

FOLD PAPER CRANES FOR PEACE.

Japanese paper cranes have become a well-known symbol of the movement for a world without nuclear weapons. Every year thousands of students across the globe fold paper cranes to honour the children who died

in the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki in 1945. You could take part in this tradition by sending your own paper cranes to a special peace memorial in Japan.

STEPS

- 1 Read **the story of Sadako**, a victim of the Hiroshima bombing (*See summary opposite*).
- 2 Find some **square pieces of paper**, preferably colour, or cut squares from rectangular paper.
- 3 Fold **paper cranes** with your classmates—see if you can make 1000 together!
- 4 Send your paper cranes to Sadako's **peace memorial** in Hiroshima to honour her memory.
- 5 Write a letter to the **Mayor of Hiroshima** expressing your support for nuclear weapons abolition.

ADDRESSES

Sadako's peace memorial:

Peace Promotion Division
The City of Hiroshima
1-5 Nakajima-cho Naka-ku
Hiroshima 730-0811 Japan

Mayor of Hiroshima:

Mayor of Hiroshima
1-6-34 Kokutaiji-machi Naka-ku
Hiroshima 730-8586 Japan

THE ATOMIC BOMBINGS

Nuclear bombs have been used in warfare twice:

- **HIROSHIMA**, Japan, 6 August 1945, an atomic bomb containing 50–70kg of enriched uranium killed 90,000 people instantly and a further 145,000 people by the end of 1945. Shockwaves destroyed everything within a 4km radius.
- **NAGASAKI**, Japan, 9 August 1945, an atomic bomb containing 6.2kg of plutonium killed 40,000 people instantly and a further 75,000 people by the end of 1945. Shockwaves destroyed everything within a 1km radius.

SADAKO'S STORY

Sadako Sasaki was two years old when the United States dropped an atomic bomb on her city, Hiroshima, in 1945. At the time of the explosion, she was at home with her mother. Despite being just 1km from the centre of the blast, she managed to survive the immediate effects.

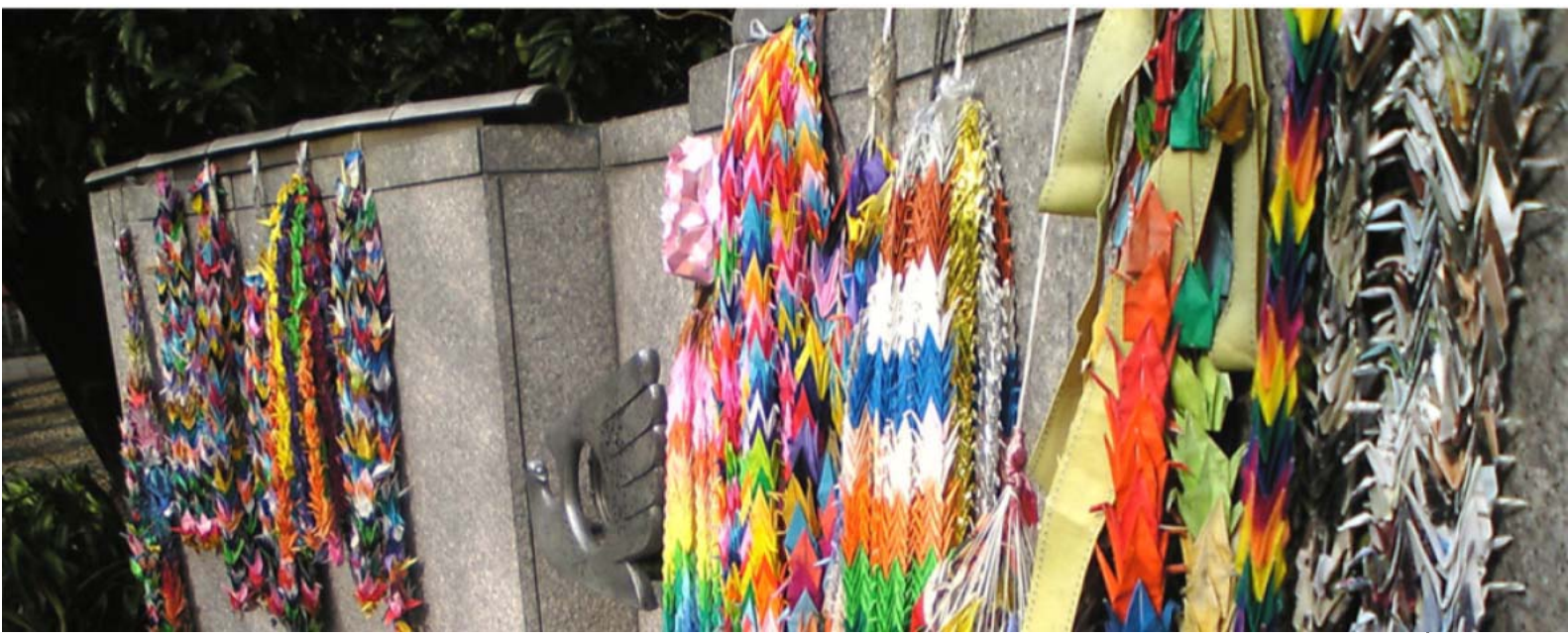
However, 10 years later purple spots started to form on her legs as a result of radiation sickness from the bombing. She was diagnosed with leukaemia, a cancer of the blood. While in hospital, she learnt that according to Japanese legend, if she managed to fold 1000 paper cranes she would be granted a wish.

