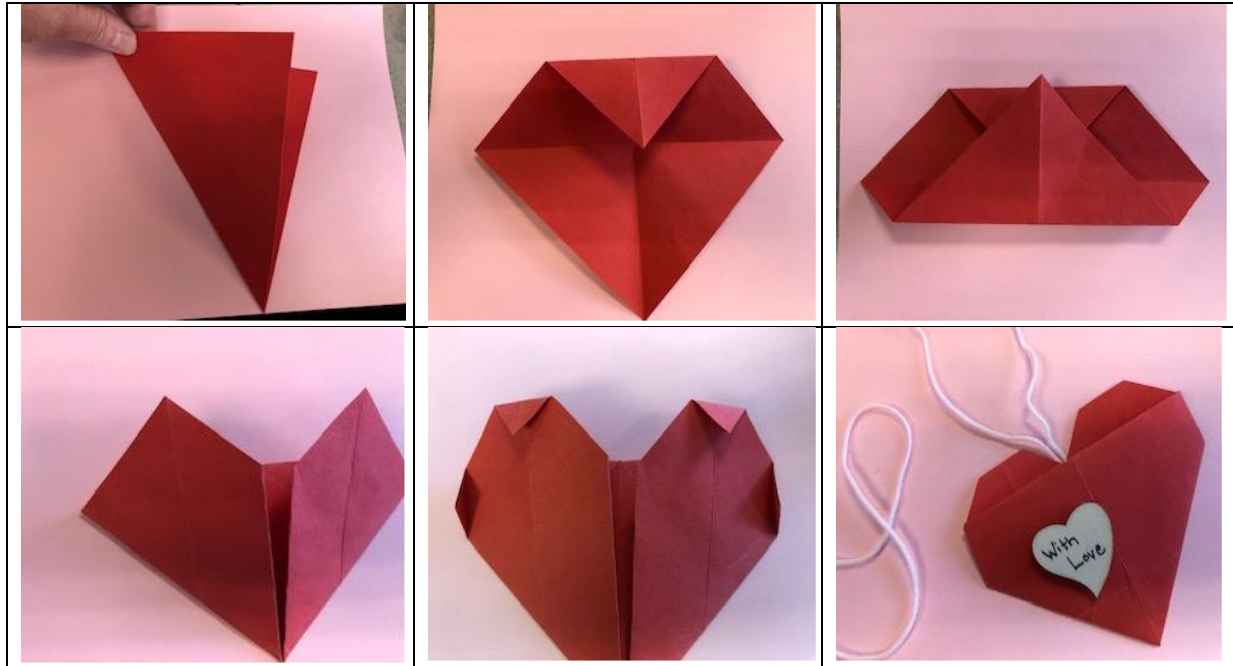


This is Ms. Susan from the Shorewood Public Library. This is a perfect time of year to celebrate our family and friends. Some people celebrate the holiday of Valentine's Day by sharing cards and words of love. In Slovenia, a country in Europe, Saint Valentine was considered the saint of good health and the patron of beekeepers. It is believed that plants and flowers start to grow on this day. It is the day that work begins in the vineyards and fields. In early days, Valentine's Day was believed to be the spring day that birds found their mates. It is not spring here as yet, but we can share art hearts and think of all the good things that Spring will bring to us. You can celebrate this special time with gifts of love and caring, or acts of work to show you care. Share your "heart" with someone special, friend, family, or neighbors.



1-Start with a square of paper. 6 inches by 6 inches works well. If you do not have red paper, you can start with white cardstock and color any shade of red or pink. Fold the square diagonally from one corner to the other & then repeat on the other diagonal. Now take the right side and fold up from the middle along the midline. Repeat on the left side. Flip the paper over. Fold the outer corner tips onto the back on both sides and fold down the pointy tips on the top back to the paper edge on both right and left tip. You might want to tape the flaps down on the back side. Tape a string on or flip over and decorate the front with a message.

2- You can fill your heart with warm wishes or just silly messages. Maybe you would like to give the heart to a favorite someone. Fill the heart with special messages of things you will do to make them feel warm and fuzzy. Examples would be, "Good for one hug" or "Take the garbage out all week". Another fun activity would be to fill the heart with the alphabet written on smaller hearts. Give to someone and share a special message or see if they can spell out words. Just spending time with someone shows how much you care.

**Wishing you hearts and hugs!**

-Ms. Susan