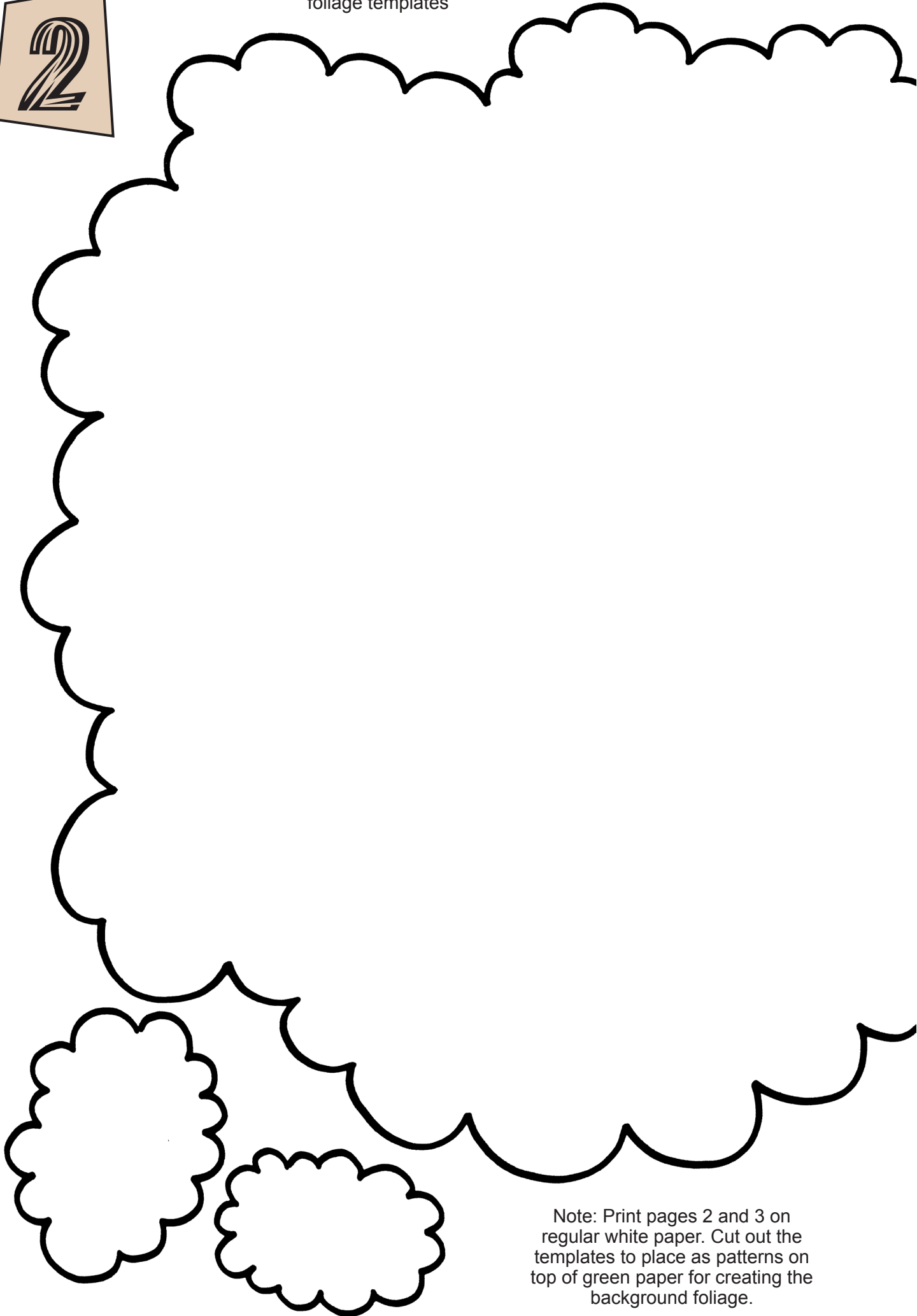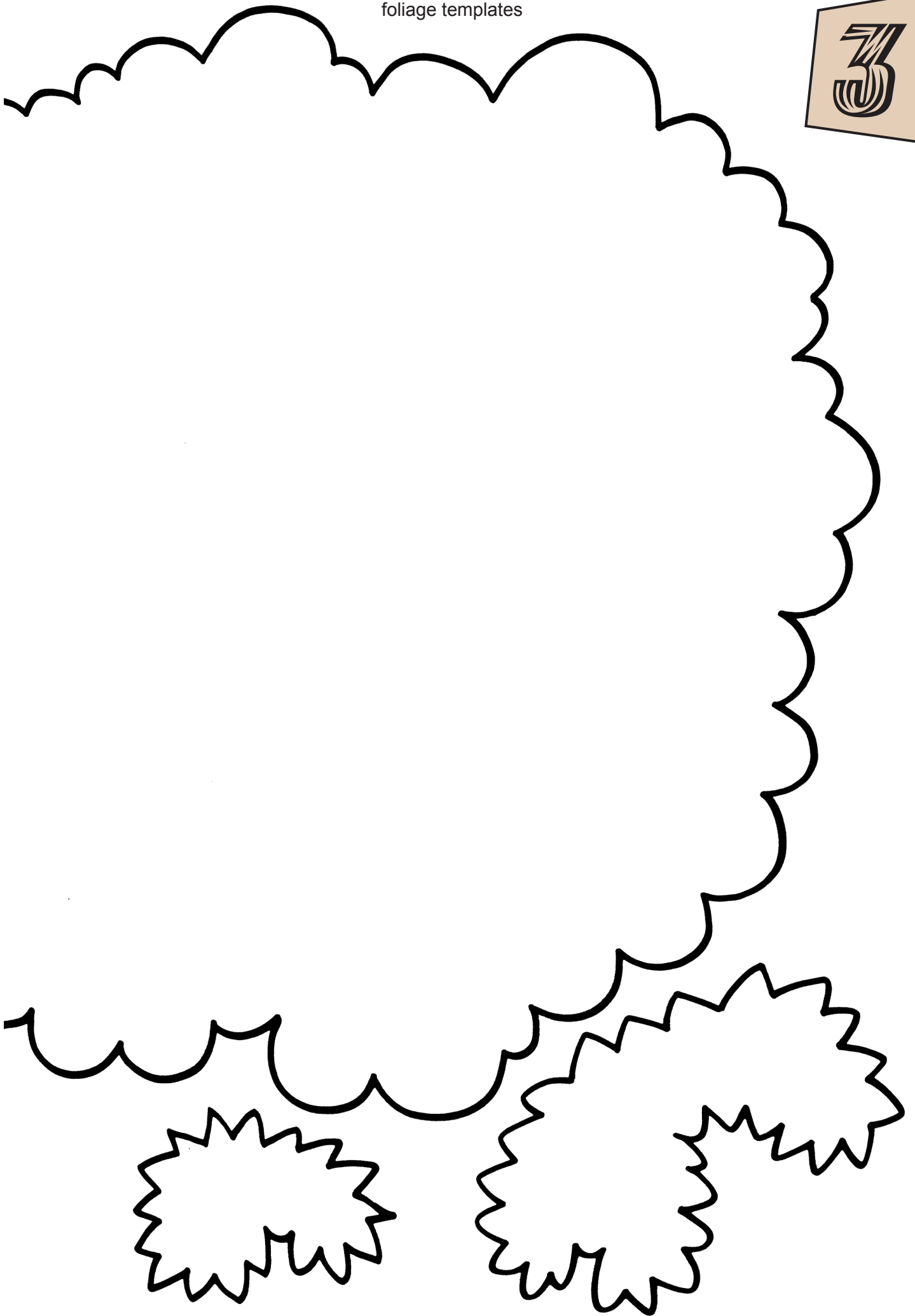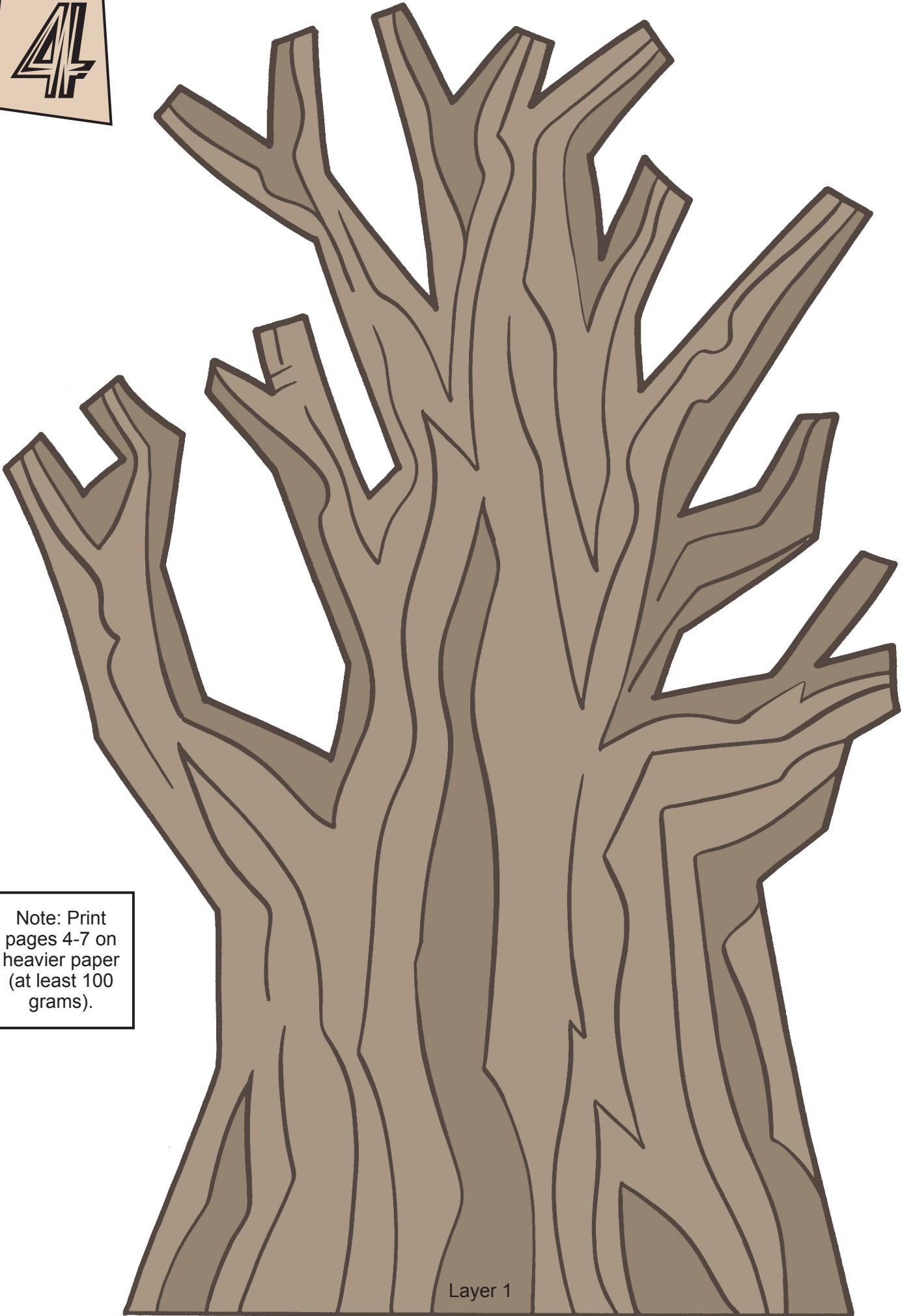# Build Your Own
3D Heavenly
Paper Tree House

