



FOR EXCELLENCE IN MIAMI-DADE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

**2023**  
**2024**

Ideas with

# IMPACT

ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

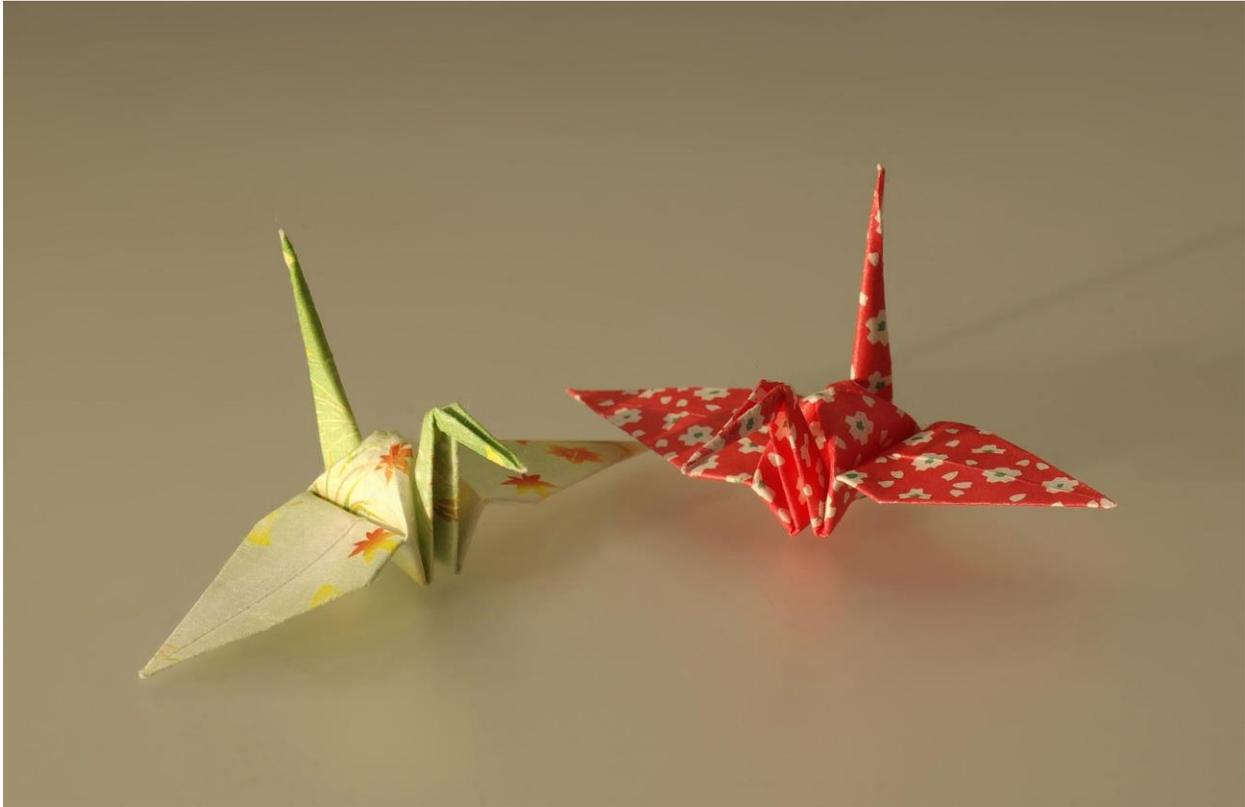
**Lissy's  
Friend**

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FOR EXCELLENCE IN MIAMI-DADE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

# Lissy's Friends



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**Background**

In May 2023, Florida joined other states to require K-12 schools to teach Asian American Pacific Islanders history. Also, K-12 schools are focusing on resiliency. I thought this would be a perfect time to share my Japanese heritage through a story, "Lissy's Friends," and origami, the Japanese art of paper folding.

Using a story to learn about different cultures will expand students' horizons, appreciation of their heritages, and understanding of an inclusive society.

This book, "Lissy's Friends," is a part of the first-grade curriculum, and every year, my students are so fascinated with learning about origami.

