



## Astro- Origami

Origami is the Japanese art of paper folding, originally from China and now practiced all over the world.

### Sunrays



★ GOAL: Introduce children to both geometry and analytical skills in a creative way. Use imaginative craft ideas to make stellar objects.

★ MATERIALS: Sun coloured squares of stiffened paper.



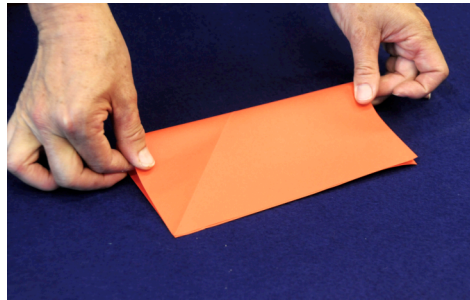
You will need at least 16-20 sunrays to make a full sun depending on the thickness of the paper.

★ AGE GROUP: Group Activity for 5 years and up. Each child can make their own sunray and add it to the group's big Sun

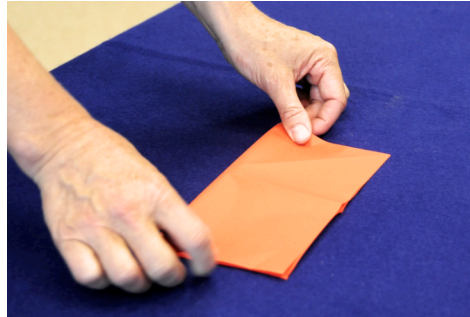


WHAT TO DO:

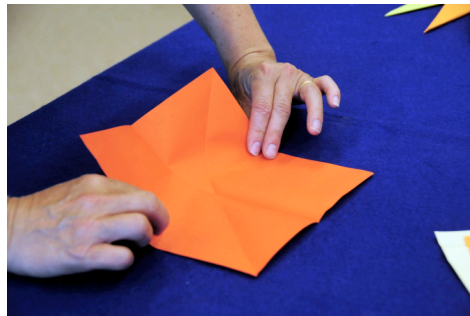
- Take your square and fold it in half to make a rectangle



- Open the square. Rotate 90 degrees and fold the square into a rectangle again.



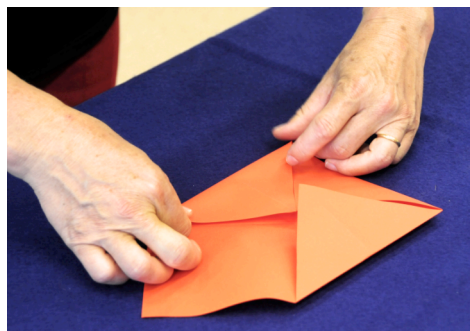
- When you open the paper you will see 4 equal sized squares inside one big square.



- Pick any corner of the square and bring to the centrefold where the two lines intersect.



- Repeat with all 4 corners of the square until you have made a smaller square consisting of 4 triangles.



- Put 2 fingers on either side of the base of the square. This is a horizontal line.



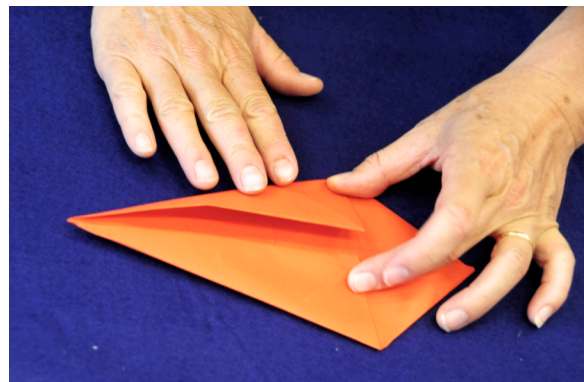
- Pick up the bottom right hand corner and bring the base so that it aligns alongside the central line.



