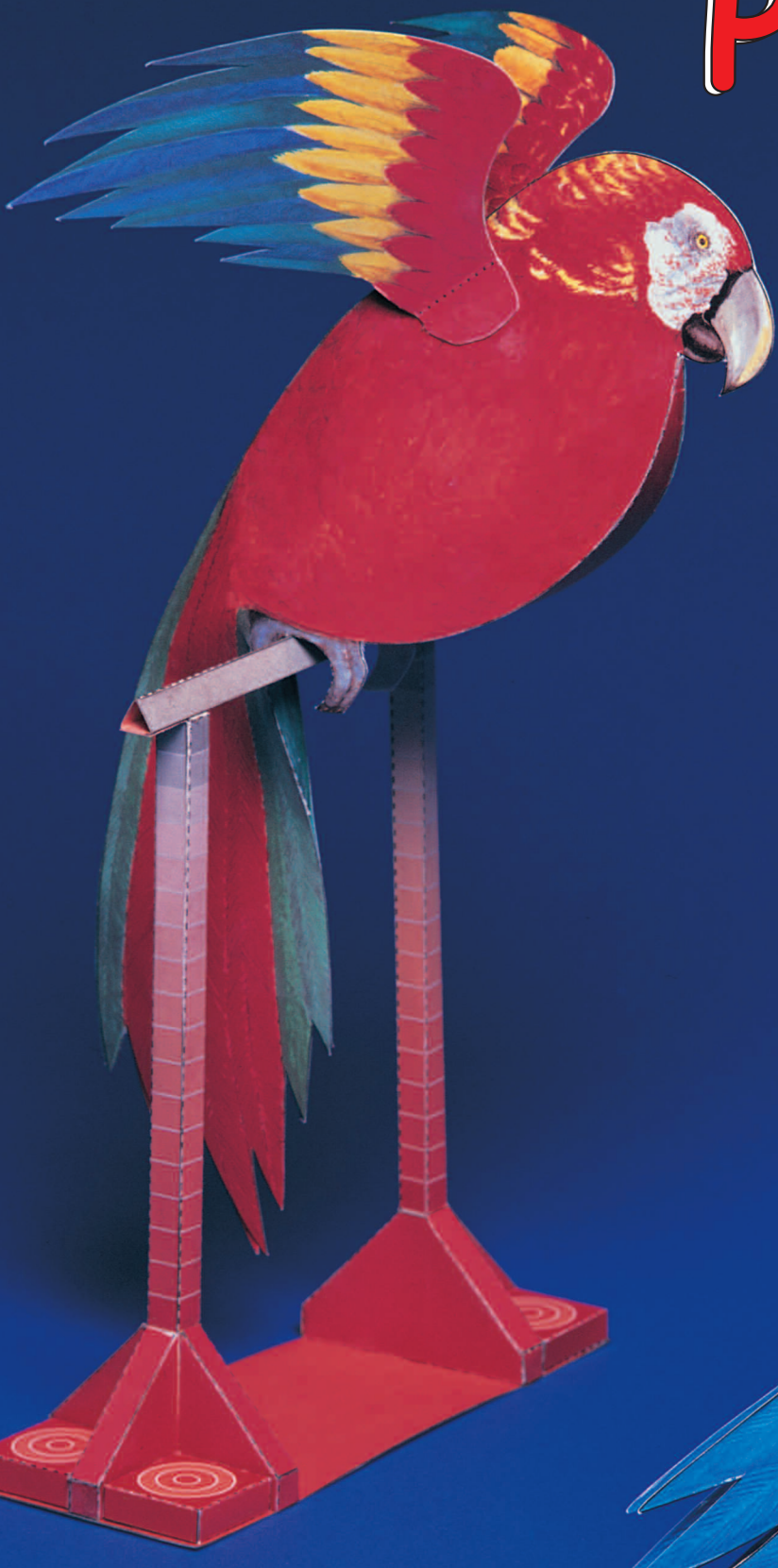
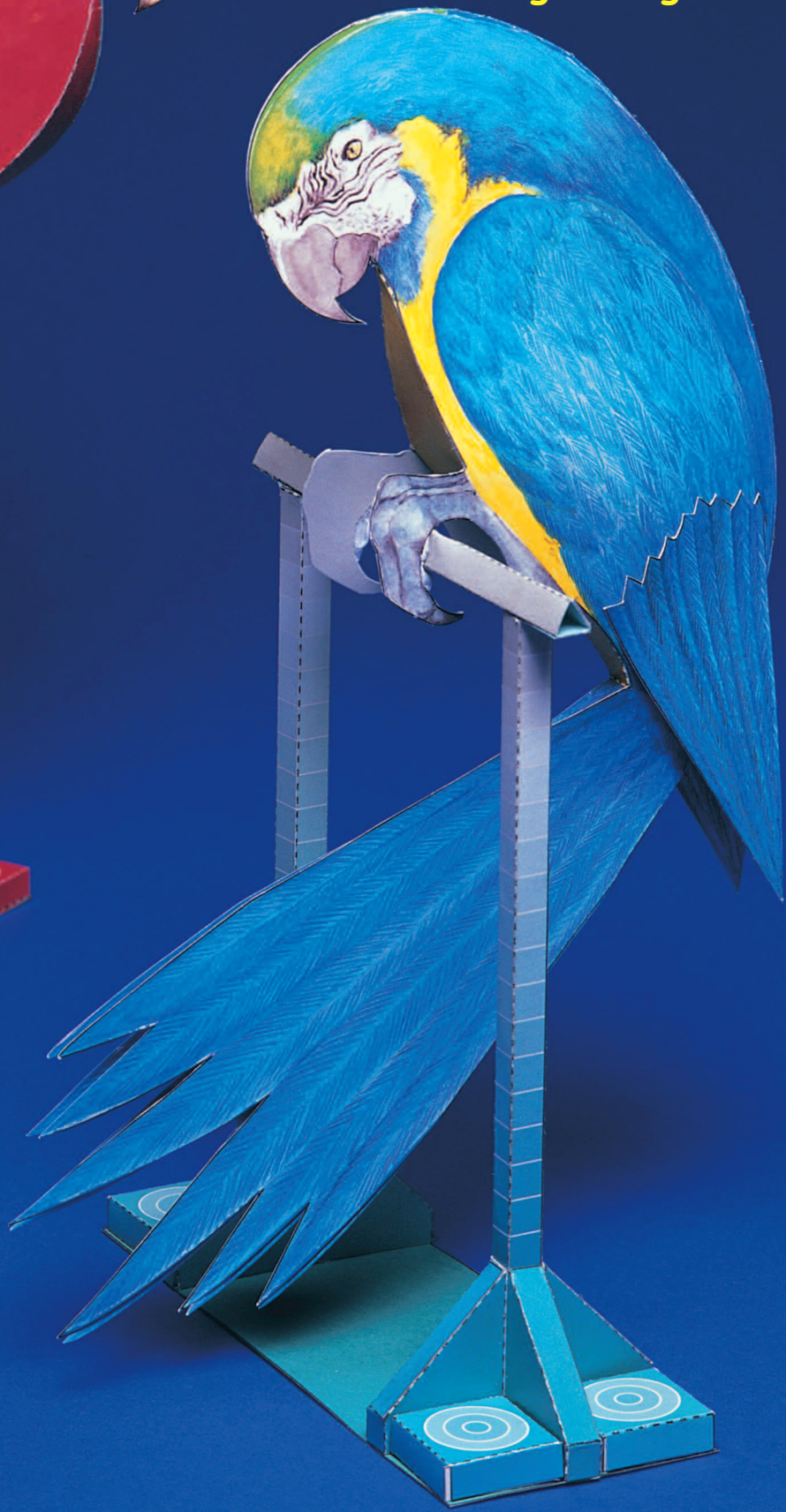
Pivoting Parrots

