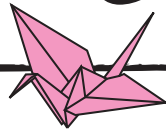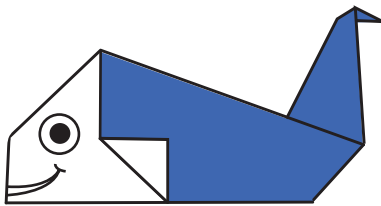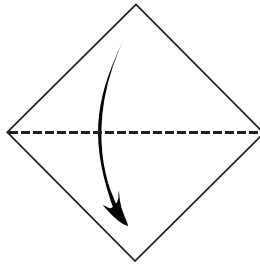# Learn to fold *Origami!*

Origami is the art of traditional Japanese paper-folding. It began in China over 1,800 years ago and came to Japan during the 6th century. You can make your own origami! Cut out the square on the next page and follow these directions.
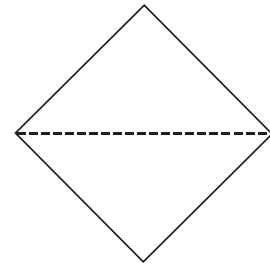
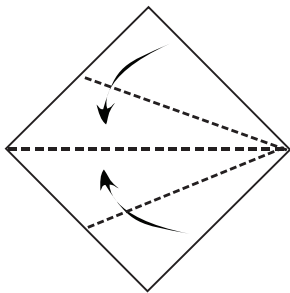**1)**

Your finished whale will look like this!

Begin with your paper at an angle, so it looks like a diamond. Fold the top point down to meet the bottom point, then unfold.
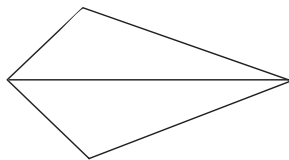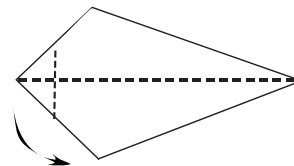
Your paper will have a crease in the middle like this.

2)

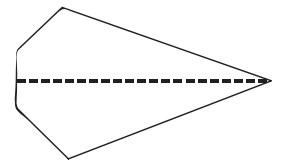Fold the bottom corner up so that side #1 meets the crease. Then, do the same with side #2.
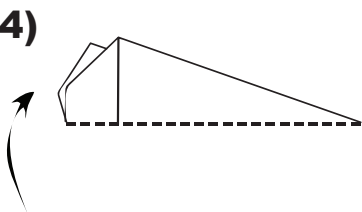
Your paper should now look like this.

3)

Fold the left corner under about an inch.
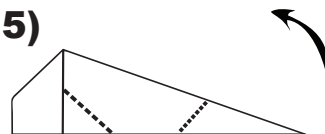
Your paper should now look like this.

4)

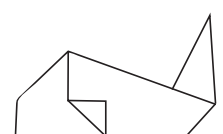Fold along the crease so the bottom half meets the top half.

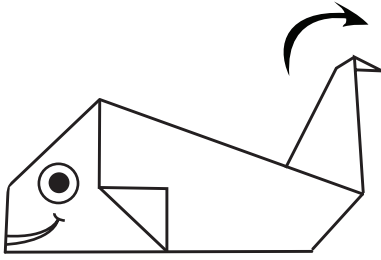Your paper should now look like this.

5)

Fold the bottom flap and the right corner up to make the fin and the tail.

Your paper should now look like this.

6)

Fold the top tip back to make the tailfin. Draw a face and your whale is complete!