

ORIGAMI IN JAPAN

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Subject- Art

Objective- After completing this lesson, students will have more knowledge about the history, and significance of Origami in the Japanese culture.

Intended audience- This lesson is intended for 6th grade students.

Ohio Standards:

Theme- Regions and People of the Eastern Hemisphere

Strand- history

Topic- Early Civilizations

Content Statement- Early civilizations with unique governments, economic systems, social structures, religions, technologies and agriculture practices and products flourished as a result of favorable geographic characteristics. The cultural practices and products of these early civilizations can be used to help understand the Eastern Hemisphere today.

Instructional resources- Book: Sadako and the Thousand Paper Cranes by Eleanor Coerr. I will use this book because it is set after WWII, and Sadako lived in Japan after the bombing of Hiroshima. When Sadako was 12 she was diagnosed with leukemia. Her friend told her to fold 1,000 paper cranes and a wish would be granted to her, her wish was to live. She was able to fold 644 before she died so her friends and family finished the rest. I chose this story to not only tell of the ancient Japanese legend that promises that anyone who folds a thousand origami cranes would be granted a wish, but also to inform the students about Hiroshima and the importance of friendship and peace.

Website: infohio and link to Explora for grades 6-8 which the following articles about origami can be found. I use these articles to show how origami is not just the art of folding paper, but is symbolic in many ways.

articles: "Students make 1,000 Origami Cranes for World Peace" and "Think, Pray, Fold: Down East Origami Society turns paper into art."

Video- From NOVA on PBS "The Origami Revolution" Shows the importance and relevance of origami in the fields of math and science.

Youtube- EZorigami- This Youtube site shows step by step instructions on how to make a paper crane.

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Instructional strategy- I will first introduce and read aloud the book, “Sadako and the Thousand Paper Cranes” by Eleanor Coerr. We will then read 2 articles about the art of Origami. We will also take a class period to watch “The Origami Revolution” a PBS show that shows how important origami is to both math and science. We will then watch the Youtube video EZorigami to see how to fold a papercrane. Students will then be instructed on how to fold such items as cranes, frogs, butterflies, and other traditional origami figures. Students will then do a reflection paper on the book, articles, and doing the Origami.

Assessment- Students will be assessed by their participation in the origami activity as well as on the reflection paper.

duration- 3 days

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