2

Note: Print pages 2 and 3 on regular white paper. Cut out the templates to place as patterns on top of green paper for creating the background foliage.
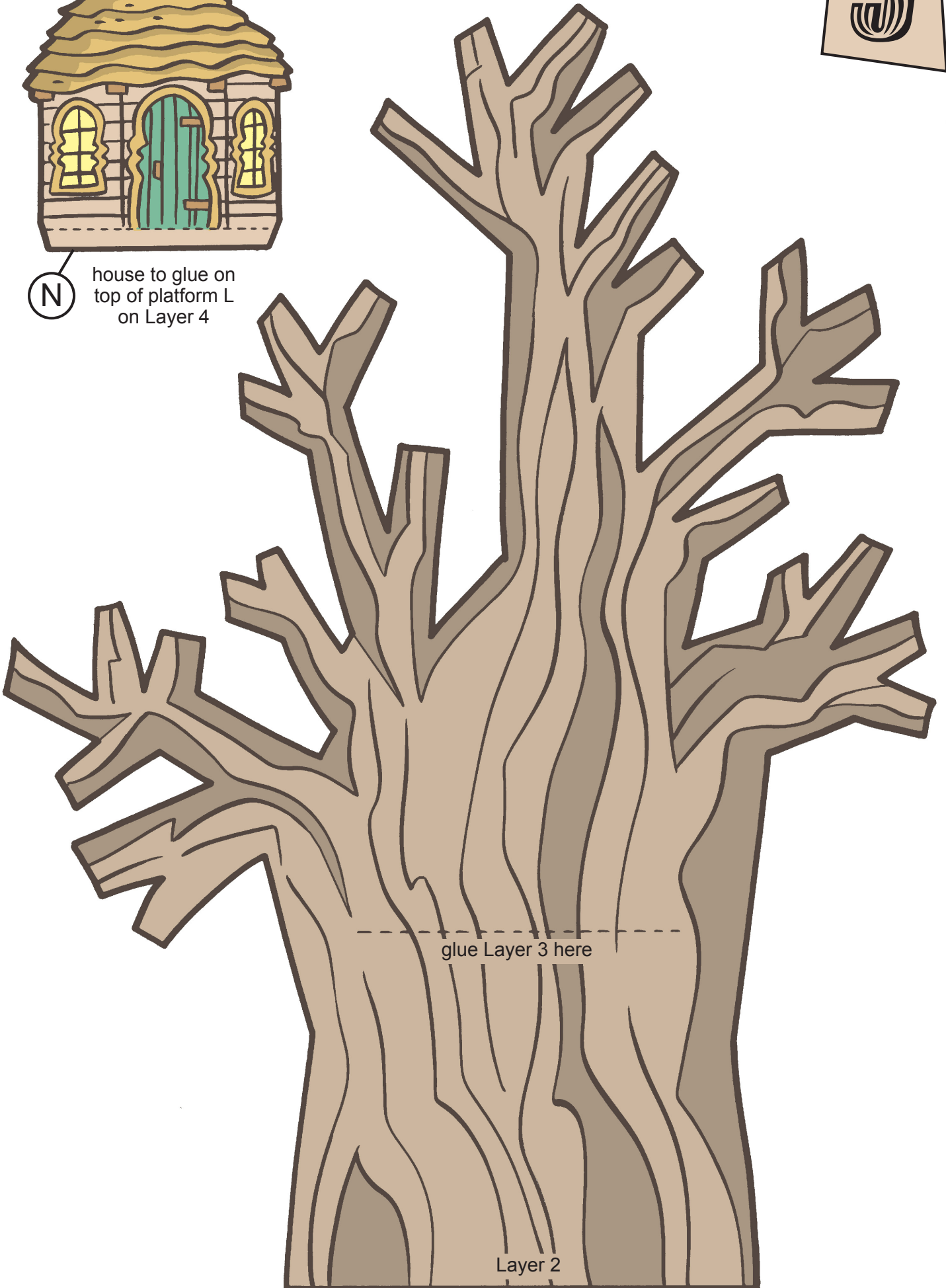
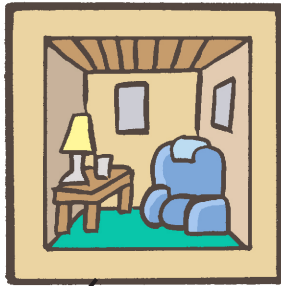foliage templates

3

4

Layer 1

house to glue on
top of platform L
on Layer 4

N

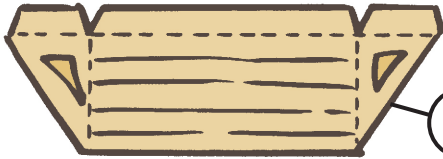glue Layer 3 here

Layer 2

5

living room scene to glue behind the door on Layers 3 and 4

F

A

porch to glue under the door on Layer 3

B

porch to glue under the door on Layer 4

G

swing

Q
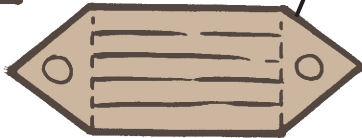
branch for swing

P

platform C here

Cut out the door along the three solid lines. Fold outward along the dotted line.

Layer 3

platform L here

Layer 4

platform J here

Cut out the door along the three solid lines. Fold outward along the dotted line.

H

I

6

J

7

house to
glue on top
of platform B
on Layer 3

E

L

K

M

O
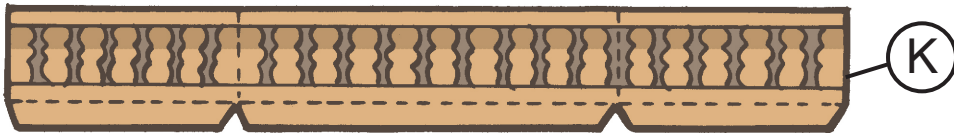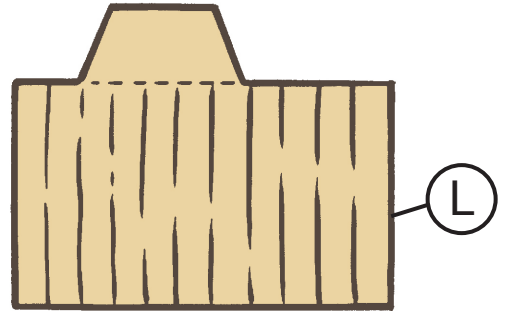
platform for Layer 3