and other balancing models
to cut out and glue together





Anne Wild

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A Note about Paper

Our papercraft books are designed for papers of between 150 gsm and 280 gsm. The paper available to you may be better or worse for modelling depending on the paper source, so an exact recommendation is hard. But generally try a paper lighter within that range for simpler models, and nearer the top for more complex models.

When printing from this ebook make sure you print on both sides of the paper starting with the first model page. The instructions on the back should work even with a little printer slippage.

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Pivoting Parrots

Anne Wild

These delightful balancing models are fun to make. Just follow the instructions step by step to make a fine collection which will attract attention wherever you display them.

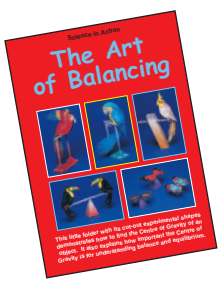


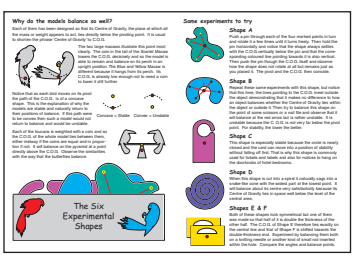
Type of Glue

To get the best results you need a glue which sets quickly but not instantly and which does not leave dirty marks. We particularly recommend a petroleum based glue such as 'UHU All Purpose', especially the 'GEL' version. 'Bostik Clear' also gives good results.

Scoring

Scoring is very important if you are to make accurate models. It makes the paper fold cleanly and accurately along the line you want. Use a ball point pen which has run out of ink and press firmly along the dotted fold lines. Experienced model makers may use a craft knife, but it needs care not to cut right through the paper. When the score lines are straight, it is a good idea to use a straight edge and to rule along them.



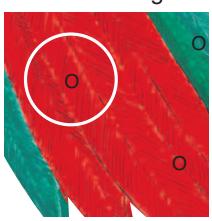


The 'Art Of Balancing' Folder

On pages 15 to 18 there is an interesting folder to cut out and make which includes six experimental shapes and which helps to explain why the models balance as they do.

Add a Coin or Two for Balance

The models are made entirely from paper and to make them balance interestingly they need some extra weight in the form of small coins in just the right places. Glue these coins within the tail or wings in the positions shown by the white circles.



The white circles are deliberately drawn smaller than the coins which are recommended and show where they should be glued. The Red Macaw has the most critical balance and it is best to test that it sits on the perch in a good position before the chosen coin is finally glued into place.

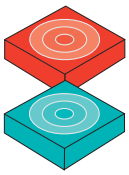
The Blue & Yellow Macaw does not have any white circles because it balances perfectly without a coin. However, do experiment with its position by trying small coins within its tail.

Which Coins to Use?



In Britain, a 2p coin for the Scarlet Macaw and 1p coins for the others work well. However, it is not critical to use these coins exactly and almost any other small coins will do. Try and see. It will soon be clear if you need a larger or smaller one.

Extra Stability



It is recommended that you make up the sets of coin boxes on pages 13 and 19. Glue a small coin into each and then glue them to the corners of the bases of the perches of the two large macaws. This adds significant additional weight and stability to the perches.

See inside the back cover for instructions about making the models.

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