

present

A World of Art

PROJECTS FOR KIDS

JAPAN Handmade paper, *washi*, is at the heart of Japanese arts & crafts. Folded, cut out, printed or brushed with ink, Japanese paper arts blend function & beauty whether used as traditional art forms or toys for children.

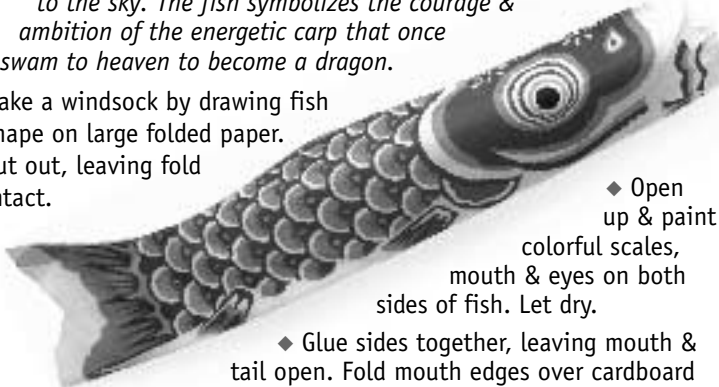
Carp Banners

The Japanese celebrate Tango-no-Sekku, Boys' Day (May 5), by flying carp banners, Koi-Nobori, from tall poles reaching to the sky. The fish symbolizes the courage & ambition of the energetic carp that once swam to heaven to become a dragon.

- ◆ Make a windssock by drawing fish shape on large folded paper. Cut out, leaving fold intact.

- ◆ Open up & paint colorful scales, mouth & eyes on both sides of fish. Let dry.

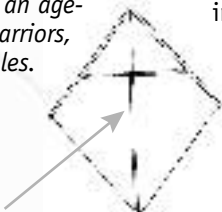
- ◆ Glue sides together, leaving mouth & tail open. Fold mouth edges over cardboard or wire circle to let air through.
- ◆ Hang in the breeze.



Kites

Japanese fly tako kites for holiday celebrations, festivals & competitions. Made by master craftsmen in an age-old tradition, they are brilliantly painted as samurai warriors, insects, high-flying birds, or figures from traditional tales. Use your imagination to make a beautiful kite.

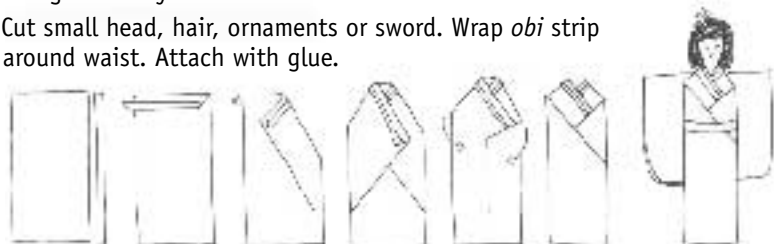
- ◆ Cut a square of light paper or tissue.
- ◆ Paint your design in bright colors: a fierce samurai warrior, sumo wrestler, butterfly or flying bird.
- ◆ Glue bamboo sticks to back (Use skewers or recycled bamboo blinds)
- ◆ Tie string to sticks, knotting in a loop. Attach long string & fly away!



Paper Dolls

Japanese families celebrate their girls on Hinamatsuri, Doll's Festival (March 3). They set up a doll display & give paper dolls as good luck charms. Years ago, parents believed that misfortune could be transferred to paper dolls & washed down the river, leaving their daughters strong & happy.

- ◆ Cut 8½" x 11" sheet of painted paper in half. Cut ½" strip from long side.
- ◆ Fold over top edge of paper twice.
- ◆ Fold sides into center leaving space for kimono neckline. Fold in sides again.
- ◆ Fold second paper in half for sleeves—rounded for girl's kimono, or angular-straight for boy's. Attach at back.
- ◆ Cut small head, hair, ornaments or sword. Wrap *obi* strip around waist. Attach with glue.



Japanese blockprint by Hiroshi Yoshida, Sanjo Bridge in Kyoto. Printed 1927

Woodblock Prints

Traditional Japanese prints captured kabuki actors, geisha, samurai & sumo wrestlers. They were named Ukiyo-e or "Pictures of the Floating World" for their glamorous images. Several craftsmen collaborated on each print: publisher, artist, engraver, papermaker & printer. Many of these traditions continue today.

- ◆ Cut curved edges from styrofoam tray.
- ◆ Plan picture. Then draw on styrofoam with pen.
- ◆ Ink styrofoam with a brayer & ink or a brush.
- ◆ Place inked side on paper & rub gently. Lift off paper to see print.
- ◆ Re-ink & print again. Share with friends or glue to cards.

Learn how woodcuts are made at: www.moma.org/exhibitions/2001/whatisaprint/flash.html

Daruma

A daruma toy pops up when pushed over. It symbolizes determination & perseverance for the Japanese. Children use papier-mâché darumas as wishing charms, painting one eye to make a wish & the other when it comes true. Set a goal for yourself, draw a one-eyed daruma & add the other eye when you meet your goal!



- ◆ Modern printing presses print many kinds of images. What types can you find? Research how these pictures are printed in newspapers.
- ◆ The Japanese used block prints to publicize kabuki plays. Find ways the paper attracts audiences for plays, movies or talks.