## **Goals and Objectives**

The project's goal is for students to acknowledge the differences in the classroom and learn to embrace those differences. So, students can think and act with fairness and justice, appreciate different cultures, and see what they might not have noticed before.

## **Standards**

### World Languages

#### WL.K12.IL.6.2

The student will be able to use the target language to gain knowledge and demonstrate an understanding of the relationship among practices, products, and perspectives of cultures other than his/her own.

### Social Studies

SS.912.S.2.4 Give examples of subcultures and describe what makes them unique.

SS.912.S.2.1 Define the key components of a culture, such as knowledge, language and communication, customs, values, and norms.

SS.912.S.2.6 Identify the factors that promote cultural diversity within the United States.

SS.912.S.2.7 Explain how various practices of the culture create differences within group behavior.

## **Materials**

-Book, “Lissy’s Friends” by Grace Lin  
(Classroom sets or 1 per group or you could ask a 1st-grade teacher.)

-Origami paper/copy papers cut into squares

-markers/pencils

-scissors

-glues

-construction papers

-\*Origami instruction books/Youtube for instructions

## **Course Outline/Overview**

This project can be done over two days. The teacher can read the book and discuss the story with students on the first day. On the second day, the teacher can explain origami and show students how to make animals from paper.

I cut several copy papers in squares before the class starts to save time.

A few volunteers to help pass those squared papers to each student.

This project is easily adapted to make different things, such as flowers. Then, students can make a card with origami to give to their friends as a token of friendship.

You can select things from your heritage. It is best to pick something your students are familiar with, such as animals and flowers.

Let your students discuss if they are Lissy or classmates. What are you going to do? Do you help a new student feel welcome? If you are Lissy, what can you do to make friends?

## **Lesson Plans**

Day 1:

Ask students if they are familiar with a country like Japan. Explain Japan is a part of Asian countries and it's an island. Ask students if they know the country, Japan. Ask students to come to the map and point to Japan. (You can have a map on an interactive smartboard or the globe.)

Then, explain to students that people in Japan use paper to make animals and

flowers. Show students one of the origami animals.

Read a story, “Lissy’s Friends,” by Grace Lin, and discuss the problems in the story with students.

\*You can distribute one book for each group or be projected on an interactive smartboard. There is a read-aloud available on YouTube. <https://youtu.be/NxwITJ7IBnU>

Day 2:

The night before Day 2, prepare papers for origami. If you are using copy papers, cut them into squares.

Explain to students that they are going to fold papers to make animals. Before passing out papers, explain the origin of the paper crane and the meaning of the paper crane.

Pass papers to each student. Ask them to follow step by step and make sure that they hold the papers neatly.

While folding papers, walk around to see if students need help.

If you have volunteer/volunteers, you can ask them to take pictures or videotape students' activities. Or help you with assisting students.

## **Additional Activities/Assessment**

Students can make several origami animals or flowers. With their folded origami shapes, they can create a card to give to their friends as a token of friendship. Or students can make a good fortune ornament with an origami crane. Depending on the students' ages, you can select easier and simpler origami.

Another idea is to create a map to show where Japan is located.

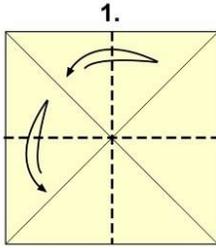
If students' parents are willing to help, have the International Night, where you can dress up in a native dress and do a show

which includes dance and songs from different countries.

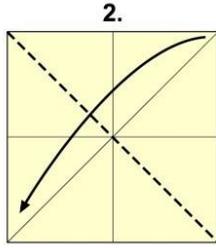
## **Resources**

Origami is available from craft stores or online. You can substitute origami paper with copy paper. If you are using copy papers, cut them into squares before the instruction.

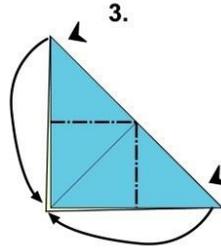
# CRANE TSURU



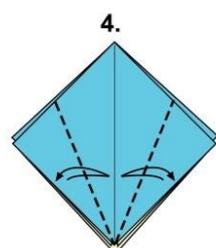
1. Fold and unfold..