C

rail for
platform C

D
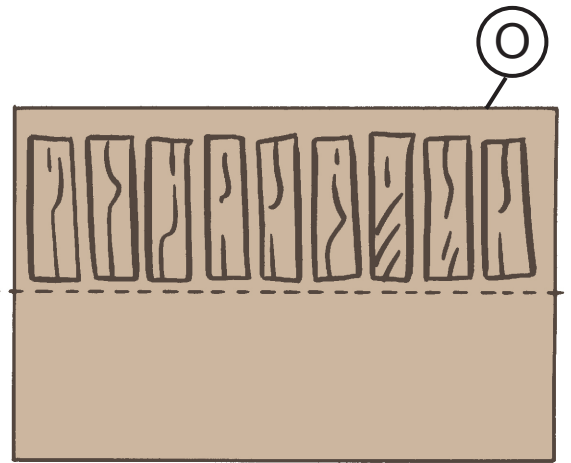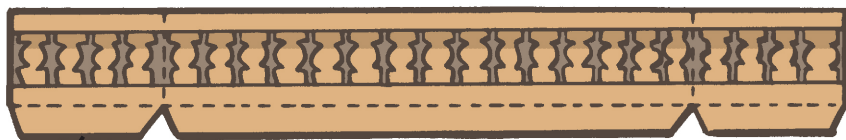
foliage
templates

