

# Asian Pacific Islander Heritage Month

May 1-May 31



## Activity Book



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# History of Asian Pacific Islander Heritage Month

Today, according to the U.S. Census Bureau, more than 12 million people in the United States are Asian American. That's about 5 percent of us! Of that, Chinese, Filipino, and Asian Indian are the highest Asian American groups in the U.S.

May is Asian Pacific Islander (API) Heritage Month—a celebration of Asians and Pacific Islanders in the United States. Much like Black History and Women's History celebrations, API Heritage Month originated in a congressional bill.

In June 1977, Representatives Frank Horton of New York and Norman Y. Mineta of California introduced a House resolution that called upon the president to proclaim the first ten days of May as Asian/Pacific Heritage Week. The following month, senators Daniel Inouye and Spark Matsunaga introduced a similar bill in the Senate. Both were passed. On October 5, 1978, President Jimmy Carter signed a Joint Resolution designating the annual celebration.

In May 1990, the holiday was expanded further when President George H. W. Bush designated May to be Asian Pacific American Heritage Month. May was chosen to commemorate the immigration of the first Japanese to the United States on May 7, 1843, and to mark the anniversary of the completion of the transcontinental railroad on May 10, 1869. The majority of the workers who laid the tracks were Chinese immigrants.

Asian Pacific American Heritage Month is celebrated with community festivals, government-sponsored activities, and educational activities for students.

Let's learn more about the significance and contributions of Asian Americans!!

*Article provided by Infoplease.com*



**Hello!**

Learn how to say "Hello" in different Asian Languages!

*From Girlpower.gov*

Language	Where This Language is Officially Spoken	How to Say Hello
<b>Hawaiian</b>	Hawaii	Aloha
<b>Japanese</b>	Japan	Kon-nichiwa
<b>Mandarin</b>	China	Ni hao
<b>Taiwanese</b>	Taiwan	Pêng-an
<b>Thai</b>	Thailand	Sa-wat-dee
<b>Vietnamese</b>	Vietnam	Xin chào ("Seen chaw")
<b>Tagalog</b>	Phillippines	Kumusta
<b>Malaysian</b>	Malaysia	Helo
<b>Majel</b>	Marshall Islands	Yokwe
<b>Indonesian</b>	Indonesia	Halo
<b>Hindi</b>	India	Namaste
<b>Korean</b>	Korea	An-nyong Ha-se-yo

Origami is the Japanese word for paper folding. **ORI** means to fold and **KAMI** means paper. Together, they form the word, "origami." It is an art form that has been handed down from parent to child through many generations. Origami involves the creation of paper forms usually entirely by folding. Animals, birds, fish, geometric shapes, puppets, toys and masks are among the models that even very young children can learn to make in just one sitting.

The art of making paper from pulp originated in China in the year 102A.D. Paper then became more available to the masses. The secret of making paper was kept in China for several hundred years and finally made its way through Korea and into Japan. A Buddhist monk is said to have carried this secret. The introduction of paper making to Japan several hundred years later coincided with the development of their religion and soon became part of the lives of its people. Colors and silk threads were added and origami was held in high esteem. Gifts were decorated with "noshi." Noshi had particular fold patterns depending on the gift.

In Japan, at one time origami was taught in schools but today, children are generally taught origami at home. Holidays are celebrated with colorful origami decorations made by the family. On children's day (formerly boy's day), children make colorful carp: a fish that swims upstream, against the current. This symbolizes strength. During the summer, Tanabata, The Star Festival is celebrated. Live bamboo branches are decorated with origami stars and other paper decorations in a manner which brings to mind a decorated Christmas tree.