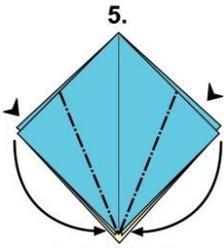
2.



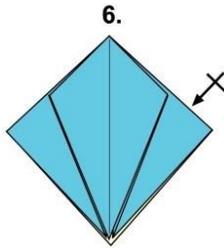
3. The corners to the inside..



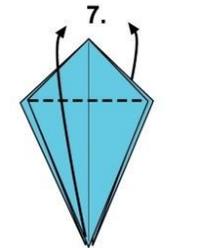
4. Fold and unfold..



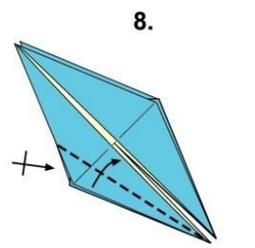
5. To the inside like in the Step 3...



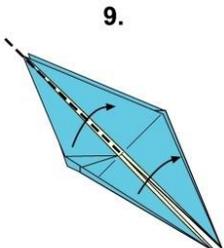
6. Repeat the Steps 4. and 5. in the other side..



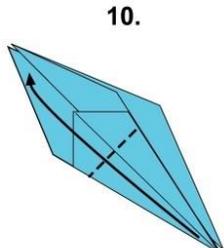
7.



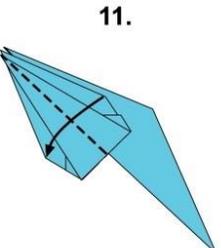
8. This fold in the other side too..



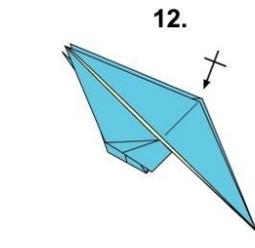
9.



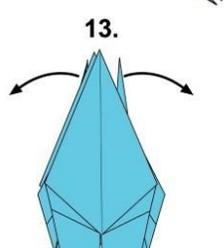
10.



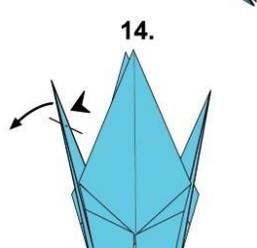
11.



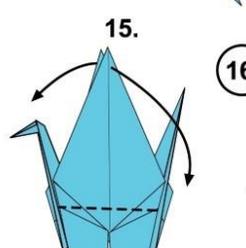
12.



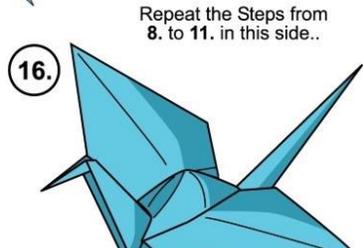
13. Move a little this tips to the outside..



14. This tip to the inside for form the head

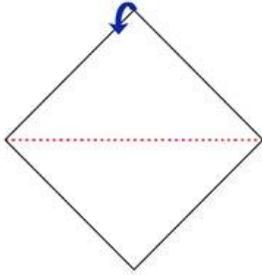


15. Open the wings..

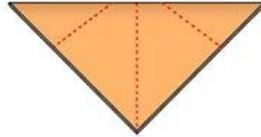


16. Repeat the Steps from 8. to 11. in this side..

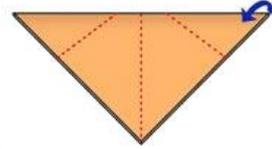
# How to Make an Origami dog face



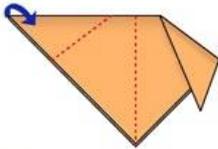
1 Fold a square piece of paper in half



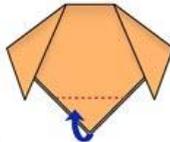
2 Make creases at the center and the sides