Build Your Own
3D Heavenly Paper Tree House
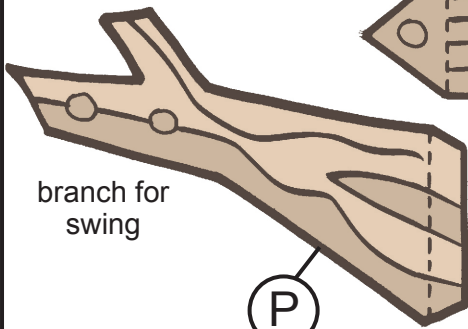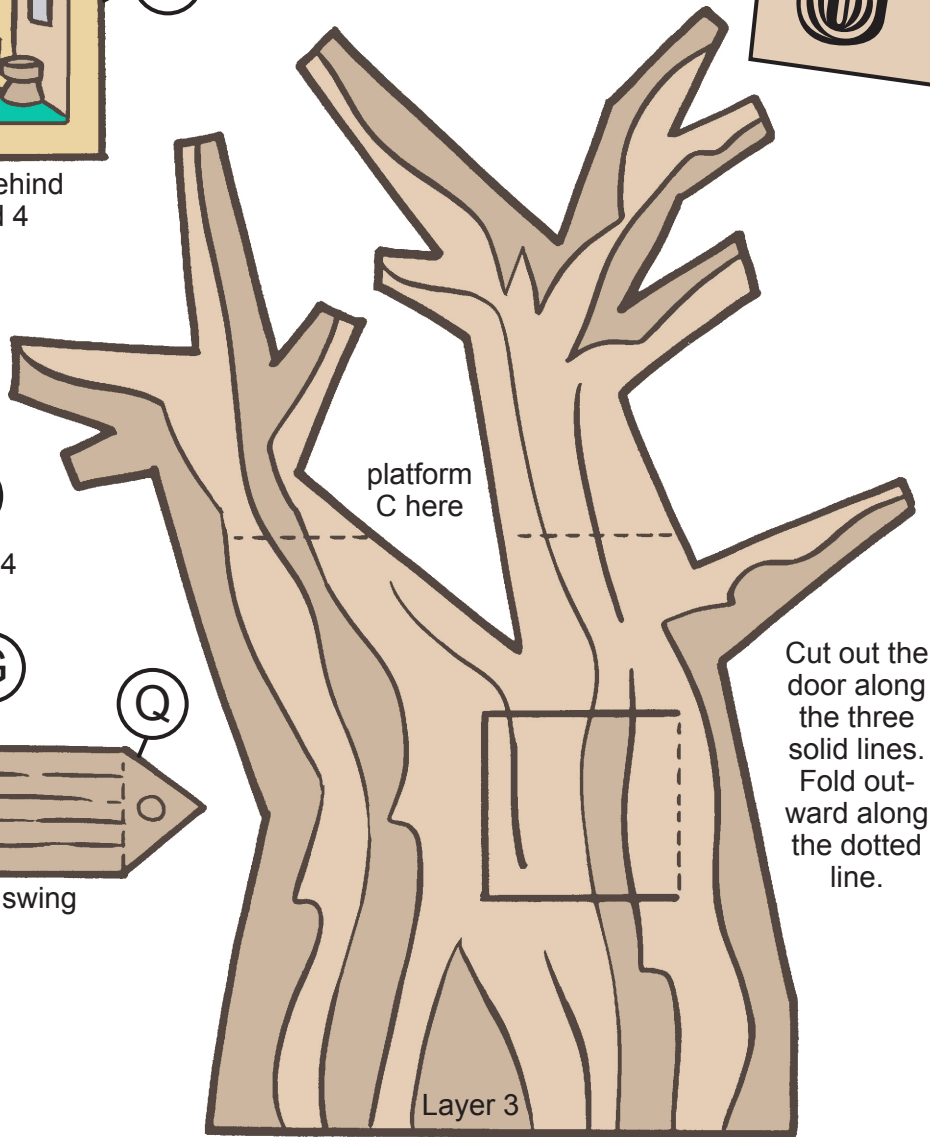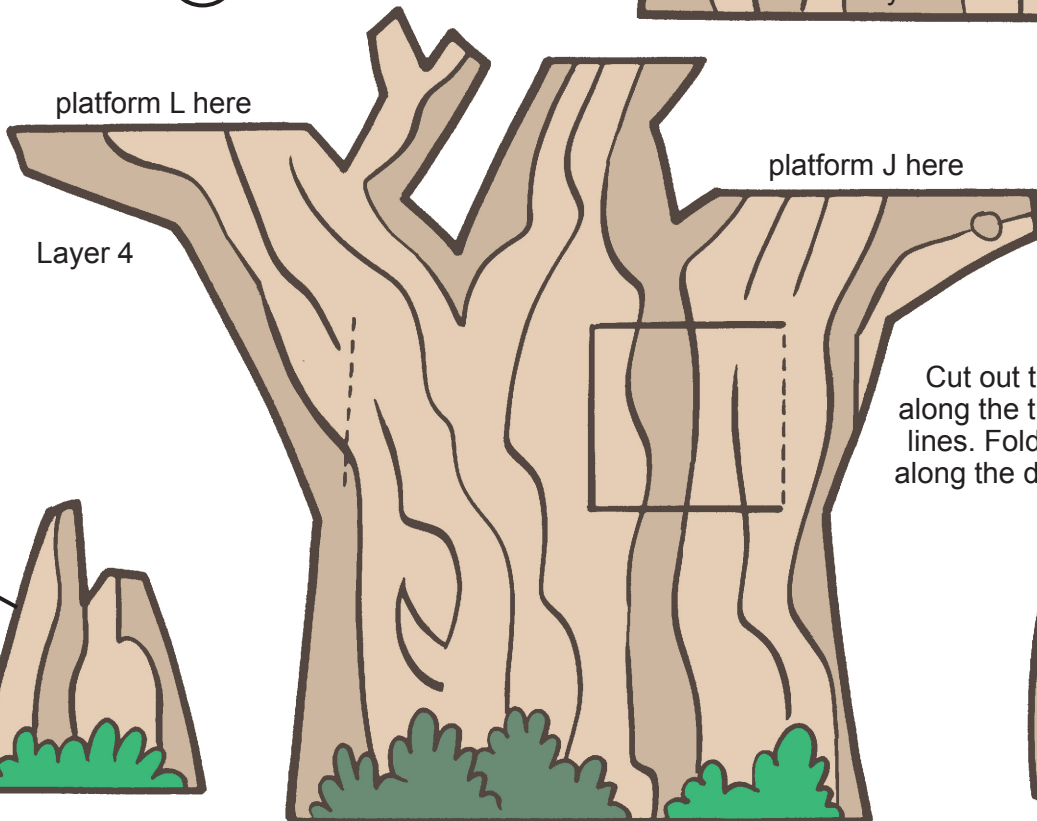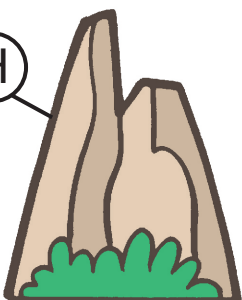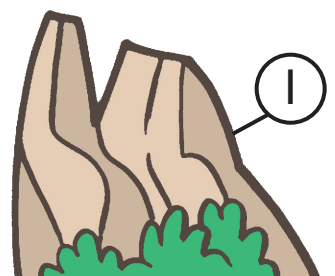