She started out folding dozens of cranes each day. When she ran out of paper, she used medicine wrappings and whatever else she could find. But then her condition worsened and she could only manage to fold one or two a day. Sadly, she died before reaching her target of 1000 cranes. Her friends folded the remainder after her death.

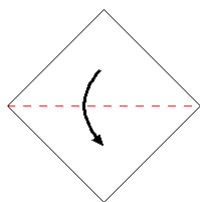
Sadako now symbolizes the impact of nuclear war. A memorial has been built in Hiroshima to honour her and all other child victims of the nuclear bombings. Her story continues to inspire thousands of people to work for the abolition of nuclear weapons.



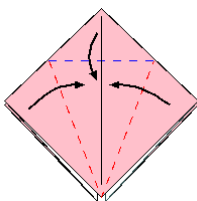
- **Read the full version:** Eleanor Coerr, *Sadako and the Thousand Paper Cranes*, first published 1977



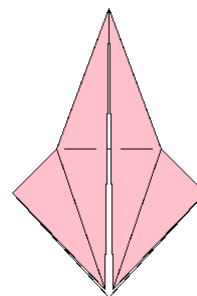
HOW TO FOLD A PAPER CRANE



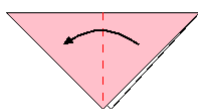
STEP 1 Fold a square piece of paper in half diagonally. Make sure the coloured side is facing down when you begin.



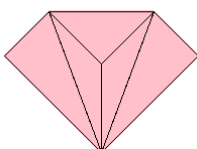
STEP 6 Fold the left and right corners to the centre line and then fold the top corner down as shown.



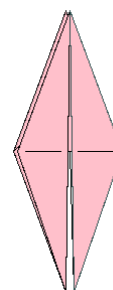
STEP 9 It should now look like this. Turn it over and repeat Steps 6–8.



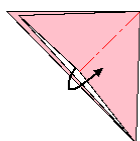
STEP 2 Fold it in half diagonally again.



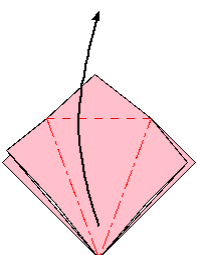
STEP 7 It should now look like this.



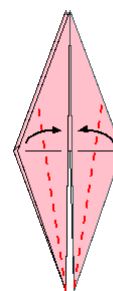
STEP 10 It should now look like this.



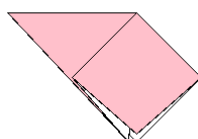
STEP 3 Spread the pocket out from the inside and fold it to make a small square.



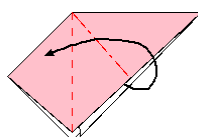
STEP 8 Open the pocket by pulling the bottom corner up, and fold along the creases you formed at Step 6. (Some will be inverted now.)



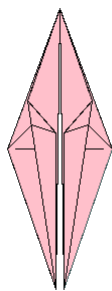
STEP 11 Fold the first layer towards the centre as shown.



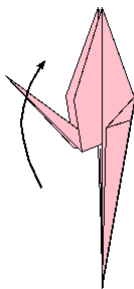
STEP 4 Turn it over.



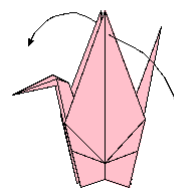
STEP 5 Do the same as in Step 3.



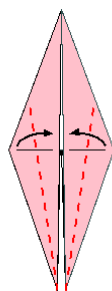
STEP 12 It should now look like this.



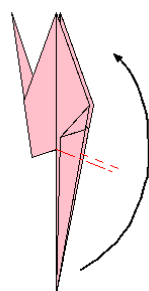
STEP 15 Separate the two layers and bring the neck up as shown.



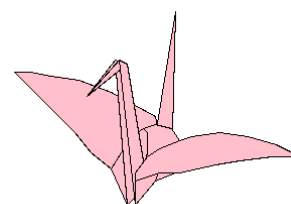
STEP 18 Pull the wings out to their proper position and blow into the underside.



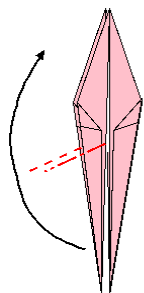
STEP 13 Turn it over and repeat Step 11.



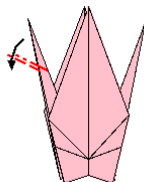
STEP 16 Repeat Steps 14–15 on the other side to form the tail.



You now have the finished paper crane.



STEP 14 Fold along the dotted line for the neck.



STEP 17 Fold along the dotted line to form the head.