Source: [http://www.geocities.com/rachel\\_katz/origami/origami.htm](http://www.geocities.com/rachel_katz/origami/origami.htm)

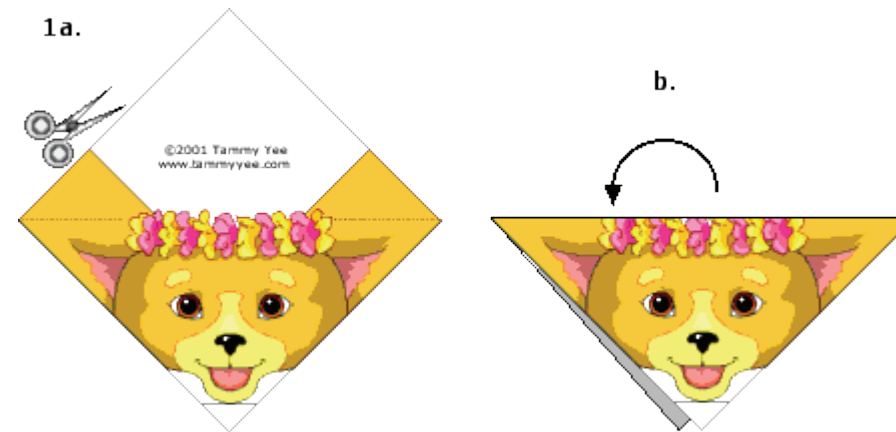
# ORIGAMI



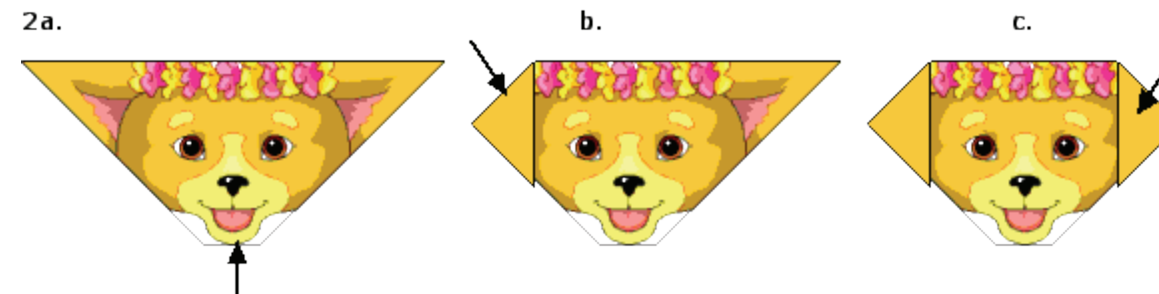
# "Poi Puppy" Origami Project



# Instructions



- 1a. Cut out image along outer solid lines.
- b. Fold in half along diagonal line, as shown.



