

*Papel picado is the name given to the tissue paper flags used to decorate buildings and streets during festive celebrations in Mexico like, weddings, birthdays, or anniversary of a Recreation Center! The literal translation is 'chopped paper' and the most common translation is 'decorated paper'. This delicately decorated tissue paper represents wind and the fragility of life. Artisans have spent their entire lives honing the craft of Papel Picado. It is a highly honored profession. Although you'll most likely use scissors, artisans use chisel and hammer.*

*In early Mexico, the Aztec people would chisel spirit figures onto bark. During the colonization of Mexico, a thin colored paper made of silk was transported through the region called papel de China (China paper). In the 1920's papel picado became very popular. By the 1970's it had become a tradition around central Mexico to decorate Day of the Dead altars, buildings, and streets with papel picado flags. The tradition has extended spread thought Mexico and continues to spread through the world.*

#### **WHAT YOU'LL NEED:**

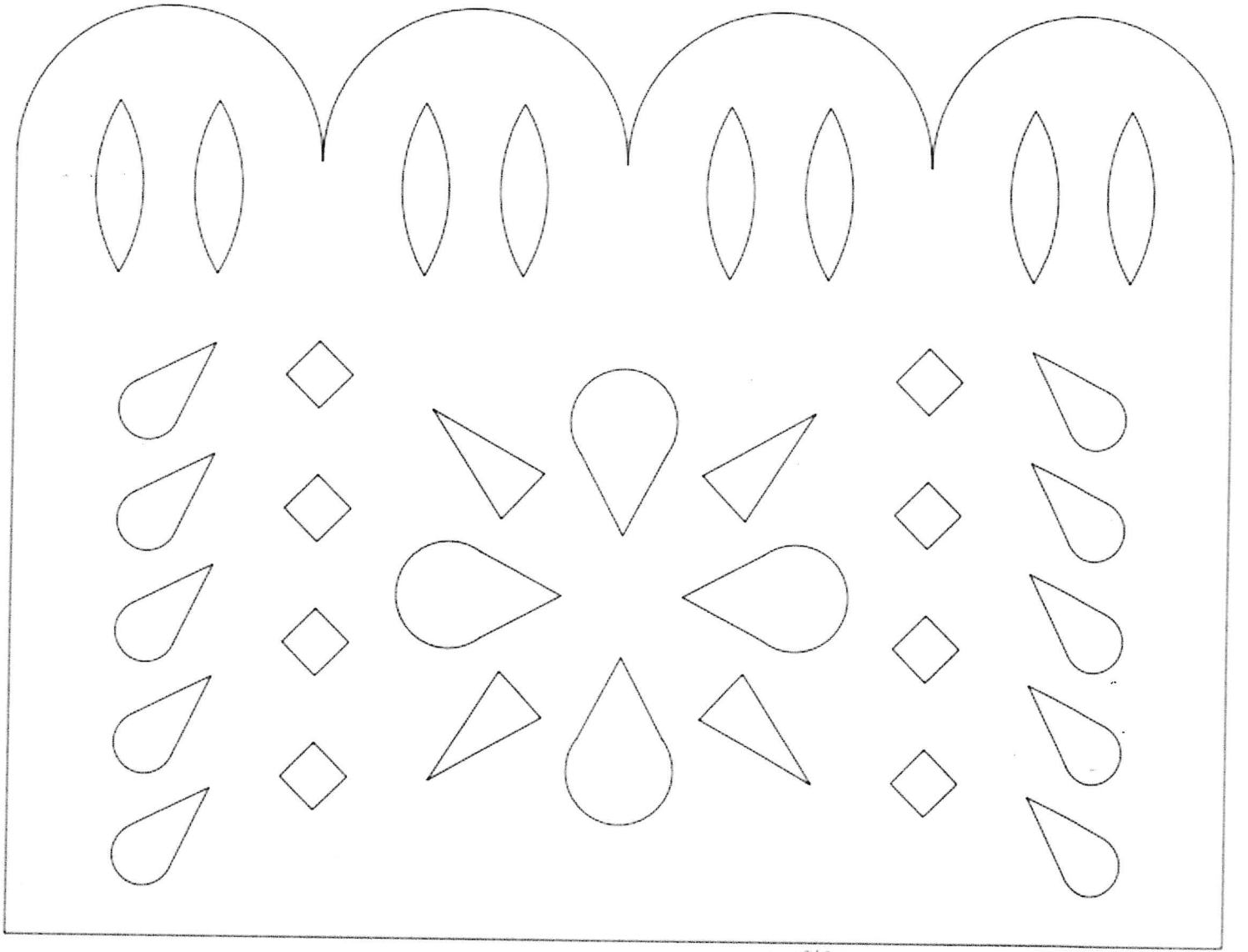
- *Colored tissue paper (provided)*
- *Scissors*
- *Template (optional)*

