Paper Brains: An open-source 3D paper model

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Did you know that the 3D brain images we obtain from MRI scans are not unlike the 3D models we see in movies, television, and video games? Using open source 3D imaging software and user-developed packages, I created Paper Brains, a 3D paper sculpture derived from an MRI scan of my brain. Keeping in theme with the open science movement that made this project possible, I made printable templates of the Paper Brains available on the Open Science Framework so that anyone can print and fold their own paper brain for an interactive learning tool or fun creative activity. Finally, in a year where we are so physically disconnected in conducting our research, Paper Brains brings our visualization of the brain back from the computer screen into the real world and serves as a reminder of the creative and collaborative nature of the field of neuroscience.