Pearl at Home

This art project is designed for family fun, for suggested ages of 14 and up to be completed at home with easily-accessible art materials.

FABRIC QUILT STAR

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MATERIALS

- 4 strips of fabric, cut to approximately 3” wide x 12” long
- Scissors
- Optional:
  Needle and thread or fishing wire (to make your star an ornament)

DIRECTIONS

1. Lay all 4 pieces of fabric on a table with the “right” side facing down. The lighter side of the fabric should be facing up.

   Start with one piece of fabric – Fold the top and bottom edges in so they meet in the center, as shown below:

2. Then fold the fabric in half, bringing the top and bottom folded edges together:
3 Fold the piece sideways, leaving about 1.5 inches on one end.

Place a heavy object – like a cell phone or stapler – on top of the folded piece and set it aside.

4 Repeat steps 1-3 with the other three pieces of fabric.

When you finish a strip, place it under your phone while you finish working on the other strips.

5 Arrange your four pieces in a cross pattern, with the creases towards the center and the shorter sides facing up.
6 Open your bottom piece (gray in this example) and wrap it around the left one. The entire left piece should be inside the loop of the bottom piece.

Open the right side piece and wrap it around the entire bottom piece.

Open the top piece (the white fabric in our example) and wrap it around the entire right side piece. THEN – pull the ends of the entire top strip through the loop of the left piece.

Gently pull the edges of the four strips outwards to tighten the center.
7 Flip the project over. Begin pulling the longer fabric strips across the middle squares. Start with the top strip, then go counter-clockwise:

Photos A-B: Grab the longer piece of the top strip (gray in our example), and fold it down. The shorter part of the strip remains in place.

C: Fold the longer piece of the left strip over to the right.
D: Then fold the longer piece of the bottom strip up.

E: Fold the longer piece of the right strip over to the left, and pull it through the pocket made by the top (gray) strip.
F: Gently pull the edges of the strips outwards to tighten the center.
The last step is to make the points of the star. Make your first point using the **top right** strip:

Fold the top right strip **behind** itself, forming a 45 degree triangle and making the strip parallel to the one below it.

Fold the remaining strip down and to the front.

Make a fold in the center of the triangle, bringing the right half over to sit on top of the left half.

Tuck the remaining fabric into the pocket beneath it. If the “tail” is too long and will stick out of the pocket, trim the fabric before tucking it in. You can use the pointed end of the scissors to help push the fabric into the pocket.
9 Repeat step 8 to make the remaining seven points of your star:

Rotate your project, and again work on the top right strip to make a star point. Complete four points on this side of the project (as seen below), then flip it over.

After you flip it over, use the same steps to fold the remaining four points of your star. Remember to always work on the top right strip. Your star will then be done!

Optional:
To make your star into an ornament, use a heavy duty needle to carefully puncture the fabric and thread string or wire through.