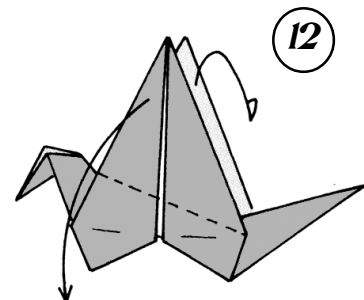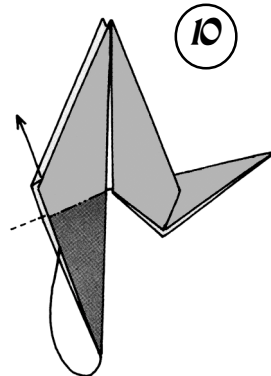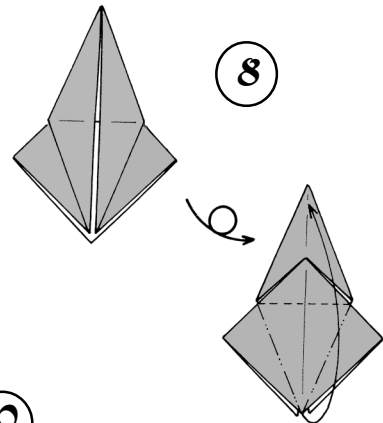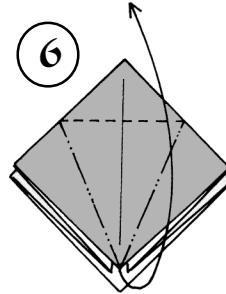# Some Things About Paper Cranes

Sadako Sasaki was two years old at the time of the bombing of Hiroshima. She died ten years later of leukemia, as a result of radiation exposure. An ancient Japanese legend says that if a person folds a thousand cranes, or *senbazuru*, the folder is granted a wish. Sadako set out to fold a thousand cranes, hoping that she would be healed by the time she finished. She did not finish, but since her story became known, people all over the world have folded cranes for the cause of peace. Many send them to the Hiroshima Peace Park.

To fold a crane:

1. Start with a paper square of any size (six to eight inches would be good).
2. Fold it from top to bottom diagonally to make a triangle.
3. Fold the triangle in half, right to left, to make two smaller triangles.
4. Open the top triangle and flatten to make a square.
5. Turn it over and repeat Step 4. Now you have a piece of paper that looks like two squares connected at one point.
6. With the loose ends down, fold right and left corners to the center line.
7. Turn it over and repeat Step 6.
8. Open the corner flaps and turn inside out, folding the flaps to the center to form a rhomboid.
9. Turn it over and repeat Step 8. Now you have two rhomboids. The top portions will become the crane's wings and the bottom portions are separate. The right and left sections will become the tail and the head.
10. Take the right-hand bottom portion, and bend upwards, turning it inside out.
11. Do the same with the self-hand bottom portion.
12. At the tip of the right-hand portion, bend downward to make another fold. This forms the head.

For more complete instructions, see the Peace Crane web site at <u>http://www.hiroshima-is.ac.jp/Hiroshima/foldcrai.htm</u> or look up Origami for Parties by Kazuo Kobayashi and Makoto Yamaguchi (Tokyo: Kodansha International Ltd., 1987, page 29.) Special thanks to Michael Long for assisting with these instructions.