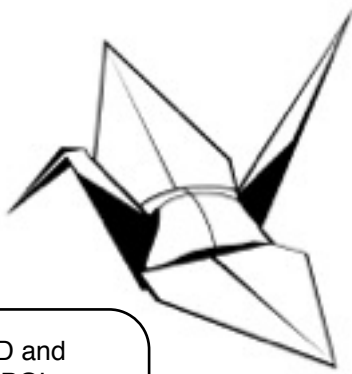


The Origami Peace Crane



Paper cranes are made in the Japanese tradition of origami. They are folded as a wish for peace in many countries around the world.

SACRED BIRD and PEACE SYMBOL
The Crane is a sacred bird in Japan and is the symbol of peace and friendship.

School children in Japan learn to fold paper cranes.

Garlands of paper cranes decorating the Childrens' Peace Memorial



A Japanese Legend

If you can fold 1000 cranes your wish will come true.

What do you think Sadako wished for?

A statue of Sadako draped in garlands of origami cranes in Seattle Peace Park



HIROSHIMA BOMB

In August 1945 an atomic bomb dropped on the city of Hiroshima in Japan. Over 100,000 people killed, some immediately and others over the months and years that followed from radiation sickness and cancer.

Sadako was a 2 year old girl when the bomb hit near her family home. 10 years later in 1955 Sadako was in hospital with Leukemia. In the few months she was in hospital she folded paper cranes in the hope of recovering from her illness.

Sadako died aged 12. Her friends continued to fold cranes. They joined together in a club, raised donations from other schools for a statue of Sadako to be built in Hiroshima Peace Memorial park. The statue is called the **Childrens' Peace Monument** and still stands today.

It is often referred to as the **'Tower of a Thousand Cranes'** as many origami cranes are offered there every year as a symbol of peace.



Childrens' Peace Monument in Hiroshima Peace Memorial Park. Sadako holds a crane above her head.

The last of the original cranes that Sadako folded are still being donated by her family to places round the world to celebrate peace.

