

The Gateways Guide to Making File Folder Activities



Suggested Materials:

1. Paper

2. Cardstock

Cardstock is a heavy type of paper available at most office supply stores. It makes the pieces for file folder activities sturdy and durable. Almost all printers can print directly onto cardstock

3. Clear packing tape or contact paper

Laminating file folders and their pieces will help them to last for many years and protect them from students who may enjoy tearing or crumpling materials. Not everybody has access to a laminator, however. Clear packing tape or contact paper are excellent alternatives. Contact paper can cover a file folder in one large piece. However, since contact paper comes on a roll it often curls back on itself and sticks to itself. While it takes several strips of packing tape in order to cover a file folder, there is less potential for a sticky disaster. Packing tape can squeak loudly as you unroll it, but beware of fancy 'quiet' packing tape; velcro often cannot adhere to this tape!

4. Scissors

5. Glue

6. Manila File Folders

7. Velcro



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Created by Rebecca Redner

Velcro can be purchased as adhesive dots or long strips that can be cut into smaller pieces.

If you buy strips of velcro which need to be cut up, choose one pair of scissors to be designated as 'velcro scissors.' Cutting up velcro leaves scissors gummy, scratchy, and in need of a thorough cleaning before you are able to use them on anything else.

8. Sandwich bag



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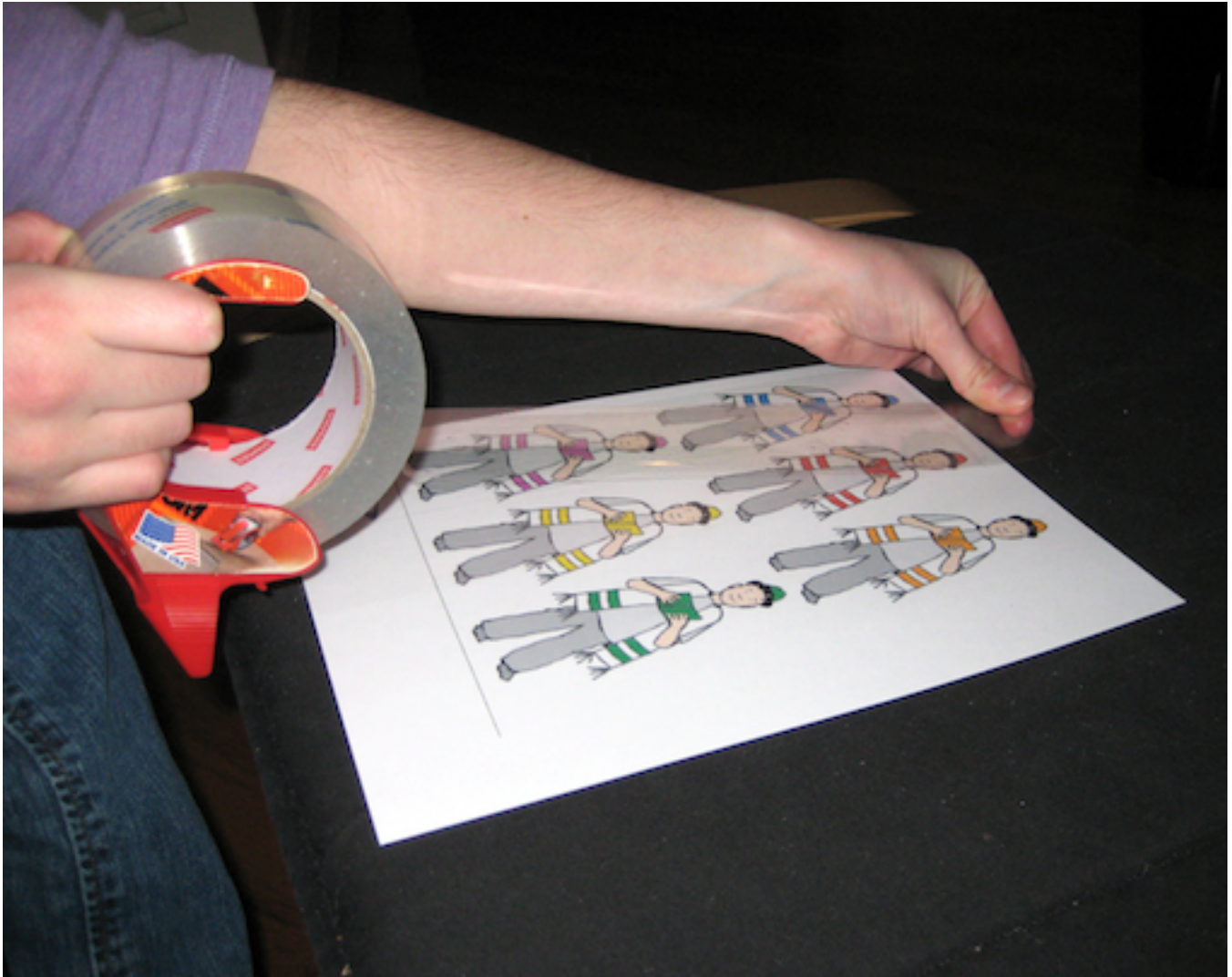
Step 1:

