

## **ACTIVITY: Folding Origami**

### **Grade Level: K-2**

Purpose: To practice folding paper in the traditional Japanese art of origami, creating a boat and a gull from the story about Kamome. Origami introduces symmetry; for many of the folds, whatever is done to one side is done to the other. Origami is also a way to teach and manipulate basic geometric shapes such as squares, rectangles, and triangles.

Time: 10 to 15 minute sessions per creation. Additional 15 minutes if students are going to decorate their origami paper.

#### Educational Standards:

R 1.2.1, VPA 1.2, VPA 2.2, VPA 2.3, VPA 2.6, VPA 3.3, VPA 3.4, VPA4.2, VPA4.3

See Additional Resources for Teachers – California Educational Standards for Kamome – under the Resource Menu for standard definitions.

#### Materials:

Computer with display screen

Classroom copy of the Kamome Book

3 sheets of origami paper per student (or other foldable paper cut into square pieces - lightweight 8 ½ X 8 ½" paper is a good size for young children to work with)

#### ***Origami instruction sheet***

Go to Activity Menu to download Origami instruction sheet

*Teacher preparation: Practice making the origami beforehand. Guide students to crease each fold well. Also guide students to match up the edges of the paper when folding. When instructing a large group it is helpful to have students hold up their work after each fold. This gives the teacher information on who needs more help and keeps everyone working together. Show the video for each origami piece from beginning to end, and then reshow each step, pausing after each fold is made to check student work.*

*For students who master the origami quickly, provide them with extra sheets of paper, in smaller sizes if you have them, to make more of the object. Some students in your class may already be familiar with origami and may want to show others how to make some of their favorite origami creatures.*

#### Procedure:

1. Read the book *The Extraordinary Voyage of Kamome*, to your students. Show them the illustrations as you read the book.

Origami means “paper folding” in Japanese. Following the reading, tell the students they will learn how to fold paper to make a boat and a gull, as illustrated in the book.

2. Panga Boat - this is a model of the type of boat in Kamome.

(a) Distribute origami folding paper to students – one sheet per student.

(b) Show the video - Panga boat: <https://youtu.be/j5tIEiVIHuU> from beginning to end (4.23 min)

Tell the students we will work through the folds step by step, pausing the video after each step to check their folds.

*The most difficult part is turning the boat inside out for the final step. Some children may benefit from your assistance in this step.*

2. Easy Gull:

(a) Distribute origami folding paper to students – one sheet per student.

(b) Go to: <https://youtu.be/WtLQ2haBeNA> (1.58 minutes) to make the easy gull, pausing the video as necessary to guide students.

3. The gull is illustrated in the Kamome book.

(a) Distribute origami folding paper to students – one sheet per student

(b) Go to: <https://youtu.be/x6GgbUt-fjE> (4.57 min long) to make the standing gull, pausing the video as necessary to guide students.

4. Lead students in a discussion of how their origami figures can help tell the story of Kamome.

Extension Activities:

1. Guide students to create a collage of a scene on poster paper of the ocean, gluing on their Origami boat and gull(s). They could show the boat drifting across the ocean from Japan to California.

2. Instructions for simple origami are included in with packets of purchased origami paper that can be used to guide students in folding more objects. The origami cup is a very simple and popular fold for children! See <http://www.origami-instructions.com/origami-for-kids.html>

3. There are many books and web sites with instructions on how to make other origami shapes and animals. Have students look at the picture of Kamome in the ocean with the sea creatures. Take butcher paper to draw a large sketch of the ocean and the boat on the paper. Students can make different origami sea creatures and paste them onto the paper.

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