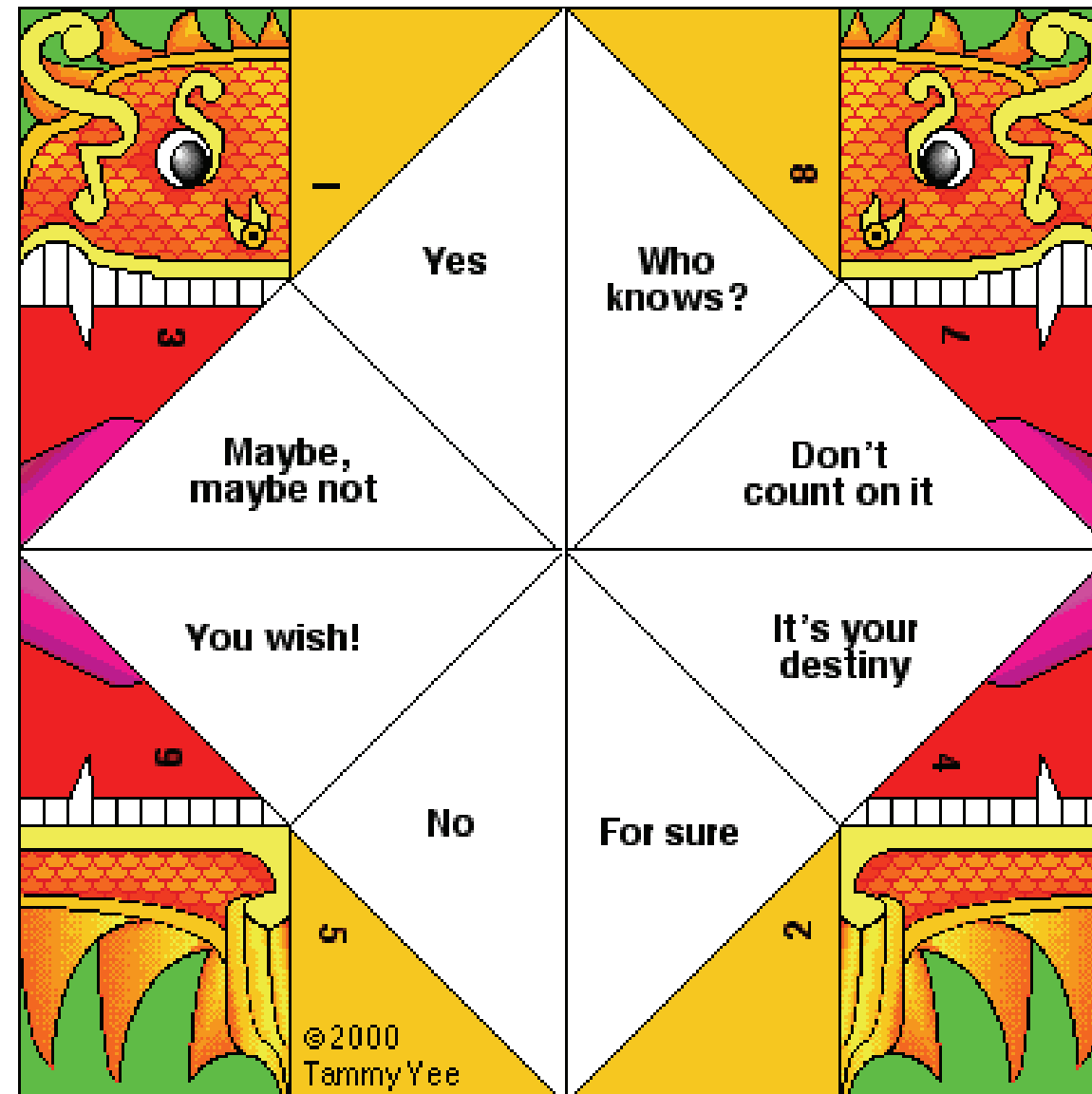
- 2a. Fold back along solid line as shown.
- b & c. Fold ears forward along diagonal lines.

Your Poí Puppy is pau (done)!

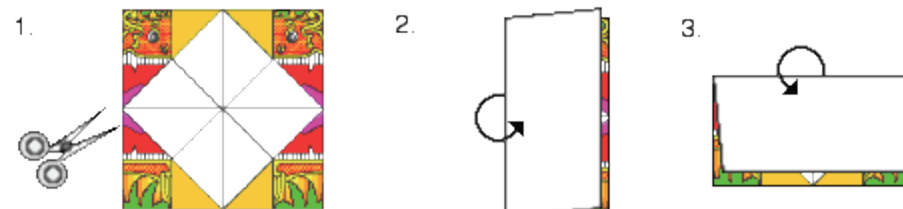
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Tammy Yee is a renown children's book author and illustrator. For more information on her art and books, please visit her website: [www.tammyyee.com](http://www.tammyyee.com)

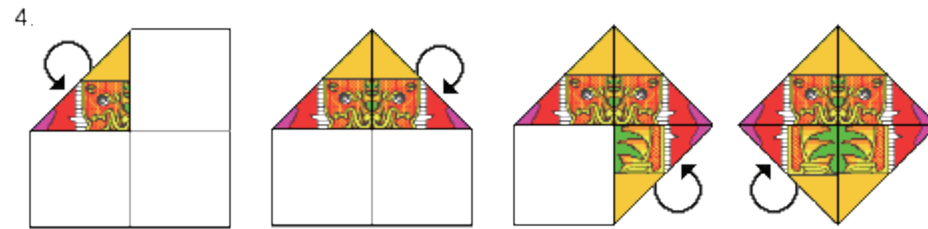
# "Dragon Fortune Teller" Origami Project



