold.

**Taco Fold**
Fold the corner of a sheet of paper over to create a triangle. Trim any excess.

**Burrito Fold**
A burrito fold rolls the page up without creating a crease in the paper.
Matchbook
Fold a sheet of paper in half like a hamburger but leave one side one inch longer than the other. Fold that one-inch tab up over the short side to create an envelope-like fold. Cut in half or in thirds (depending on the paper size) to create multiple Matchbooks.

Pocket Book
Fold a large sheet of paper in half like a hamburger. Open it up, then fold one of the long sides up to form a tab of about two inches. Refold so that the newly formed pockets are on the inside. Use glue or staples to secure the outer edges. Students can place index cards or quarter-sheets of paper inside the labeled pockets.

Vocabulary Book
Fold a sheet of notebook paper in half like a hot dog. On one side, cut every third line to create tabs. You can adjust the number of lines depending on the paper and the desired size of the tabs. Label the tabs with vocabulary words and write the definitions underneath.

Layered-Look Book
Stack two or more sheets of paper so that the top edges are an equal distance apart. Bring the bottom edges up and align the sheets so that all of the layers (or tabs) are the same distance apart. Fold and crease well to form the Layered-Look Book. Use glue or staples to hold the sheets together. Students can label the tabs and record information inside the Layered-Look Book.

Folded Table or Chart
Fold a sheet of paper in half (for two columns), then in half again (for four columns). Do the same in the other direction for the desired number of rows, or simply make one fold along the top for column headings.
What are foldables?

- 3 dimensional interactive graphic organizers that students create
- Can be used as a self-check study guide
- Can be used at any level and with any subject area
- Learning/Accessment tools
**Why use foldables?**

- Fun & motivating, hands-on approach
- As a study guide
- Note taking to help organize information
- Reach all learners
- Students retain information
- Alternative assessments
- Replace the use of worksheets/reduce copy counts
- Projects
- Integration of subject areas
- Improve student note-taking skills
- Hold students accountable
**When do we use foldables?**

- Introducing new vocabulary words
- Introducing a new skill, topic, or concept
- Before a chapter, lesson, story, etc.
- During the lesson
- After completing the chapter, lesson, story, etc.
- Guided Instruction or Guided Reading
- Writing process
- Review
- Anytime - daily
70% of input to the human brain is visual
And the research says...

- Graphic organizers (such as foldables) can:
  - help students focus on text structure as they read
  - provide tools used to visually represent relationships in text
  - help students write well-organized summaries of text
  
  (Put Reading First: The Research Building Blocks for Teaching Children to Read)

- Students are actively engaged in the instructional process and learning as they create foldables

Classroom Instruction That Works: Research Based Strategies for Increasing Student Achievement by Robert Marzano strategies are integrated

(identification of similarities & differences, summarizing & note-taking, nonlinguistic representations, questions, cues, and advanced organizers, etc.)
• **Note Taking research...**

- Effective note taking can make the difference between passing and failing (Hughes & Suritsky, 1994)

- Independent note taking increases active participation in the learning process, leading to improvement in memory of information (Ruhl & Suritsky, 1995)

- Listening and then receiving notes is not as effective as taking one's own notes. (Carrier, 1983; Hartley, 1983; Katayama & Robinson, 2000)

- Graphically organized notes teach more than just the facts as they increase student involvement with the information, increasing higher order thinking (Robinson et. al., 1998)

- Students had a 34 percentile gain when taught how to summarize information and take effective notes. (Robert J. Marzano, *Classroom Strategies that Work*)
How should we use foldables?

- Teacher directed, modeling
- Guided practice
- Alternative assessments
- Independent practice—students create own folds/projects
Basic Folds & Terminology

- Hamburger
- Hotdog
- Taco
- Burrito
- Valley
- Mountain
- Shutter
- Accordion
Hamburger

• Fold a rectangular piece of paper in half along the long side
Hamburger Fold Options
Two Door Books
Three Door Books
Matchbooks
Hot Dog

- Fold a rectangular piece of paper in half along the shorter side
Hot Dog Fold Options
Trifold Books

A Whale of a Report
Taco

- Fold the corner of a sheet of paper over to create a triangle. Trim any excess.
Envelope Folds
Burrito

• A burrito fold rolls the page up (similar to hotdog fold) but without creating a crease in the paper.
Shutter

• Begin as if you were going to make a hamburger but instead of the creasing the paper, pinch it to show the midpoint.

• Fold the outer edges of the paper to meet at the pinch, or mid-point, forming a shutter fold.
Shutter Fold Options


**Accordion**

- Fold each sheet of paper into *hamburgers*. However, fold one side one half inch shorter than the other side. This will form a tab that is one half inch long.
- Fold the tab the opposite way.
- *Glue together to form an accordion* by gluing a straight edge of one section into the valley of another section.
Accordion Fold Options
Layered Look Books
Venn Diagrams
Assessment Tools

- rubrics
- tests based on information
- writing samples
- journals
- oral questioning
Secret to Success: Model, Model, Model
Good luck and Make a big splash with foldables...