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2,075,259

TOY CONSTRUCTION CARD

Filed Feb. 13, 1936

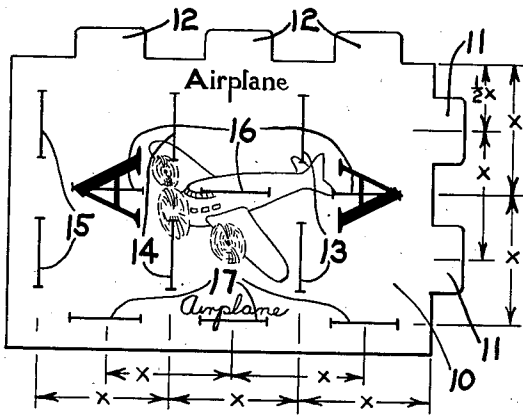


Fig. 1.

A-1	R-7	F-W
E-2	S-8	G-J
I-3	T-9	H-K
L-4	D-0	M-L
N-5	B-Q	P-Y
O-6	C-V	U-X

Fig. 2.

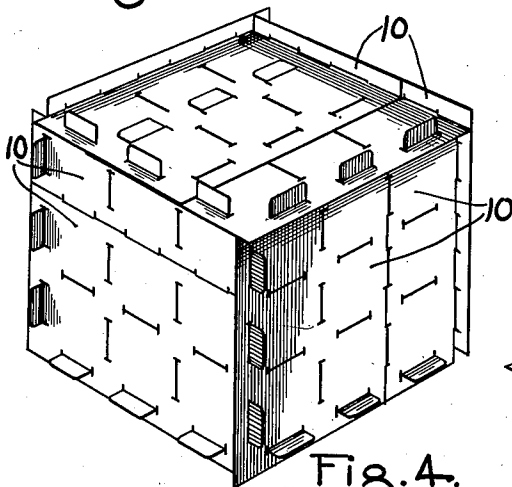


Fig. 4.

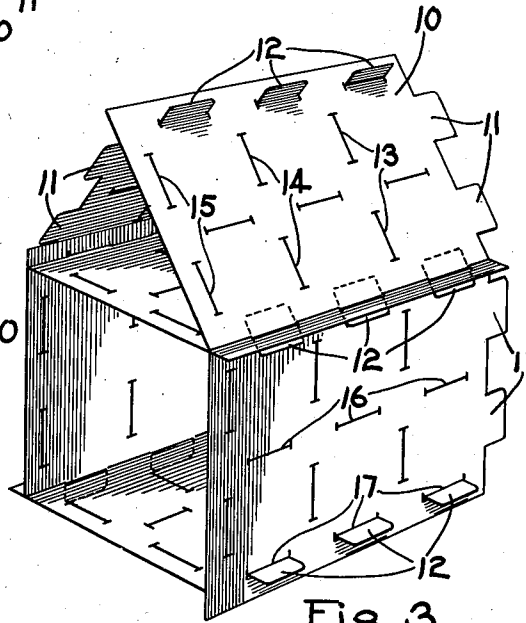


Fig. 3.

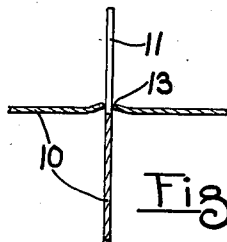


Fig. 5.

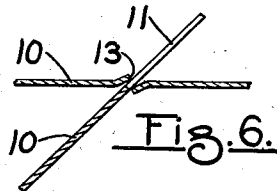


Fig. 6.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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TOY CONSTRUCTION CARD

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5 Claims. (Cl. 46—23)

This invention relates generally to toys and more particularly to a set of card units adapted to be used by children to educate and amuse themselves.

Briefly described, my invention consists of a deck of extremely attractive cards which are formed of flexible but self sustaining material. Two of the edges of each card are straight whereas the other two are formed with ears. The central part of each card is predeterminedly slotted in a novel manner. Furthermore, the card has pictures and the like on both of its sides. The above construction permits reversal of the several cards whereby they may be used in many positions with pleasing effect.

One main advantage of the invention is attained by the construction of the slits formed in the cards, these slits receiving either a single ear or two ears therein, as desired, and maintaining the ears against accidental withdrawal.

Another feature, along this same line, lies in the novelly constructed type of slit. This slit will receive the ears at right angles thereto and maintain the two cards at right angles. And also, the ears may be slid through their receiving slits at approximately 45° in either direction and remain and be held in this position by the flexible portions of the card immediately adjacent the slit.

Another feature of this invention resides in its simplicity whereby the cards may be economically manufactured.

Also, the cards are light in weight and therefore cannot be forcibly thrown by a child to create untoward results. They are also of durable character.

These and other objects are attained by the novel construction, combination and arrangement of parts hereinafter described and shown in the accompanying drawing, constituting a material part of this disclosure, and in which:

Fig. 1 is a typical view of one side of one of my cards.

Fig. 2 shows graphically the arrangement of the indicia on opposite sides of the several cards.

Fig. 3 is a perspective view illustrating one construction which may be created from a deck of my cards.

Fig. 4 illustrates a cube formed from my cards.