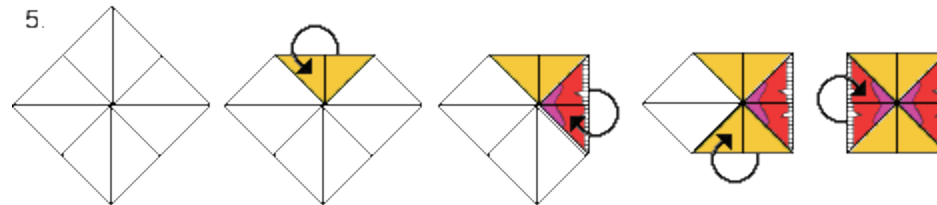
## Instructions



1. Cut out image along outer solid lines.
2. With printed side facing up, fold in half along vertical line.
3. Unfold, then fold in half along horizontal line.



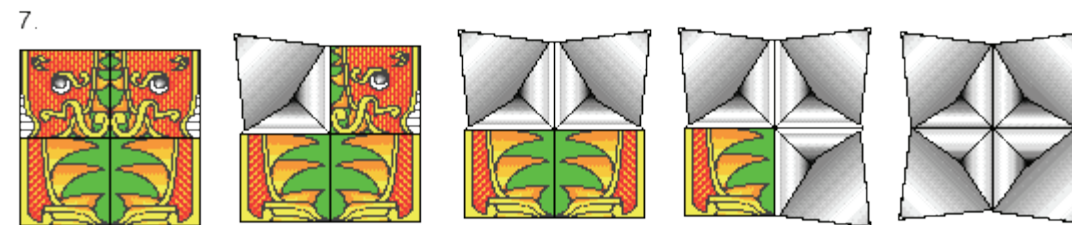
4. Unfold, turn over so that printed side faces down. Fold each corner over to center, as illustrated.



5. Turn your folded origami over, with the "fortune" text side facing up. Fold each corner over to center, as illustrated.



6. Crease in half along horizontal, then vertical lines.



7. Turn over so that the dragon printed side is facing up. Carefully "open" each corner as illustrated.



8. Turn your dragon over and you're pau (done)!

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Tammy Yee is a renown children's book author and illustrator. For more information on her art and books, please visit her website: [www.tammyyee.com](http://www.tammyyee.com)

# Famous Firsts

## By Asian-Americans

### GOVERNMENT

**U.S. Representative:** Dalip Singh Saund, 1956, representative from California. The first female Asian American elected to Congress was Patsy Takemoto Mink, elected in 1964 as a representative from Hawaii.



**U.S. senator:** Hiram Fong, 1959, one of Hawaii's first two senators.

**Federal court judge:** Herbert Choy, 1971, appointed to the U.S. court of appeals for the ninth circuit.

**U.S. ambassador:** Julia Chang Bloch, 1989, appointed ambassador to the Kingdom of Nepal.

**State legislator:** Wing F. Ong, 1946, elected to the Arizona House of Representatives.

**Governor:** George R. Ariyoshi, 1974, governor of Hawaii. The first on the mainland was Gary Locke, elected governor of Washington in 1996.

**Mayor of a major U.S. city:** Norman Yoshio Mineta, 1971, in San Jose, California.



**Member of presidential cabinet:** Norman Yoshio Mineta, 2000, appointed secretary of commerce. The first female Asian-

American cabinet member was Elaine Chao, appointed secretary of labor in 2001.

### AVIATION

**Female aviator:** Katherine Sui Fun Cheung, licensed in 1932. Astronaut (in space): Ellison Onizuka, first spaceflight in 1985. Died in the 1986 Challenger disaster.



