

Full STEAM ahead with... ORIGAMI!

What do cardboard boxes and fancy napkins have in common? Origami!

Origami, the ancient art of paper folding is often associated with Japanese culture. According to Ainissa Ramirez, Science Evangelist, "This art form engages children and sneakily enhances their skills- including improved spatial perception and logical and sequential thinking."

Children love origami! It can be evidenced by their amazement of their first paper airplane, paper hat, or paper boat. Origami is a great way to merge science, technology, engineering, art and math all together: STEAM.

Not a believer? Here are some ways that origami can be used to enhance skills:

- Origami has been found to strengthen math concepts like geometry and fractions. Origami has been shown to improve spatial visualization skill using hands-on learning. Such skills allow children to comprehend, characterize, and construct their own language for the world around them.
- Origami strengthens problem solving skills.
- Origami is a way to explain physics concepts. For example, A thin piece of paper is not very strong, but fold it like an accordion it will be.
- It's just PLAIN FUN

No matter which way you fold it, origami is a great way to get children engaged in an exciting activity that is worth the benefits.

Let's try it!

Boat instructions: https://origamiusa.org/files/traditional_boat.pdf

Need a video tutorial? Check out: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hiAWx8odStA>



Now the fun begins! Place your paper boats in the stream and watch them get swept away by the flowing water.

Want to make other cool origami creations? Visit <https://origamiusa.org/diagrams>

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