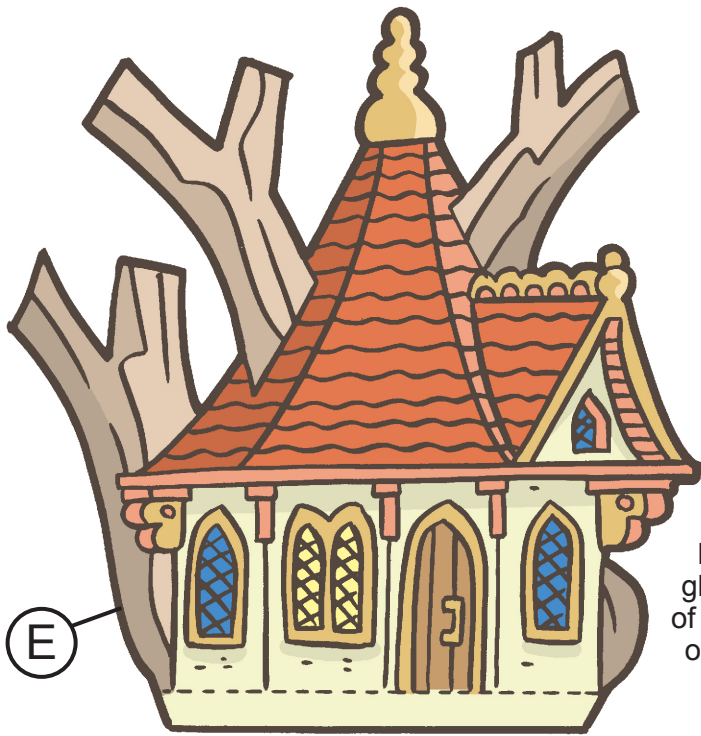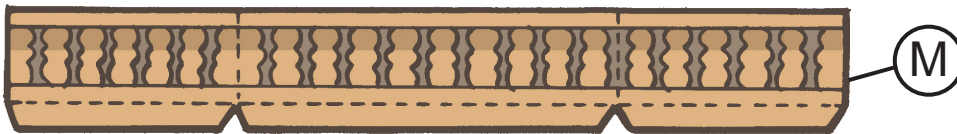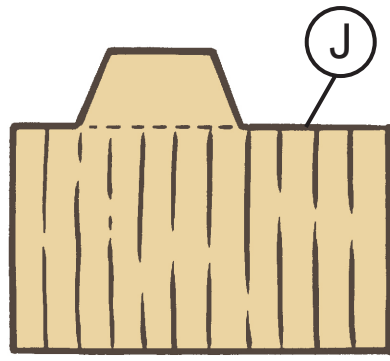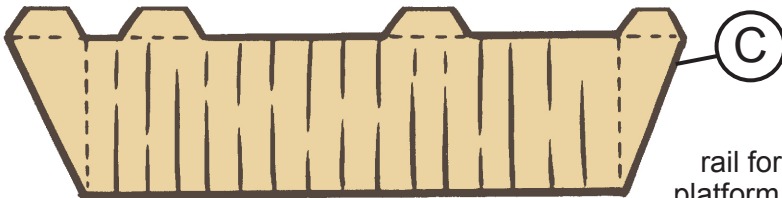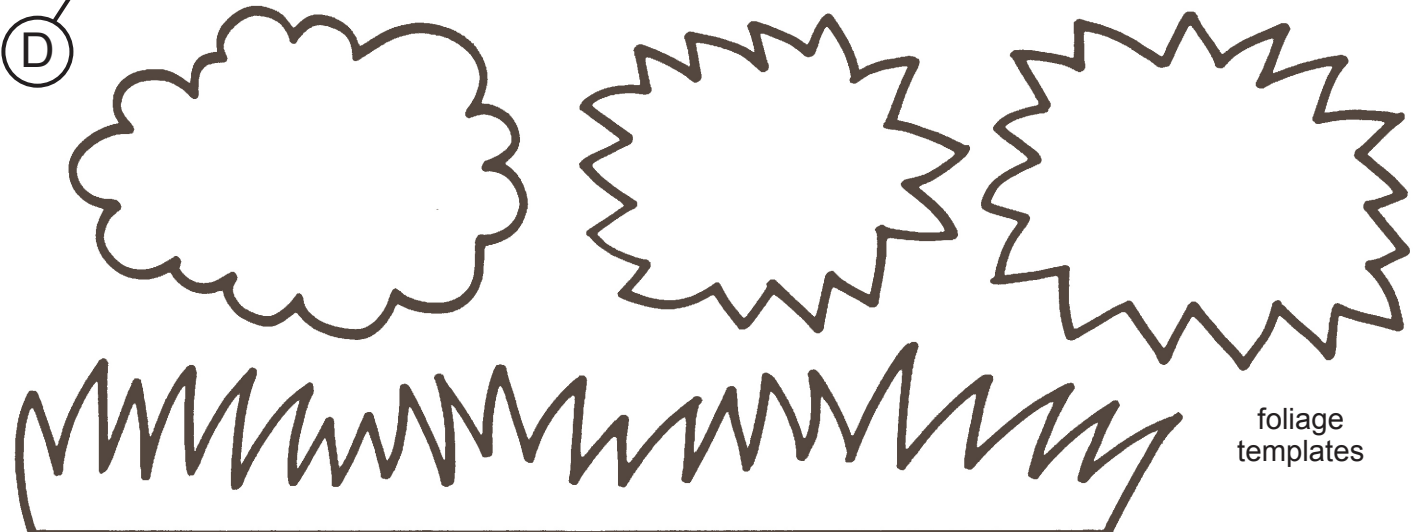## Instructions