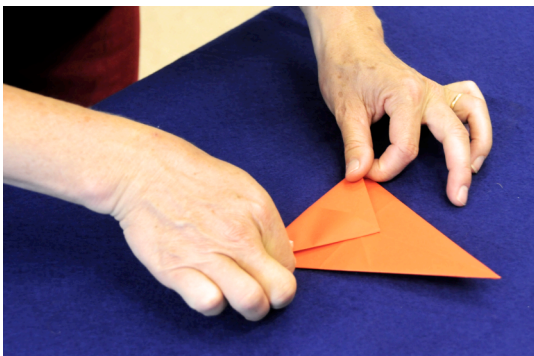
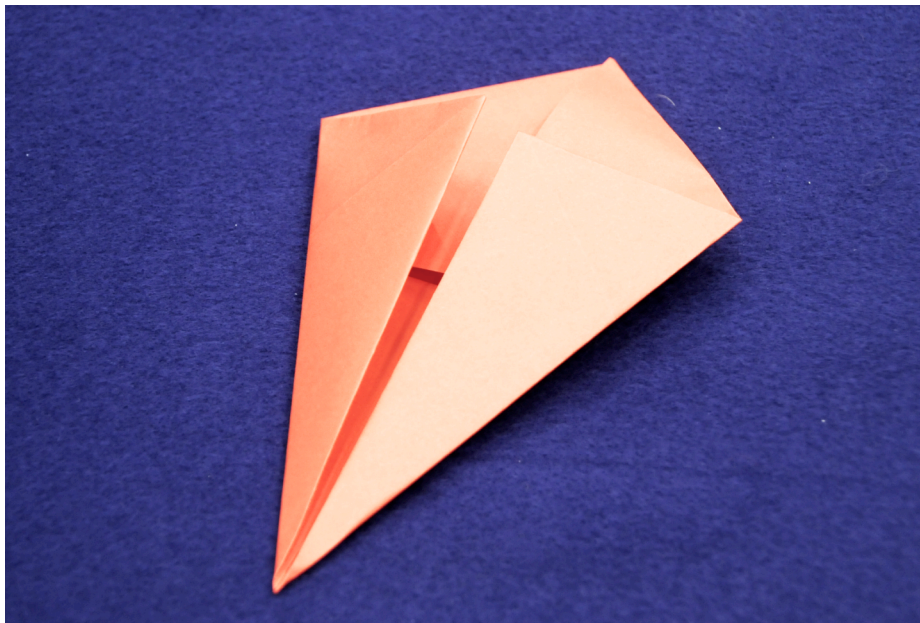
- Fold firmly.



- Now take the vertical line on the left hand side and bring the top left hand point to the same central line. Align the vertical line along the central line as well. Fold firmly.



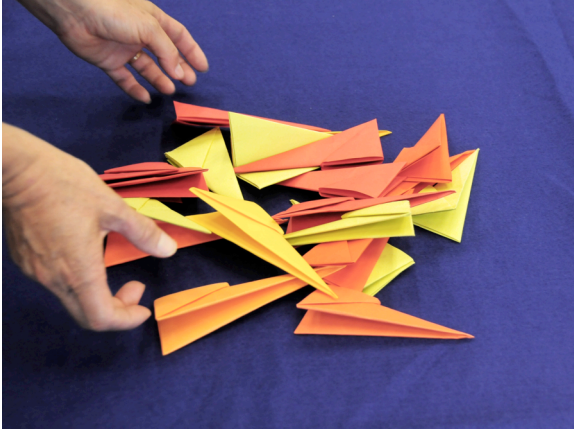
- You should now have what looks like a kite, with the two folds meeting in the middle.



- Holding the kite at its base, Turn it over to its smooth side and bend the top peak down, so that you have a triangle. Fold firmly.

- Fold the triangle into equal halves so that the long folds are facing on the inside and on the outside you have 2 little pockets. Press all the folds firmly.





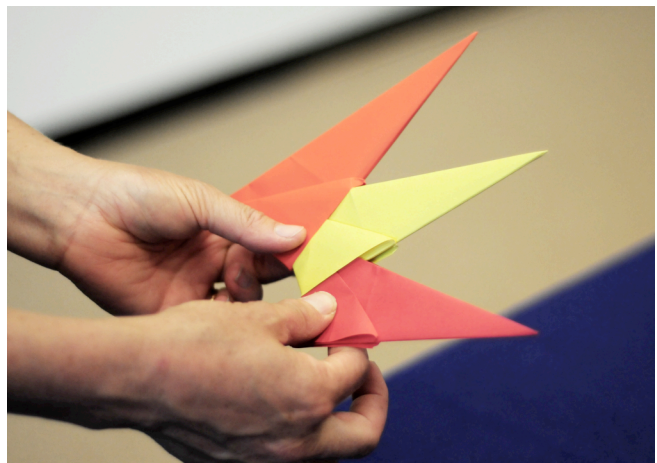
- Once you have collected at least 16 rays, you can put them all together.

- Take two rays and make sure that they are facing the same direction.



- Slide the two points into the two pockets. Push them in so that they fit snugly.

- Keep adding the triangles making sure that they are always facing in the same direction.



- As you add more rays you will see that they will naturally curve around to join up. Remember to make them fit as snugly together as possible!



- Once the circle is tight and symmetrically balanced, it can be suspended. To secure it firmly, reinforce it with tape from behind or run a thread through the base with a needle.



You can also extend this activity by making 'Sunray coronets' to wear. Simply thread a string through the base of 8-10 rays to hold them together, and attach each end to thick hair elastic.

Source: Traditional

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Universe Awareness is imagination, excitement and fun in the universe for the very young.