### SCIENCE & MEDICINE

**Isolated epinephrine (adrenaline) from the suprarenal gland:** Jokichi Takamine, 1901.



**Invented pulse transfer controlling device leading to magnetic core memory:** An Wang, 1949.

**Cloned the AIDS virus:** Flossie Wong-Staal, 1984.

### FILM & TELEVISION

**Movie star:** Anna May Wong, who starred in the 1921 film Bits of Life and many other movies. Academy Award winner: Haing Ngor, Best Supporting Actor of 1984 for his role in The Killing Fields



**Host of own network TV series:** Anna May Wong, 1951, The Gallery of Madame Liu Tsong

**Star of own network sitcom:** Pat Morita, 1976, Mr. T and Tina

**First network news reporters:**

Ken Kashiwahara and Connie Chung, 1974. In 1993, Chung became the first Asian American to be a nightly news anchor for a major network (CBS).



**First anchor of a national radio program:** Emil Guillermo, 1989, host of NPR's All Things Considered.



### OTHER

**First to command a combat battalion:** Young Oak Kim, of the 100th Infantry Battalion, 1943.

**First NBA Player:** Wataru (Wat) Misaka, 1946, Knicks.

**First selected in the first round of NFL draft:** Eugene Chung, 1992, selected by New England.

**First (and youngest) to win the Masters golf tournament:** Tiger Woods. His father is African-American and his mother is Thai!



*From Infoplease.com*

# Word Search



- |           |             |
|-----------|-------------|
| CAMBODIA  | KOREA       |
| CHINA     | LAOS        |
| HAWAII    | MALAYSIA    |
| HONGKONG  | PHILIPPINES |
| INDIA     | TAIWAN      |
| INDONESIA | THAILAND    |
| JAPAN     | VIETNAM     |
- Answers on Page 14*

