



### Daily Dose of Science: Wild Wednesday: How Snakes Move

Snakes have four ways of moving around. Since they don't have legs they use their muscles and their scales to do the "walking".

-Serpentine method: This motion is what most people think of when they think of snakes. Snakes will push off of any bump or other surface, rocks, trees, etc., to get going. They move in a wavy motion. They would not be able to move over slick surfaces like glass at all. This movement is also known as lateral undulation.

-Concertina method: This is a more difficult way for the snake to move but is effective in tight spaces. The snake braces the back portion of their body while pushing and extending the front portion. Then the snake drops the front portion of their body and straightens and pulls the back portion along. It is almost like they throw themselves forward.

-Sidewinding: This is a difficult motion to describe but it is often used by snakes to move on loose or slippery surfaces like sand or mud. The snake appears to throw its head forward and the rest of its body follows while the head is thrown forward again.

-Rectilinear Method: This is a slow, creeping, straight movement. The snake uses some of the wide scales on its belly to grip the ground while pushing forward with the others.

**Activity:** from <https://www.easypeasyandfun.com/accordion-paper-snake-craft/>

## Let's make an Accordion Paper Snake Craft

What you need:

- colorful print paper – you can use one color but we think two colors work out super nicely.
- scissors or paper trimmer
- glue
- wiggle eye stickers or googly eyes
- black marker



## Follow These Simple Step by Step Instructions



Start by cutting the paper into even strips (they don't have to be super duper even). You can make them as wide or as thin as you want – younger kids will be able to handle wider strips easier.

If you are working with scissors the easiest way to go about this is to fold the paper (letter or A4) into half, fold that half into half again... And again. Unfold and cut along the folds. You can leave it folded in half and cut, making two strips at a time. I recommend using two colors as the end project will look fun. Naturally you can just use one or even use more.

Once you have your strips separate them into two groups. If older kids will be making this craft you (or they) can join the strips with glue or duct tape to get two super long strips. For younger kids glue on the stripes, or have them add strips by themselves as they fold – as longer strips are harder to work with.





## Time to Start Folding

Now that you've got your two strips glue them together under a 90° angle.  
Fold the bottom strip over the top one (keeping the 90° angle) and crease the fold.  
Again take the bottom strip and fold it over the top one.  
Continue until you run out of strips to fold and add a dash of glue on the last fold.



If you are making a super long snake, do add a dab of glue here and there as you go.  
This will make things more "secure".





Cut a snake shaped head and tongue from the paper and glue it onto the last fold.

Decorate with googly eyes and black marker for nostrils.

Your accordion paper snake craft is finished and you can stretch, pull and wiggle it as much as you like!

This one is not only fun to make it's also super fun to play with.



VIDEO HERE: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UrNklxeav9M>

