MATERIALS
• Cardboard
• Scissors
OPTIONAL:
• Paint or markers
• Pen or pencil
• Something oval-shaped to trace

PREPARATION
• Cut out 2 matching dome-shaped pieces of cardboard. Cut a slit about halfway down from the top of one piece, and halfway up from the bottom of the other. (See photo 1)
• Fit them together so they criss-cross, forming the main stem of your cactus (see photo 2)
• Cut out several ovals (as many as you like!) from the cardboard. These are the pads of your cactus. It’s ok if they are slightly different in size or shape, but if you prefer, you can use something oval-shaped as a pattern. Cut slits into the base of each oval, about ¼ of the way up. Try to make the slits a tiny bit wider at the bottom than the top. (see photo 3)
• If you have paint or markers, you can color your pieces green and even give it some spines!
• Now build the cactus by sliding the cactus pads onto each other, at different angles to form its branches. See how large you can “grow” it without causing it to topple!