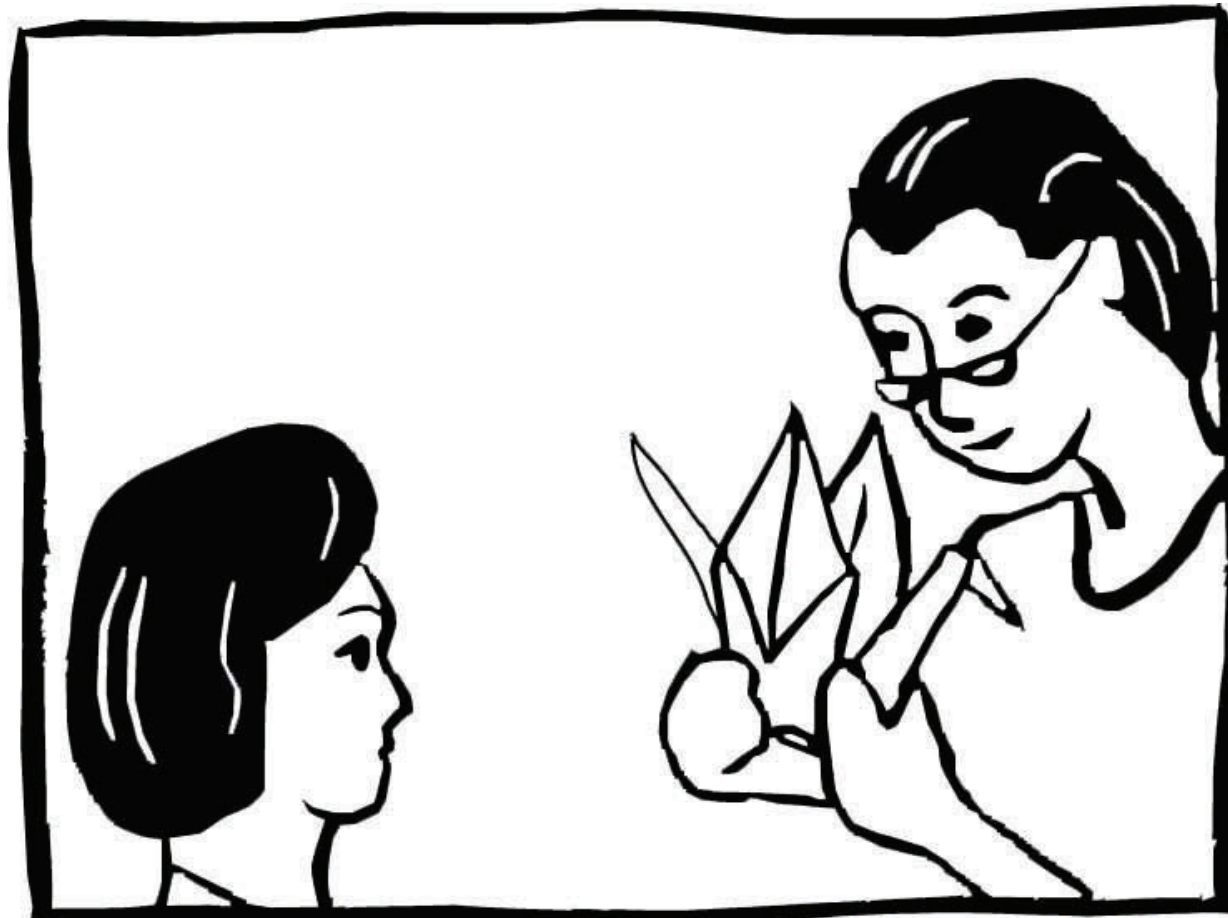




# Word Search Solution



F	B	U	G	A	O	C	O	J	Q	W	Z	Q	J	Y	F	A	H	C
E	H	Z	N	U	B	H	P	D	E	P	A	L	F	V	Y	G	S	L
E	R	T	O	E	L	G	N	V	D	F	G	L	O	B	J	A	P	A
K	B	V	K	I	C	Z	H	X	J	U	X	P	R	M	X	U	X	A
V	U	B	G	G	E	N	A	L	S	H	O	T	S	J	O	J	S	P
R	N	O	N	D	N	E	Z	X	B	N	L	A	O	S	A	H	V	P
N	Q	E	O	H	R	I	G	U	X	D	W	L	X	E	I	S	Q	J
L	L	Y	H	O	X	E	Q	W	Q	T	Q	B	G	P	D	E	F	C
V	M	P	K	J	N	W	Z	F	Q	T	A	E	K	A	N	O	M	A
B	O	V	G	Q	E	X	A	W	F	K	R	I	M	Y	I	D	Z	X
S	M	K	U	N	T	H	O	S	M	B	X	M	B	D	J	D	H	S
G	D	E	X	E	F	M	W	R	Z	Y	E	K	G	A	O	Y	X	H
X	N	N	B	A	Z	J	R	R	O	S	B	T	L	B	M	A	I	C
C	A	R	Q	L	A	C	O	A	Y	Z	S	W	M	W	J	W	F	A
Z	L	L	X	X	B	H	W	R	S	W	K	X	Z	O	G	A	P	N
R	I	X	V	I	E	T	N	A	M	D	C	B	Y	Z	N	C	G	I
A	A	C	P	H	I	L	I	P	P	I	N	E	S	H	C	F	P	H
F	H	Z	Q	M	C	A	G	A	P	X	P	V	A	K	C	U	D	C
J	T	J	G	I	N	D	O	N	E	S	I	A	G	H	E	R	F	H





**Send us a letter!**

**Dear Ohio Civil Rights Commission,**

**I really liked this API Heritage book**

**because I learned that**

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**Signed,**

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**Have your teacher mail this letter to:**

**OCRC-PACE  
1111 E. Broad Street, 3rd Fl.  
Columbus, OH 43205**



# Celebrating Asian Pacific Islander

