

# Colorful Curtain

Decorate or create colorful windows in the classroom!

## Materials:



Two large pieces of Smart-Fab to be used for the two pleated hanging parts of the curtain. (We are using apple green Smart-Fab.) They should be large enough to fit measurements described below • Another large piece of Smart-Fab in another color for the valance (top decorative part of the curtain) and two strips to create the swags on the sides of the curtain. (We are using dark blue Smart-Fab.) They should also be large enough to fit measurements described below. • Measuring tape • Scissors • Stapler • Double-sided adhesive tape • Needle and thread (optional) • Pencil or marker • **Half circle pattern** (Click to print the pattern) • **Butterfly** • **Decorative flower** (Click for a Decorative Flower and Butterfly Lesson Plans)

## Preparation:

1. Measure your window or the space where you want to decorate with a curtain.
2. Use this measurement for the two pleated hanging parts of the curtain. Each piece should measure the entire width of the space and the length. We are using two pieces of apple green Smart-Fab four feet wide by three feet- eleven inches long. (You may have a different measurement. Be sure that the width of your strip can be divided by two inches evenly.), Cut your pieces to size.
3. Take the second Smart-Fab color you have chosen. You will need to measure and cut one strip for the valance of your curtain. We are using a strip of dark blue Smart-Fab five feet wide by fourteen inches long (You may have a different measurement. Be sure that the width of your strip can be divided by ten inches evenly.) You will need two additional strips in this color to use to tie back swags on the sides of the curtain. Cut two strips three feet, nine inches, by five inches.
4. Print out Half circle pattern.
5. Print out Butterfly and/or Decorative Flower Lessons and prepare them.



## Procedure:

Take the two pieces of Smart-Fab that you will use to make the pleated hanging part of your curtain. Using a pencil or marker, measure along the top part of the width of both pieces of Smart-Fab making a mark at every two inches.

At every other two inch marking, create a pleat that is also two inches deep (this will be the two inch mark in between) and staple. Complete this procedure on both pieces of Smart-Fab.

To flatten the top part of the pleats, cut a small piece of double- sided adhesive tape to fit down one side of your currently raised pleat. You will be folding all the pleats down in one direction. Cut all the small pieces of tape to fit down one side of each pleat on both pieces of the hanging part of your curtain.



When all pieces of double-sided adhesive tape have been fitted onto one side of each pleat, remove the covering of the double-sided tape. Fold and flatten the first pleat down toward the pleat next to it.



Each pleat needs to be folded and flattened down right up against the next pleat so that there is no space in between. It should be that as you fold and flatten, you will notice that you are meeting the two inch marks in between your pleats.



Continue to fold and flatten the pleats all the way across both pieces of Smart-Fab, creating the two hanging parts of your curtain. Smooth the pleats all the way down the length of the two hanging parts of the curtain.

**This procedure can also be accomplished by pinning each pleat down and sewing across the top of your two pieces of Smart-Fab.**



To create the valance of the curtain, take the five feet wide by fourteen inch long strip of the other color of Smart-Fab, and, using a marker or pencil and a tape measure, make a mark along the width at ten inch intervals.



Fold the strip accordion style at each ten inch mark until you have a rectangle ten inches by fourteen inches.



To round one end of the rectangle use the half circle pattern. Take the half circle pattern and trace with the rounded edge touching one end of the ten inch part of the rectangle. Only trace the rounded edge of the circle connecting it to the sides of your Smart-Fab.



Cut along the rounded edge of the tracing you made and meet at the edge of the fabric. Only cut the top rounded part. Do not cut down the sides because you will cut up the strips.



To make small pleats at the top of your valance, measure and mark two inch intervals all the way across the length of the straight side of your Smart-Fab. Then, cut enough one half inch strips of double-sided adhesive tape to fit on all the marks you have made.



Place the double-sided adhesive tape strips on top of the mark you made so that half of the adhesive strip is on one side of the mark and half on the other.



Remove the coverings of the double-sided adhesive tape strips. This is now the underside of the valance.



Turn curtain over and pinch a pleat together where you have each piece of tape. Smooth each pleat down as you create it.

**As mentioned above these pleats for the valance can also be pinned and sewn into place.**



Use double-sided adhesive tape to attach your valance across the top of the hanging parts of your curtain.

Thumb-tacks or double-sided adhesive tape can be used to hang the curtain. When the curtain is in place, use the two additional strips of Smart-Fab, three feet, nine inches, by five inches to tie back the swags in your curtain. Pull the pleats straight on the hanging pieces of your curtain and decorate with Smart-Fab Butterflies and/or Decorative Flowers.