Hi, children. This is Didier. I hope you enjoy this simple craft project I put together for you.

You will need:

- scissors
- cutter or X-Acto knife or scissors (these should only be used by older children with supervision)
- white glue
- scoring tool (an old pen without ink or another dull pointed object) to score over the folding line to make straight folds
- long tweezers to hold pieces in place while gluing or for placing pieces in difficult spots
- small pieces of Styrofoam or other light materials such as lightweight wood, cork, or pieces of foam rubber—both 1 cm and .5 cm thick (to be glued between the various layers to form the relief)
- string
- a large piece of cardboard to glue the model to (approximately 30 cms X 37 cms)
- colored paper, different tones of green for the tree leaves and grass, as well as other colors such as yellow, orange, red, etc. for adding details and decorations
- glitter to add at the end to give a little Heavenly touch

It's not complicated to put together, but it does take patience. Use your imagination and personal preferences for assembling the tree house.

Step by step instructions:

1. Trace the outline of the templates for foliage onto green paper. Cut out the large green background foliage and the first layer: trunk and branches. Next glue the background foliage onto a large piece of cardboard, leaving adequate space at the bottom for the tree trunk (test it before gluing the back foliage into place). You may wish to first paint the cardboard sky blue, or cover it with sky-blue paper.
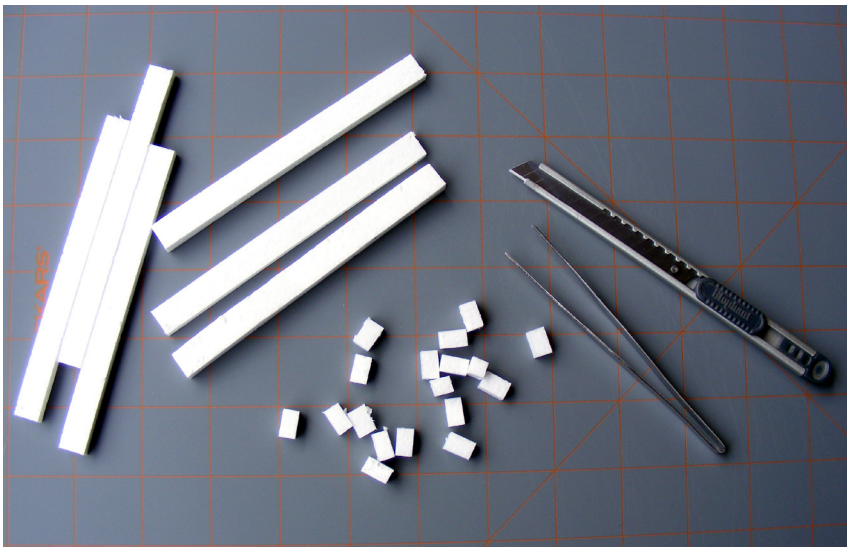
2. Cut out Layer 1. Glue several small pieces of 1-cm-thick Styrofoam to the back of Layer 1 in various places (see the photo for an example of this). Next glue Layer 1 onto the foliage background to form the first layer.
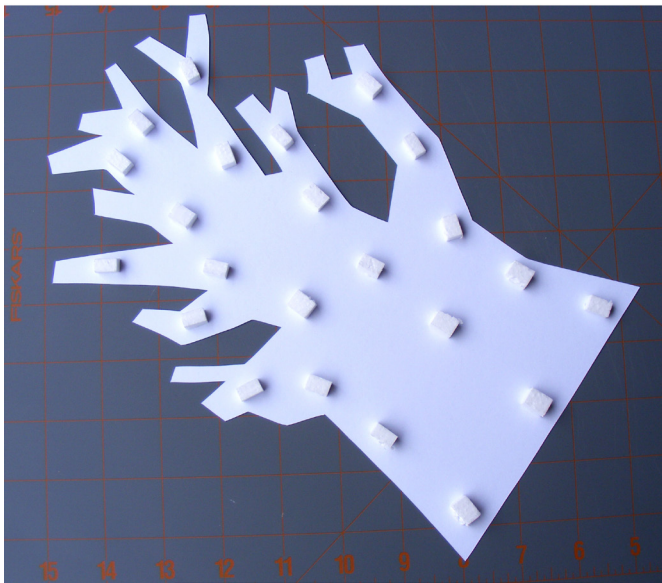
3. Cut out Layer 2 and follow the same steps as for Layer 1, and then glue Layer 2 on top of Layer 1.

