Origami is commonly associated with Japan and Japanese culture, although some historians believe that it may have evolved independently around the world. There are many styles of origami, including realistic, minimal, modular (geometric units folded together to form a larger shape) and wet folding, in which the paper is dampened slightly, allowing softer folds to be created.

Origami is **the art of folding paper into animals, plants and anything else you can think of!**
1. Start with a square piece of paper

2. Fold in half like a hotdog bun

3. Starting from the open edge, fold one side up and then down again

4. Fold the left corner of the top layer to make another crease

5. Fold the top right corner (both layers) to meet the intersection of the previous two folds

6. Fold along the dotted line

7. Fold the top edge down so that it's lined up with your last fold

8. Fold the whole thing in half on the dotted line, where the two sections meet

9. Cut along the dotted line and unfold to reveal your cherry blossom!

**FUN FACT:**

*Origami* originally allowed cutting, but modern origami is only folded. These cherry blossoms are *kirigami*, a branch of origami that uses scissors.