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## IV. HIROSHIMA UND NAGASAKI

### THE STORY OF SADAKO SASAKI

Sadako was two years old when the atomic bomb was dropped on Hiroshima. She was two kilometers away from where the bomb exploded. Most of Sadako's neighbors died, but Sadako wasn't injured at all, at least not in any way people could see.

Up until the time Sadako was in the seventh grade (1955) she was a normal, happy girl. However, one day after an important relay race that she helped her team win, she felt extremely tired and dizzy. After a while the dizziness went away leaving Sadako to think that it was only the exertion from running the race that made her tired and dizzy. But her tranquillity did not last.

One day Sadako became so dizzy that she fell down. Her school-mates noticed and informed the teacher. Later Sadako's parents took her to the Hospital to see what was wrong with her. Sadako found out that she had leukemia. Nobody could believe it. At that time they called leukemia the "A-bomb disease". Almost everyone who got this disease died, and Sadako was very scared. She had to stay in the hospital where she cried and cried.

Shortly thereafter, her best friend, Chizuko, came to visit her. Chizuko brought some origami (folding paper). She told Sadako of a legend. She said that the crane, a sacred bird in Japan, lives for a hundred years, and if a sick person folds 1,000 paper cranes, then that person would get well. After hearing the legend, Sadako decided to fold 1,000 cranes.

Sadako's family worried about her a lot. They often came to visit her in hospital to talk to her and to help her fold cranes. After she folded 500 cranes she felt better and the doctors said she could go home for a short time, but by the end of the first week back home the dizziness and fatigue returned and she had to go back to the hospital. Even during these times of great pain she tried to be cheerful and hopeful. Not long afterwards, with her family standing by her bed, Sadako went to sleep peacefully, never to wake up again. She had folded a total of 644 paper cranes.

Thirty-nine of Sadako's classmates felt saddened by the loss of their friend and decided to form a paper crane club to honor her. On May 5, 1958, almost 3 years after Sadako died, enough money was collected to build a monument in her honor. It is now known as the Children's Peace Monument, and is located in the center of Hiroshima Peace Park, close to the spot where the atomic bomb was dropped.

On the base of the monument is written:

**"This is our cry, This is our prayer, Peace in the world".**

### METHOD: FOLDING PAPER CRANES

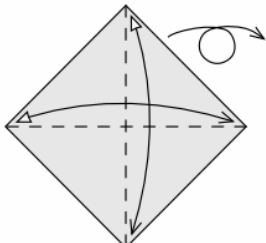
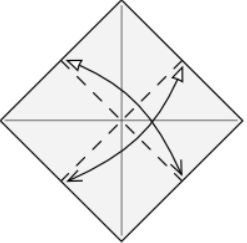
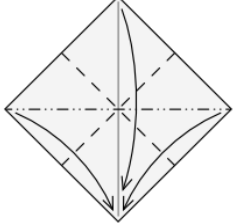
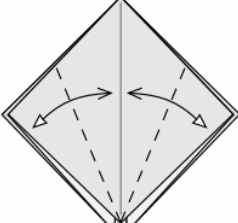
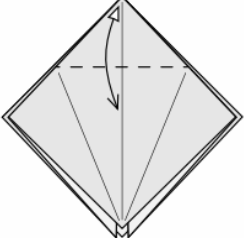
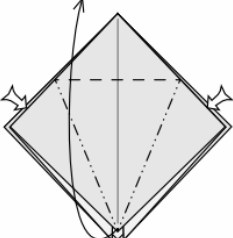
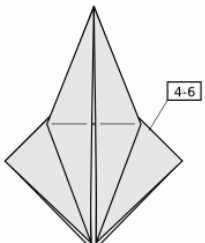
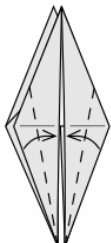
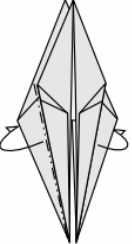
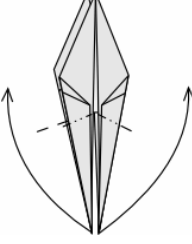
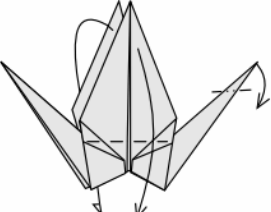
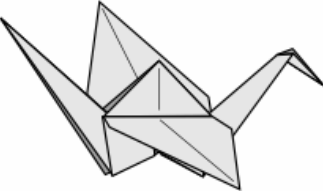
**Material:** larger Origami paper, copies of the instructions to fold a paper crane

**Time and Location:** tables and chairs, 10 minutes for reading the story and about 15 minutes for folding 1-2 paper cranes.

First the story should be read. There are also children books with drawn pictures of the Sadako Story for younger children to back the story.

After this Origami paper and the instructions are distributed. For questions and problems its helpful if someone is there who as folded cranes before to help with failed attempts.

Wie faltet man einen Kranich / How to fold a paper crane

 <p><b>1</b></p> <p>Beide Diagonalen falten und Blatt wenden. <i>Fold both diagonals and turn it around.</i></p>	 <p><b>2</b></p> <p>Beide Geraden falten. <i>Fold both straight lines.</i></p>
 <p><b>3</b></p> <p>Die vorgefaltete Form zusammenschieben. <i>Slide the folded form together.</i></p>	 <p><b>4</b></p> <p>Linke und rechte Kante zur Mittel falten. <i>Fold the left and right edge to the middle.</i></p>
 <p><b>5</b></p> <p>Wieder öffnen und obere Ecke runter falten. <i>Open again and fold the upper corner down.</i></p>	 <p><b>6</b></p> <p>Die untere Ecke nach oben falten, dabei wandern die äußeren Kanten zur Mitte. <i>Fold the bottom corner up and thereby the outer edges to the middle.</i></p>
 <p><b>7</b></p> <p>Wiederholen der Schritte 4-6 mit der Rückseite. <i>Repeat steps 4-6 on the backside.</i></p>	 <p><b>8</b></p> <p>Die linke und rechte untere Kante zur Mitte falten. <i>Fold the left and right bottom edge to the middle.</i></p>
 <p><b>9</b></p> <p>Wiederholen des Schrittes 8 auf der Rückseite. <i>Repeat step 8 on the backside.</i></p>	 <p><b>10</b></p> <p>Die Spitzen hochfalten. <i>Fold the peaked corner up.</i></p>
 <p><b>11</b></p> <p>Kopf formen und an den Flügel aufziehen. <i>Fold a head and pull at the wings to open the crane.</i></p>	 <p><b>12</b></p> <p>Der Kranich ist fertig! <i>Your crane is ready!</i></p>