

# **Collaborative Origami Projects in Mainstream Schools**

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## **Abstract**

The benefits of teaching Origami in schools have been widely discussed, particularly in relation to the teaching of mathematics. Research has also been carried out on the social and emotional advantages of using Origami in therapeutic settings. However, this presentation will explore the particular benefits that can arise from participation in *collaborative* Origami projects. Here, the focus will be on collaborative, extra-curricular Origami and Paper Art activities in a mainstream school setting: activities such as origami ‘bombing’, and the collective creation of origami or pixel murals.

The presentation will include an outline of several collaborative projects undertaken during lunchtime Origami Clubs attended by a mixed-age group of UK Secondary School students from two different schools over a five-year period. Participant feedback in the form of interviews and questionnaire responses will also be discussed.

The session will end with a practical activity resulting in the creation of a collaborative Origami art work.



**Figure 1:** Preparing the Lotus Blossom Mural



**Figure 2:** The finished Lotus Blossom Mural