Frank Lloyd Wright created extraordinary spaces by using simple geometric shapes and balanced proportions. The same principles are found in origami, the Japanese art of paper folding. Make a classic origami figure, the crane, and discover how the principles of math can create beauty!

**Activity:** Architecture Connection: Origami Crane

**Materials:**
- Origami Paper (or a 15 cm x 15 cm piece of paper)
  - Any square piece of paper will do

**Directions:**

*Start folding on a flat surface*

1. **X Folds.** Fold the square diagonally, corner to corner. Repeat the process again so that it looks like an x on your paper. Make sure you properly align the edges or else your crane won’t fold as well.
2. **+ Folds.** Flip the paper over and fold the paper in half horizontally. Repeat this process the other way, so that your paper looks like a +.
3. **Make an Accordion Fold.** Open the square up. Turn the square so that one of the corners is pointing at you. Bring the two side corners in to meet the corner on the table that’s pointing at you. Take the top corner that’s still sticking up and press it down to join the other corners, creating an accordion folded square.
4. **Make a Superman Fold.** With the ‘flap’ corners still facing you, take the top right-hand corner of the square and fold it into the center diagonal line of the square. The result of your folds will look a bit like the Superman logo shape. Repeat this with the left top corner.
5. **Top Fold.** Once both parts are folded in pull the top part top and press the crease.
6. **Frog Mouth to Diamond Fold.** After you have both halves of the triangle pulled in, pull them back out and lift up the top piece of paper. Next lift up the top front corners and hold down the other three front corners. Pull the top corner up. It should look like a frog’s mouth. The next part is tricky. Pull the top corner all the way up and back so that the top piece lies flat. Carefully press all the folds down so that you end up with a diamond shape on top of the bottom diagonal square.

7. **Repeat.** Flip the paper over and repeat steps 4-6 on the other side.

8. **Skinny Kite Fold.** Next, fold the right top corner of the diamond in to meet the center line. Press down on that fold. Repeat this for the left top corner. Flip the paper over and repeat the same steps with the other side.

9. **Inside Reverse Fold.** Take one of the legs of the folds you just made and open it wide. Fold the leg directly up and angled inside the body of the crane. Repeat on the other side. Both legs should be inside the body, angled out to look like a crown.

10. **Head Fold.** Bend the top of one side down to make the head.

11. **Wing Fold.** Fold both wings down where two different angles meet on the wing flaps. Press the folds.

12. **Transform.** Create more cranes, make a mobile or whole family of cranes!

**Tips:**
- Take your time! Origami requires patience
- Use a hard object to firmly press down your folds
- Start over or use your first try as a learning experience
- Have fun!

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