#### **INSTRUCTIONS:**

- Use the template or create your own design
- Fold 3 or 4 sheets of tissue paper in half.
- Put the sheets in a stack and place the template on top.
- Fold the pile in two and hold the edges with a little piece of tape, to prevent them from moving when you cut.
- Place folded template around folded tissue paper.
- Cut out shapes. Start by the ones on the fold.
- When you are done cutting the inner shapes, trim the banner edges following the template lines.
- Unfold and done, you just made some pretty papel picado sheets!
- Return your art work to the Recreation center. Where we will hang the flags for many to enjoy.

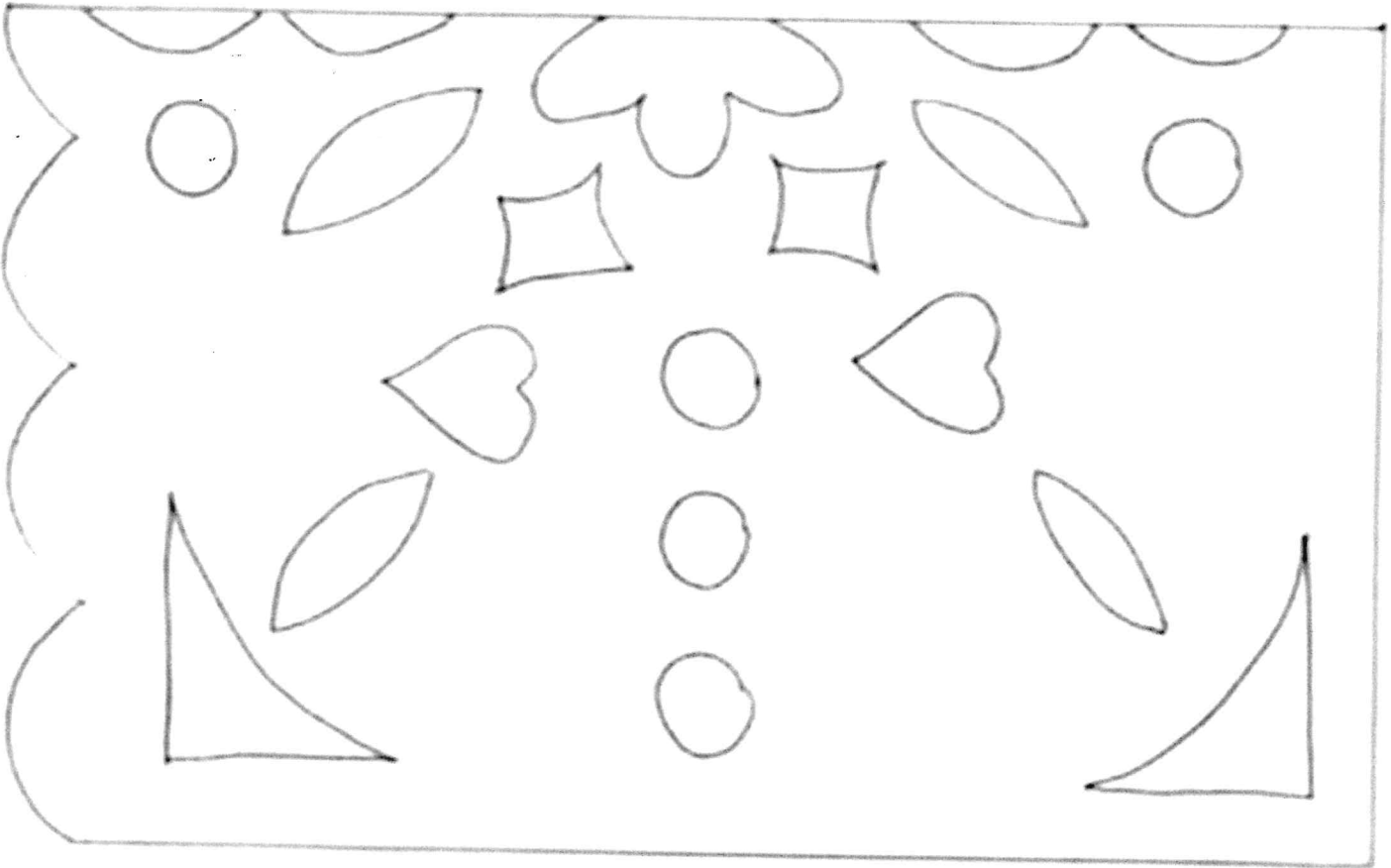


↑ plot



↑ Fold

fold ↓



fold ↓

