Corrugated Paper

What makes a corrugated box strong?

**What to do:** Make a crease about 1/4. inch (6 mm) from the edge of one sheet of paper. Fold it down and press down on the folds. Using the first fold as a guide, fold a second crease back. Alternate folding back and forth until the entire sheet is pleated, as in the illustration.

Roll the second sheet of paper around a can and tape the ends together. Remove the can. Do the same thing with the third sheet of paper. Line up the two circles of paper 4 inches (10 cm) from one another on a table. Then place the pleated sheet on them. Rest the jar on top of the pleated sheet.

**What happens:** The pleated paper holds the jar.

**Why:** You have added strength by using corrugated paper, which you created by folding the sheet back and forth. An engineer devised this way of making paper stiffer—and stronger.

**YOU NEED**

- 3 sheets of paper
- jar