Print out one copy of the file folder activity pieces onto paper, and another copy onto cardstock.



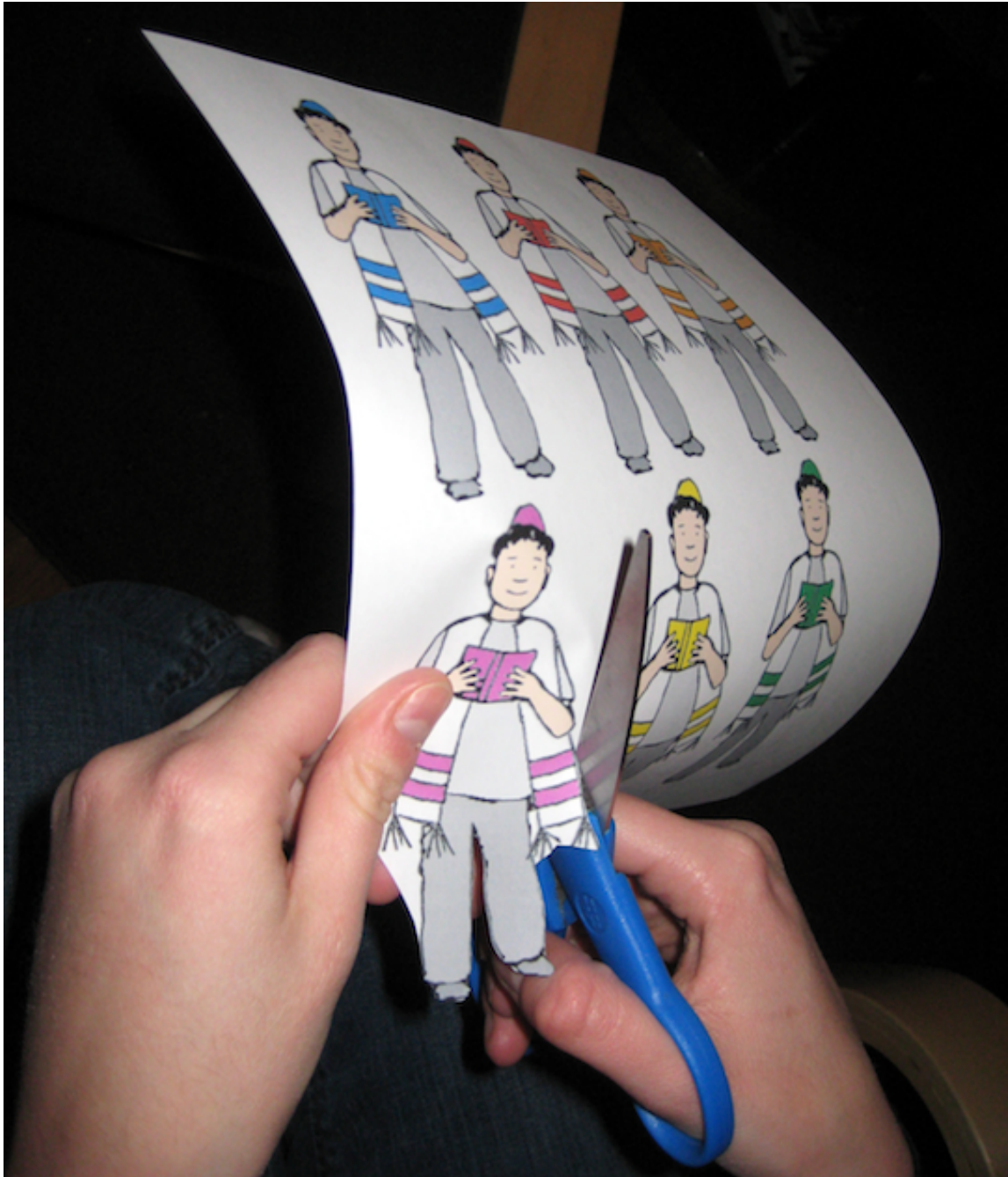
Step 2:

Laminate the cardstock copy of the file folder activity pieces



Step 3:

Cut out the paper copies of the file folder activity pieces



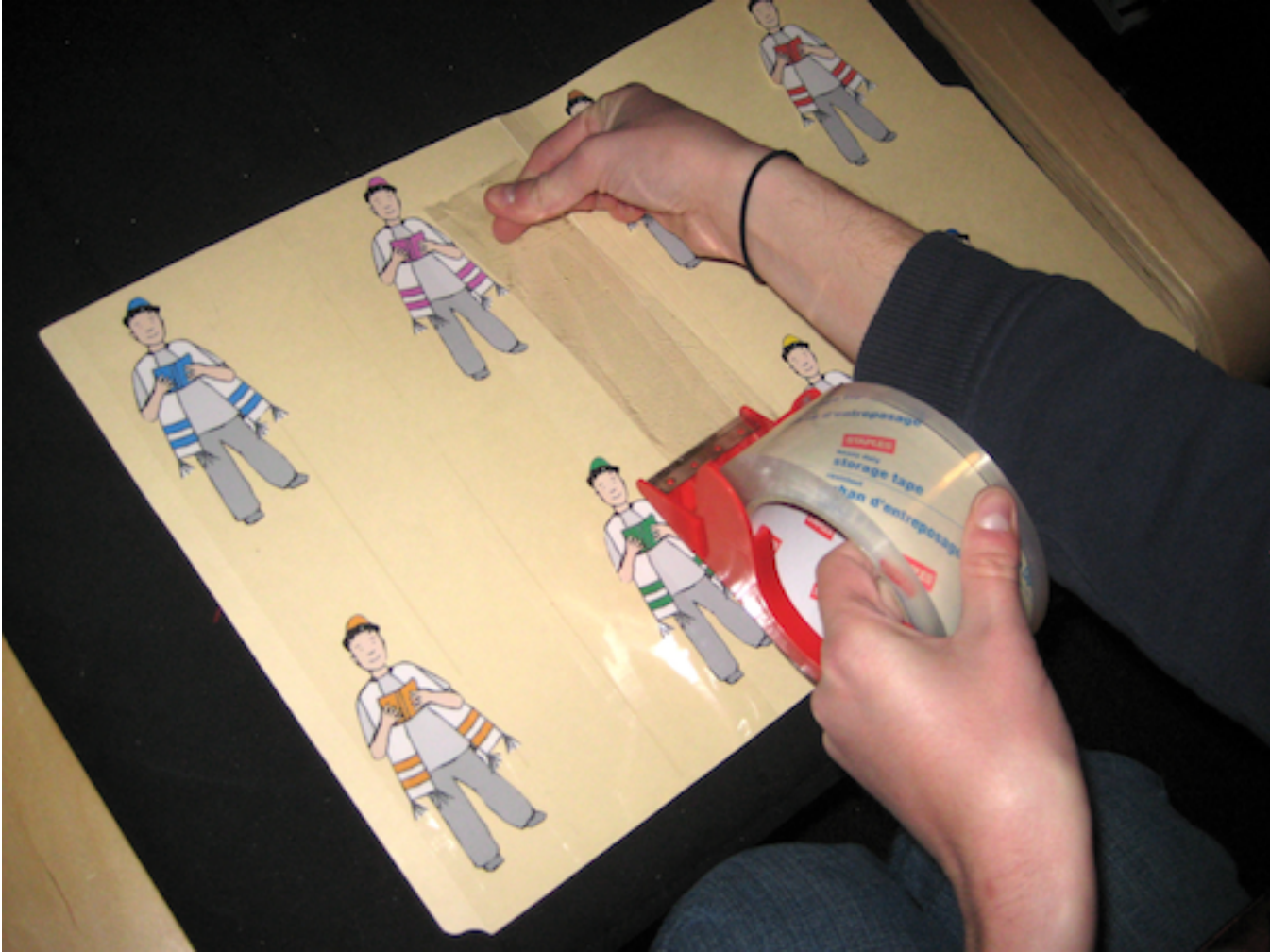
Step 4:

Glue the paper pieces onto the manila file folder



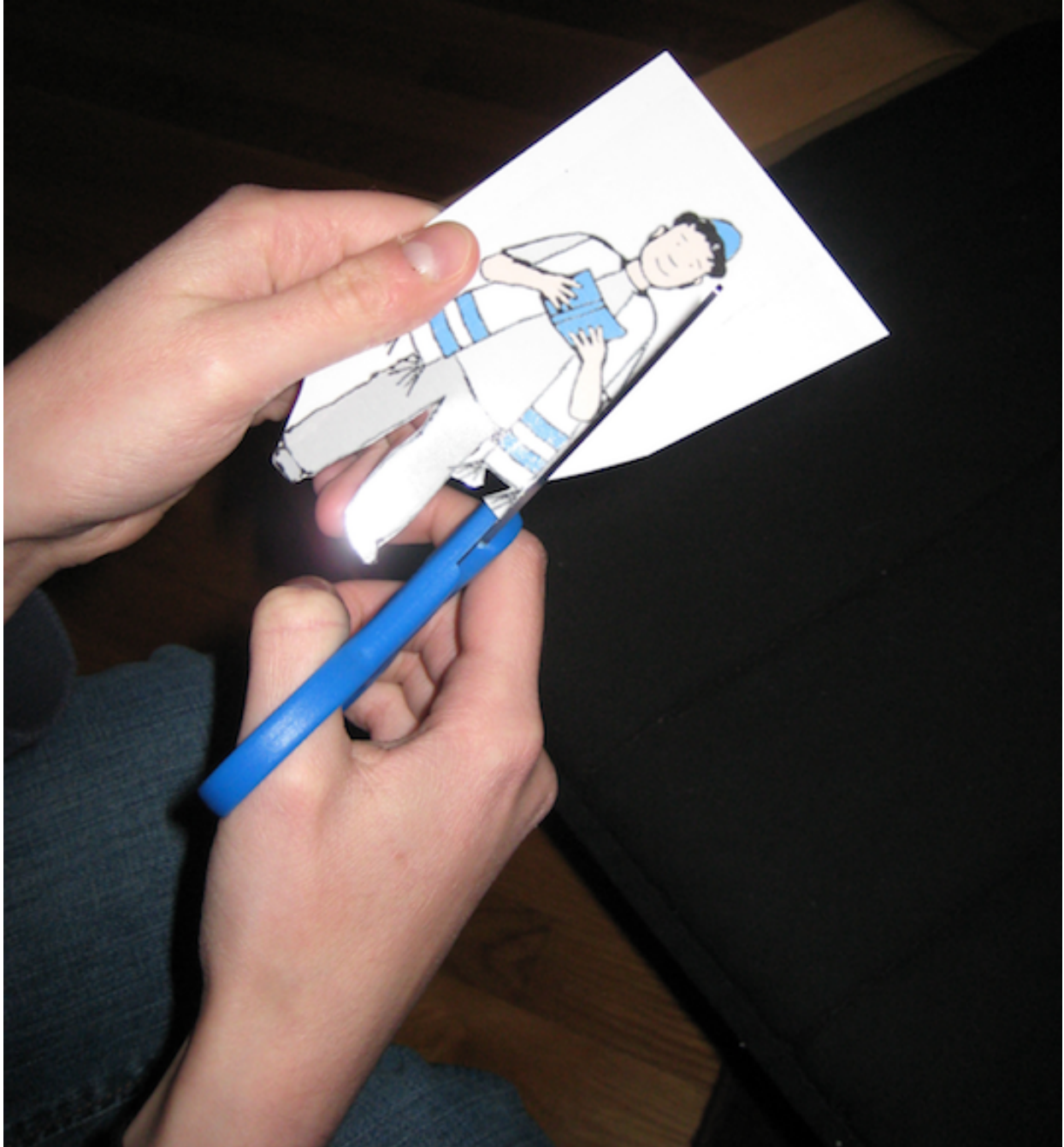
Step 5:

Laminate the file folder



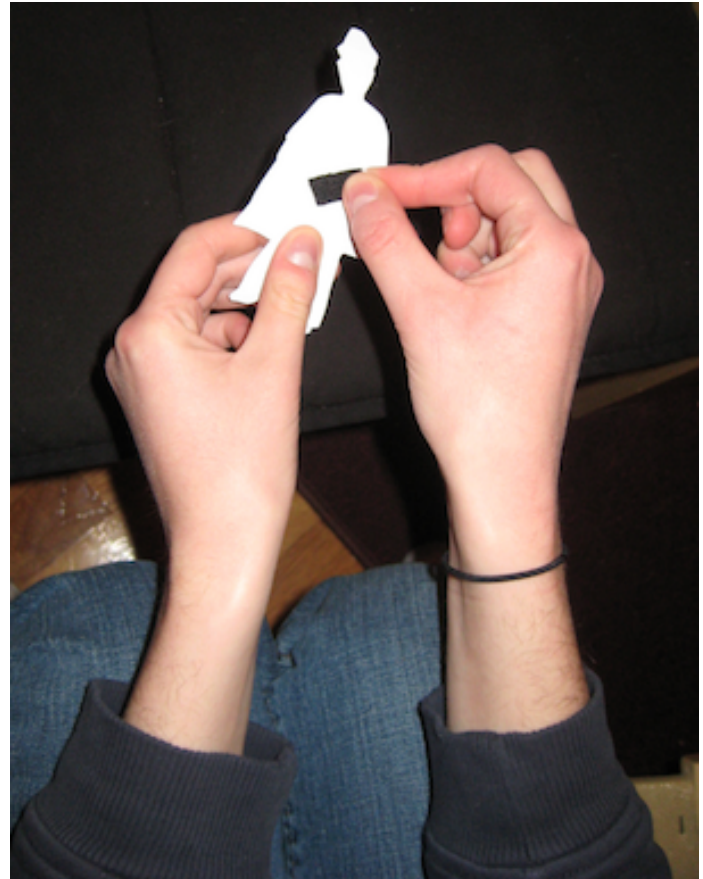
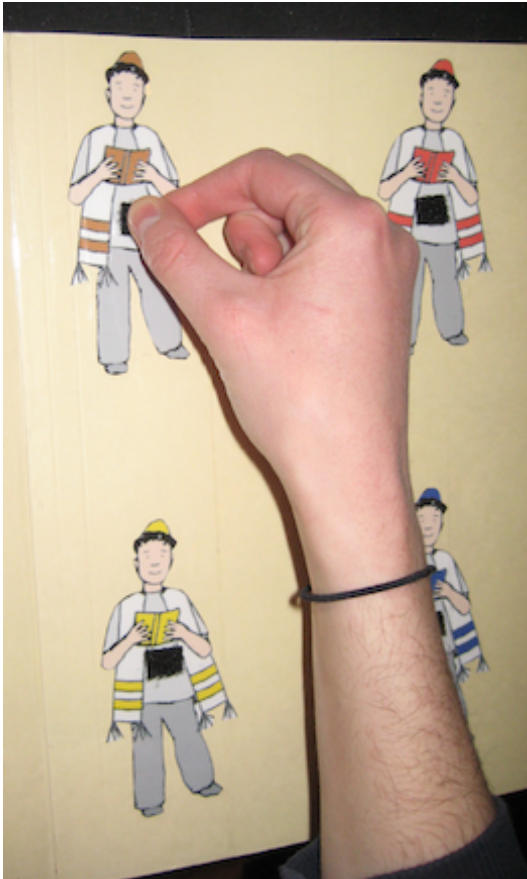
Step 5:

Cut out the cardstock copies of the file folder activity pieces



Step 6:

Apply velcro to the file folder and to the backs of the cardstock puzzle pieces



Step 7:

Tape a sandwich bag on the outside of the file folder to store the pieces



Enjoy your brand new file folder activity!

