Pop Up Paper Sculpture Still Life

Daniel Gordon creates three-dimensional paper sculptures of objects that he thoughtfully arranges and then photographs. Look at Gordon’s photograph Jade with Pears and Green Apples on view in the exhibition Still/Live at the Katonah Museum of Art and this installation of some of his paper sculptures on view in the Learning Center as inspiration for this fun project.

Now try creating your own Pop Up Paper Sculpture Still Life.
Fold a piece of cardstock or heavy weight paper in half.

1. Keep paper folded and cut two parallel lines through folded edge of page.

2. Fold down the flap to crease fold.

3. Open the paper and push out center flap so background stands up and the flap pops out. This is the base for your still life objects.

4. Collect a few object images to add to the background:
   - find object images on line and print some out
   - cut out still life objects from magazines
   - draw or collage your own still life objects

** Note: You can experiment with the pop-up base. **
If you make your parallel line cuts shallow the base will be shorter and closer to the back.
If the cuts are farther apart the base will be wider.
You can create more than one base. Or make the base to the side, rather than the center.

5. Arrange the still life objects standing on the pop-up base and/or against the background paper. Use a gluestick to attach them. You can decorate the background and bottom using colored pencils, markers or collage papers.

Tip: glue a folded tab of paper to the back of your objects to make them stand up.