There is still a bit more work to do, but don't rush, take your time. Trying out the pieces before gluing them into place will help the finished product to come out well. And don't worry about adding foliage to your branches at this point. You can do that later.
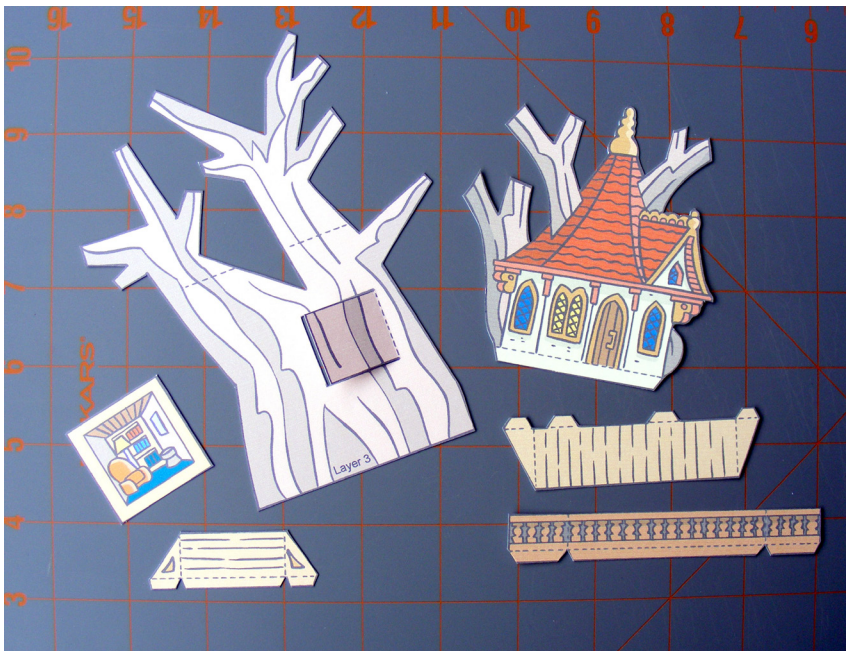
Before gluing the different pieces on, always try to place them first. You might need to adjust them a little before final gluing. (And if you make a mistake, it is no problem, just remove the piece and try again.)

4. Cut out Layer 3, and cut out the small door in the tree trunk, folding it outward along the dotted line. Next cut out piece A (a living room scene) and glue this behind the door on Layer 3 so it shows when one opens the door.

5. Cut out piece B (a platform). Fold and glue the tabs under the door on Layer 3.

6. Cut out piece C (a platform). Fold and glue the platform on the 2 branches of the tree (see the dotted lines on Layer 3). Next cut out piece D (the railing). Fold and glue this onto the outside of the platform (piece C).

7. Cut out piece E (the house with branches coming out of the roof). Fold and glue on the platform. Glue a small piece of Styrofoam on the back of the house to attach to the branch of the tree (to the house)

Once the above steps are finished, glue thin pieces of Styrofoam (approximately .5 cm thick) onto the back of the tree (Layer 3) and glue these over the part of the tree, Layer 2, aligning Layer 3 in the middle of the tree trunk (Layer 2) along the dotted line on Layer 2.
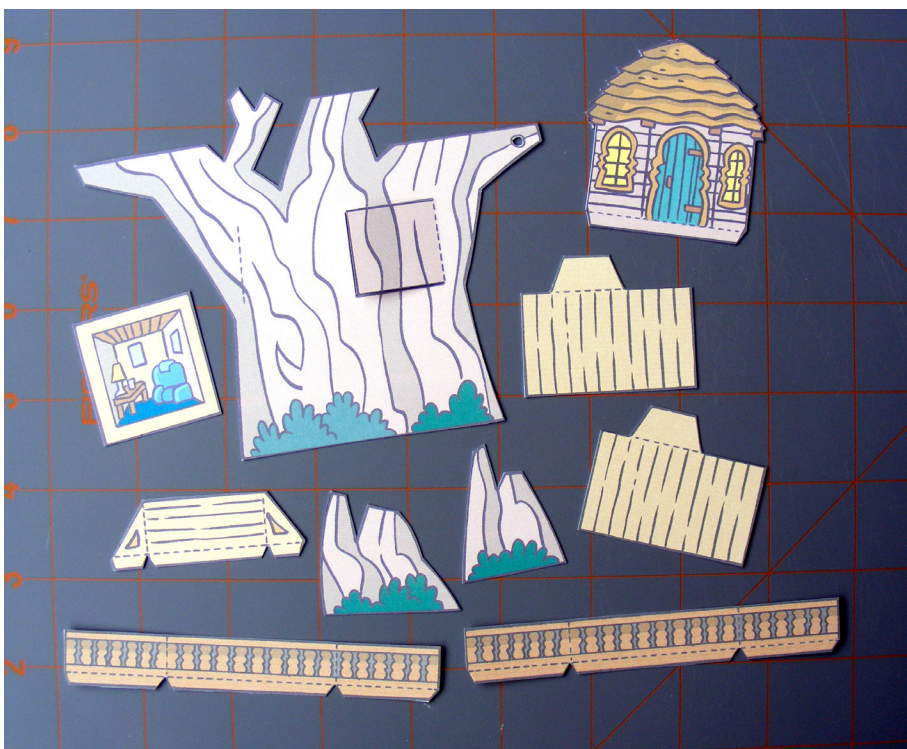
Now you are ready for Layer 4.
8. Cut out Layer 4. Cut and fold the door the same as for the one on Layer 3. Next cut out and glue to the back of the door piece F (a second living room scene).

Glue piece G (a platform) under the door. Cut a small hole where signified on the right branch. (This is for attaching a string later.)

Next, glue Layer 4 on top of the other layers using pieces of Styrofoam on the back (these pieces should be approximately 1 cm thick).