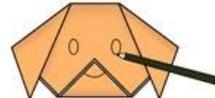
3 Fold along the right dotted line



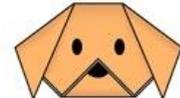
4 Repeat for the left side



5 Fold the lower tip up

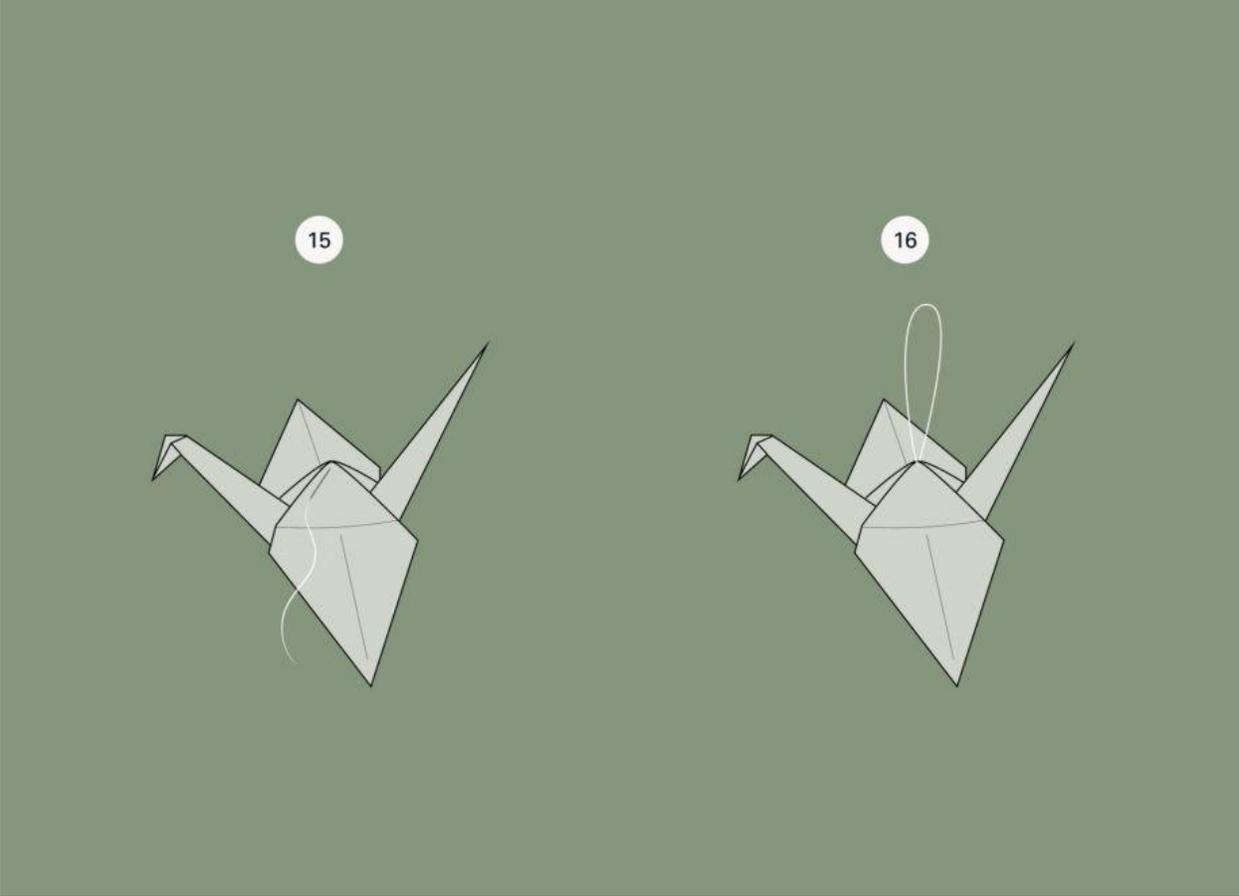


6 Draw the eye and mouth outlines



7 Fill them up in black

COOL2BKIDS



**For an origami crane ornament**