

## Children's Activity:

# Papel Picado

Brightly colored tissue paper banners of elegantly chiseled designs conjure up celebration in the Mexican culture. The folk art of papel picado are common decorations especially during holidays. Papel picado ("perforated paper") origins trace back to the Aztecs who made paper banners and flags out of mulberry and fig tree bark. Today's craftsmen use chisels, awls, and blades to cut through as many as 50 sheets of tissue paper at once to create the flower, bird, skeleton, cross, and other intricate designs.



Add some festivity to your Super Kitchen Supper by creating your very own papel cortado ("cut paper"). Follow these simple steps!

### *materials:*

- brightly colored tissue paper cut into 8x10 squares
- scissors
- string
- scotch tape

### *instructions:*

- fold tissue paper (for younger children, too many folds will be difficult)
- cut shapes from the paper like cutting out a snowflake
- unfold
- trim the edges to be scalloped, zig-zag, or fringed
- fold the top 1/4 inch of each papel cortado over a piece of string and tape down
- continue adding sheets to make a long, decorative banner