9. Cut out pieces H and I (the final two pieces of the tree trunk), glue thin pieces of Styrofoam to the back of each piece (less than .5 cm thick), and glue these onto the base of the tree.

10. Cut out piece J (a platform) and glue it on the top of the right side of Layer 4. The tab will be glued onto Layer 3, so that the platform will rest and be glued on top of the branch of the right side of Layer 4. Cut out piece K (a small railing) and glue this onto the platform.

11. Cut out piece L (a platform) and glue this at the top left of the tree. The tab will be glued onto Layer 2, while the platform will rest and be glued on top of the branch of Layer 4. Cut out piece M (a small railing) and glue onto the platform.


This might sound a little complicated, but it is fairly easy to do. Just test and try out each piece before gluing the piece down, and make any adjustments needed.

12. Now cut out piece N (the smaller house) and glue this onto the platform on the left of Layer 4. Before gluing it to the platform, add a piece of Styrofoam to the back to secure it to the branch behind it on Layer 2.
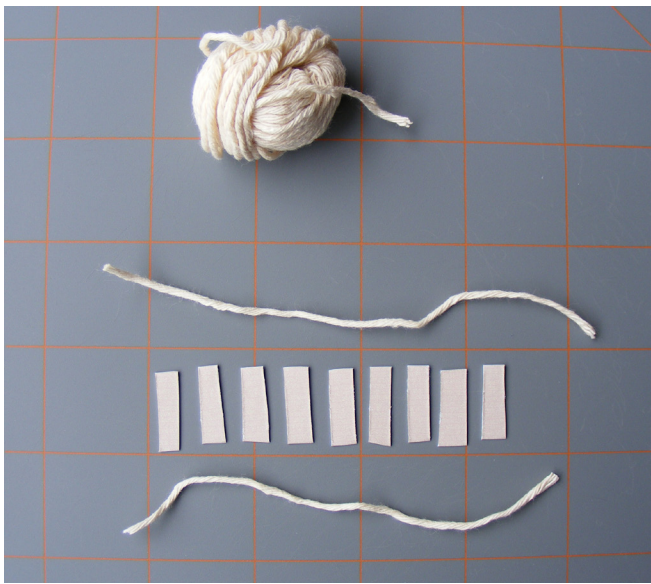
Now you'll assemble the wooden bridge.
13. Cut out the plank pieces (marked O) and set them upside down in a line on your working area with a few millimeters of space between them. Put a small drop of glue on both ends of each plank, and place a string over the glue to attach the planks together. Once the glue has dried, glue this wooden bridge between the two platforms (J and L).
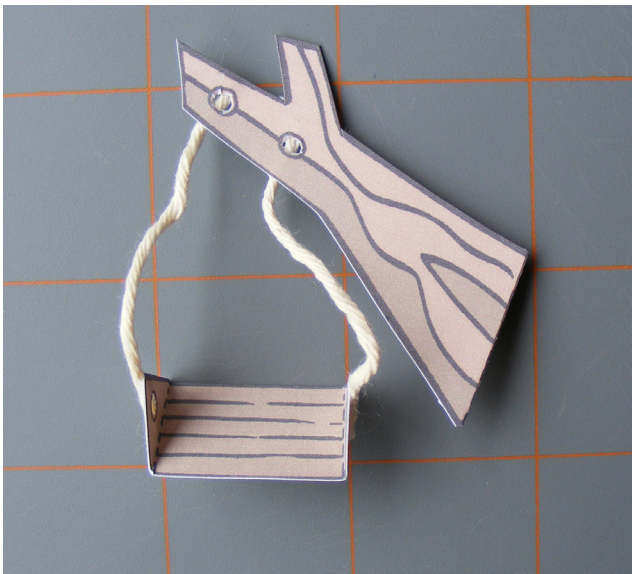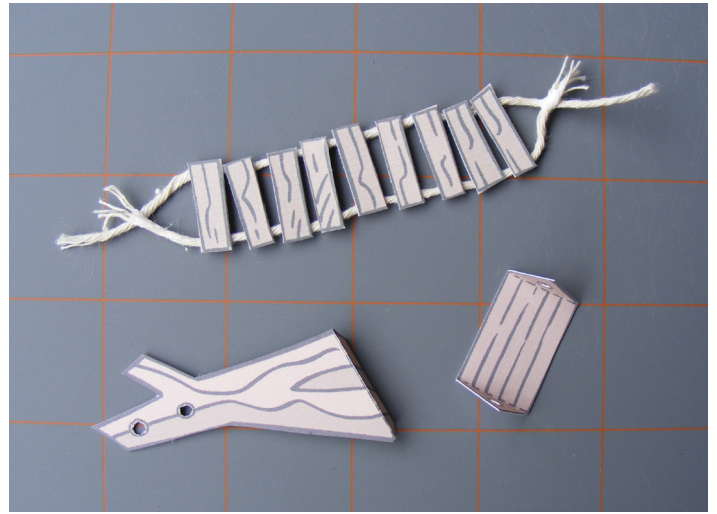
You are almost done.
14. Cut out piece P (a small branch). Cut two small holes at the end of the branch. Fold the tab and glue the branch onto the left of trunk of Layer 4 along the little dotted line.
15. Cut out piece Q (a swing). Cut a hole in each end and fold up the two ends along the dotted line to form your swing.
16. Now simply attach the swing to the branch by knotting two pieces of string to the holes in the swing and the branch.
17. Tie a string to the hole on the right of the trunk (this is a rope for people to climb up).

The difficult parts are done! Next you add the foliage to your tree. You can use the template for shapes of foliage to cut out from green paper, or create your own. You can even cut out small individual leaves (if you have the patience). You can use different tones of green, and add in some yellow, or other tone according to your preferred season. Remember to put the darker tones towards the back, and the lighter tones more up front. Simply glue the foliage behind the different branches. That's the part when you are on your own.

When your 3D tree-house picture is done, you may add other details, such as flowers, grass, even people if you like. You can look at the photos for ideas, but also, use your imagination and to be creative. You can even add a little bit of glitter to different parts of the tree to add a heavenly look.

And that's about it. You did it!

Have fun!