Fig. 5 is a cross sectional view showing a typical connection between the ear of one card and the slit of another card.

Fig. 6 is similar to Fig. 5 but showing an angular connection between two of the cards.

Referring to Fig. 1, numeral 10 indicates a typical card, this card having ears 11 at one of its ends and similar ears 12 at one of its sides.

Three rows of slits 13, 14 and 15 are formed behind the ears 11. The first row of slits 13 is located a distance x behind the bases of the ears 11. The rows of slits 14 and 15 are spaced from each other a distance x .

A row of slits 16, at right angles to the previously mentioned slits, is located in alinement with the ears 12 and spaced therefrom a distance x . A second row of slits 17 is located behind the several slits 16 a distance x .

The center of the ears 11, as clearly shown in Fig. 1, are located one-half of the distance x and one and one-half of the distance x , respectively, from the line of the bases of the ears 12.

The ends of each of the slits through the card 10 are cut as shown whereby the portion of the card adjacent the slit may be bent upwardly as shown in Fig. 5. This occurs when one of the ears is positioned at right angles to a second card 10 and the ear slid through one of the slits. The portion of the card adjacent the slit is flexed as shown and its resiliency holds the ear against accidental withdrawal and also in its right angled position.

If the ear is slid into the slit at 45 degrees, as shown in Fig. 6, the resilient sides of the slit assume the shape shown and maintain the cards at substantially a 45° angle.

Furthermore, if desired, the outer two of the three ears 12 may be inserted through the end slits 16 and 17 with the ear 12 merely contacting the face of the opposed card, thus causing the two interlocked cards to assume a practically straight or very obtuse angle with respect to each other.

My deck of cards preferably consists of 36 cards. The graphical showing of Fig. 2 indicates that one card has the letter A and its accompanying indicia on one side and the numeral "1" plus its indicia on the other side. The next card has the letter "B" opposed by the numeral "2". And so on.

In a pack of 36 cards printed with letters and numerals on each card each letter of the alphabet and each of the ten numerals will appear on two separate cards.

Inasmuch as it is conceivable that children who are learning rather elementary spelling will wish to speed out their own names or other proper names with which they are familiar or the names of simple objects, it is preferable to so arrange the different letters that appear on opposite faces

of each card that practically any name or object can be spelled with them.

A study of a large list of proper names and some objects revealed a certain number of letters which were very frequently used twice within the same name or object word, others which far less frequently were used twice within the same name or object and still another group of letters which rarely or never appear twice in the same word.

It is proposed that the ten letters which are used most frequently together in a single name (A E I L N O R S T D) shall be printed on cards with the ten numerals on the opposite faces. Similarly, the ten numerals shall have the above ten letters on their opposite faces of the cards.

The remaining 16 letters of the alphabet are divided into two groups of 8 letters each. A group of eight letters used twice in the same word occasionally, B C F G H M P U, are placed on cards, each card with one of these letters having on its opposite face one of a group of letters which are most infrequently used in names or object words and almost never appear twice in the same word.—J K Q V W X Y Z.

Further, the group of eight letters whose letters are used twice in the same word occasionally are preferably paired (i. e. letters appearing on the opposite face of the card) in such a way that the necessity of using letters located on the opposite sides of the same card is rare.

In Fig. 3, several cards 10 are interlocked together as shown to produce a toy house unit.

In Fig. 4, a cubical block construction is illustrated.

It will be appreciated that a very great number of different objects of many sizes and shapes can be formed by use of the cards. The foregoing disclosure is to be regarded as descriptive and illustrative only and not as restrictive and limitative of the invention.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:

1. A toy card construction unit of the class described, comprising quadrilateral members

formed of sheet material which is flexible but of self sustaining stiffness, each of said members being provided with a plurality of ears projecting from each of a pair of adjacently disposed sides of said unit, said member having rows of slits spaced rearwardly from those edges having the said ears, the slits being in alinement with the ears, the distance between the several rows of slits being equal, said slits receiving any of said ears as desired.

2. A card formed of resilient sheet material having substantially rectangular form, two ears extending from one end of the card and three ears extending from one side of the card, a plurality of slits behind each ear, the several distances between the base of the ears and the first slit therebehind and between the first slit and the second slit being equal.

3. An amusement and educational device comprising a plurality of rectangularly shaped cards of the same size, each of said cards having three ears on one of its sides, two ears on its end, the other end and side being of straight construction, slits formed behind each of said ears in alinement therewith, said slits being of substantially the same length as the ears and so arranged so as not to cross one another.

4. A toy card construction unit of the class described, comprising quadrilateral members formed of sheet material which is flexible but of self sustaining stiffness, each of said members being provided with a plurality of ears projecting from each of a pair of adjacently disposed sides of said unit, said member having rows of slits extending lengthwise and transversely across the sheet.

5. An amusement and educational device comprising a plurality of rectangularly shaped cards of the same size, each of said cards having a plurality of ears on one of its sides, and on one of its ends, the other end and side being of straight construction, slits being formed behind each of said ears in alinement therewith, said slits being of sufficient lengths to receive the ears.

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