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Name	Date

## Paper Art

Paper was invented in China by a man named Ts'ai Lun, who stated in an official document that he invented paper in the year a.d. 105. Now it is thought that paper was actually invented 200 years earlier.

The early paper of China was made from a plant called hemp. About 500 years later, the people of Korea and Japan learned how to make paper. This art then spread to all parts of the world.

Origami is the Japanese art of folding squares of paper to make things. The folded objects are used for decorations. The word *origami* comes from the Japanese word *ori*, which means "fold," and *kami*, which means "paper."

In Japan, a crane is thought to be a sacred bird. Some people believe that if a person folds 1,000 cranes, he or she will have a wish come true.

Kirigami is the Japanese art of folding and cutting paper. It is used to make objects for decoration. The word *kirigami* comes from the Japanese word *kiri*, which means "to cut," and *kami*, which means "paper." This art began in China in the sixth century and then spread to Japan.

Decoupage is the art of using paper cutouts to decorate other things.

Different papers are glued onto another surface. Decoupage comes from the French word *decouper*, which means "to cut out."

Papier mâché is an art form that uses strips of paper and paste to form
works of art. *Papier mâché* is a French word that means "chewed paper."

Papier mâché can be used to make simple things like masks or more
elaborate things like puppets or piñatas.

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