



## Warm up: fold a tiny star (mini activity)

**Objective:** Warm up to basic origami by folding a tiny star with thin strips of paper. Unfold the star to investigate how a supernova unpacks the star's material.

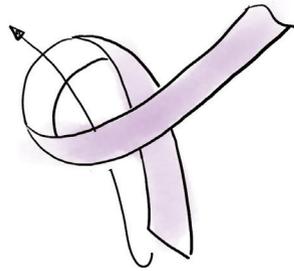
**Materials:**

These origami lucky stars are made with strips of paper cut about 10-inches to 11-inches long. Each strip can be as wide as 1/4 inch, 1/2 inch, or 3/4 inch. Thinner strips make smaller stars while fatter strips make larger stars.

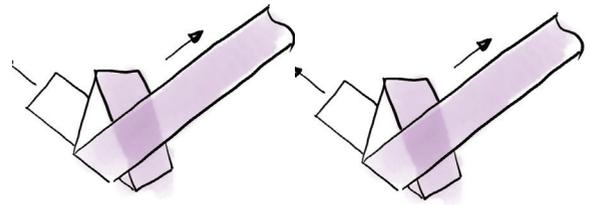
For very large stars you can also try long thin strips of wrapping paper.

**Ages:** Any

**Time needed:** 15-20 minutes

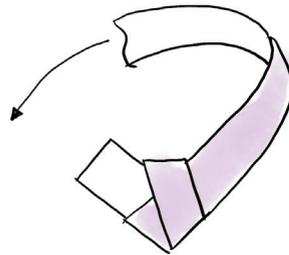


**1** Make a loop at one end of the paper. Weave the short end of the paper through the loop.

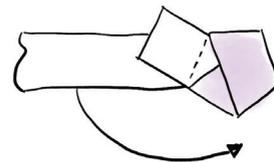


**2** Tighten knot and press flat.

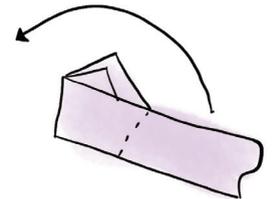
**3** Fold short-end of paper down towards center of star. If it is too long, tear off a small piece.



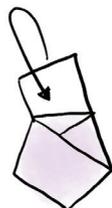
**4** Fold long-end of paper up. Make sure edges line up right on top of one another.



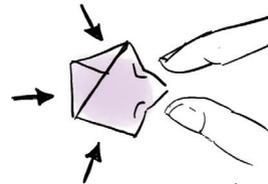
**5** Flip paper around so long-end of paper is pointing down again.



**6** Fold long-end of paper up and to the left. Make sure edges line up one on top of the other.



**7** Flip paper around again so long-end of paper is pointing down.



**8** Pinch the sides and puff out your star! Be careful here, too, to avoid ripping your star.



**Helpful Hint:**  
Be very careful when folding and knotting your paper to avoid ripping it.