



## Crafts Around the World Series

### Origami 4-H Clover

Enjoy learning how to make simple crafts from seven continents: **Africa, Antarctica, Europe, Asia, Australia, North America & South America.**

#### Purpose:

Introduce youth to some simple cultural traditional crafts from around the world. Journey around seven continents, learning how to make simple crafts and having fun creating.

#### Objectives:

- ◇ Learn the cultural history and origins of the craft.
- ◇ Find the country on a map and/or globe.
- ◇ Develop fine motor skills in paper folding.
- ◇ Increase cultural awareness and creativity.

#### Education Standards:

- ◇ Understand the visual arts in relation to history and culture.
- ◇ Apply geometric methods to solve design problems.

#### Experiential Learning:

- ◇ Create a new shape folding paper.

Use these phrases:

Do it, What happened,  
What's important, So What,  
Now What?

**Audience:** Grades K-12



*Photo courtesy of Janis Brinn*

#### CONTINENT: ASIA

Asia is the largest of the world's continents. Home to 48 countries, three of them (Russia, Kazakhstan and Turkey) having part of their land in Europe. Some areas of the world combine **Asia** and **Europe** into one continent called **Eurasia**.

#### COUNTRY: JAPAN

#### LESSON: ORIGAMI: 4-H CLOVER

Origami (ori meaning "folding", and kami meaning "paper") is the art of paper folding. Origami dates back to the seventh century, when the art of making paper came to Japan from China. Folded paper creations first appeared as part of Shintō rituals to wrap offerings to the gods.

4-H is the nation's largest youth development organization. The official 4-H emblem is a green four-leaf clover with a white "H" on each leaf standing for Head, Heart, Hands, and Health.

#### ACKNOWLEDGEMENT:

Developed by MSU Extension Educator, Janis Brinn with instruction sheet from Japan Labo Tutor Noriko Kato

# ORIGAMI: 4-H CLOVER

## TIME:

30-45 minutes or multiple days depending upon the interest to learn more.

## MATERIALS:

- ◇ Origami paper (large packing paper if going real large). Any paper that is square can be utilized e.g. Printing paper, Christmas paper, newspaper, etc.
- ◇ Scissors
- ◇ Clear Tape
- ◇ Markers
- ◇ Optional: Samples, instruction sheets and back up origami books (once they start they may not want to stop)

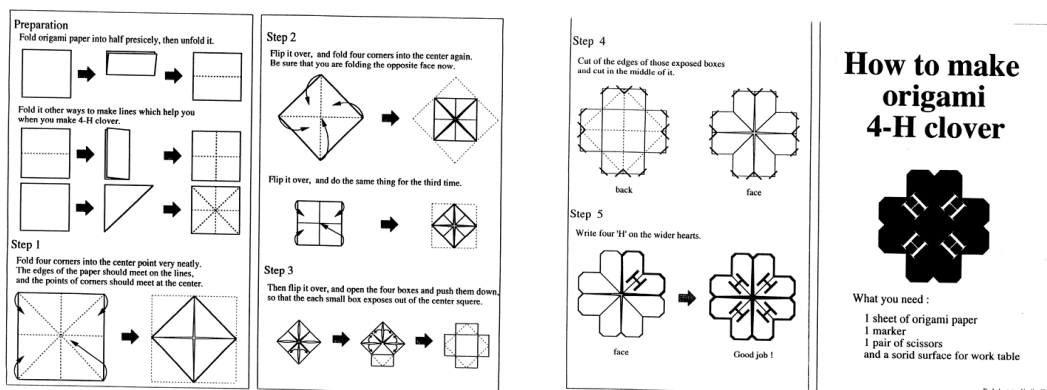
**Note:** When working with young participants larger pieces of paper and very simple paper folding (i.e. paper airplane, bunny, dog) is recommended prior in making a 4-H clover.

**INSTRUCTIONAL VIDEO LINK:** [https://mediaspace.msu.edu/media/t/0\\_yk23z3bl](https://mediaspace.msu.edu/media/t/0_yk23z3bl)

## PROCEDURE: How to make origami 4-H Clover

Prepare the paper first by folding the square in half, horizontally, then unfold it, folding in half vertically, then unfold it. Then fold on each of the diagonals and unfold it to make lines which will help you make your clover. See diagram below.

1. Fold the four corners of origami paper into the center. The edges of the paper should meet on the lines and the points of corners should meet at the center.
2. Flip it over and fold four corners into the center again. Flip it over again and do the same thing for a third time.
3. Flip it over and open the four boxes and push them down so that each small box is exposed out of the center square.
4. Cut the corners of the exposed boxes and cut in the middle too. See diagram below.
5. Use a marker and put an "H" in the formed hearts. It is optional to add a little tape to keep it together.



**Reflection Questions:** What surprised you and why? When were you the most creative, and why do you think that is? What made you curious today? What can you do with what you learned today?

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