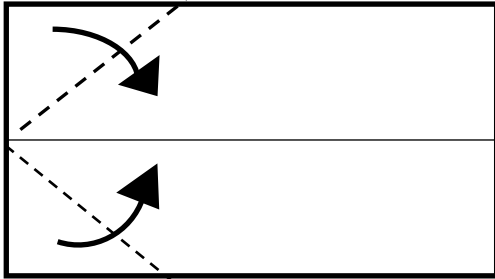


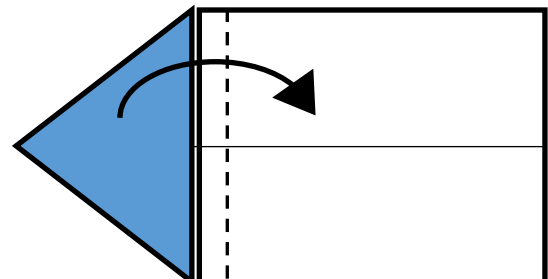
Capture the Wind

Activity 1—Paper Airplane

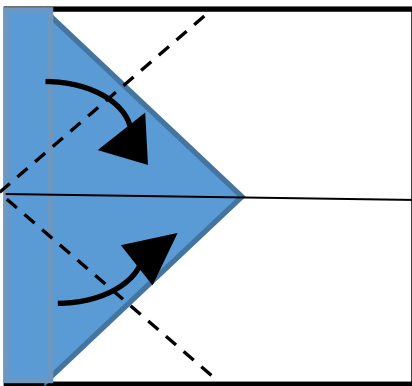
Materials needed: sheet of paper, ruler, tape or piece of string for starting line.



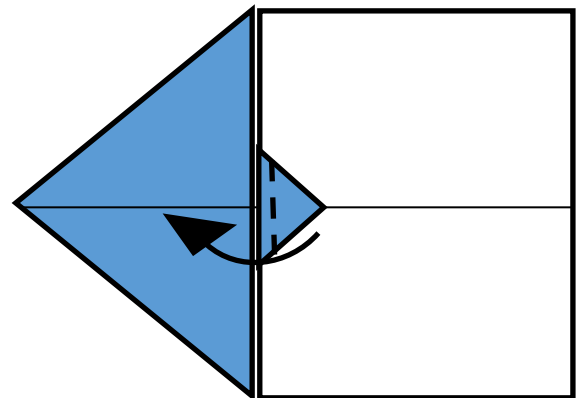
1) Fold in the dotted line to meet the center line.



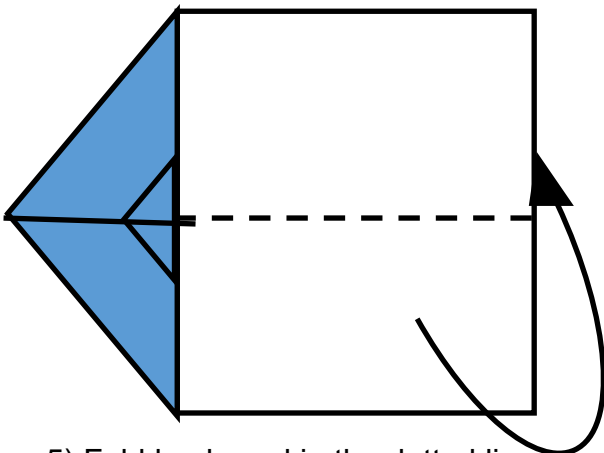
2) Fold in the dotted line.



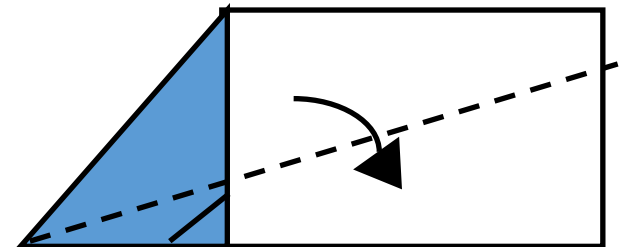
3) Fold in the dotted line to meet the center line.



4) Fold in the dotted line.

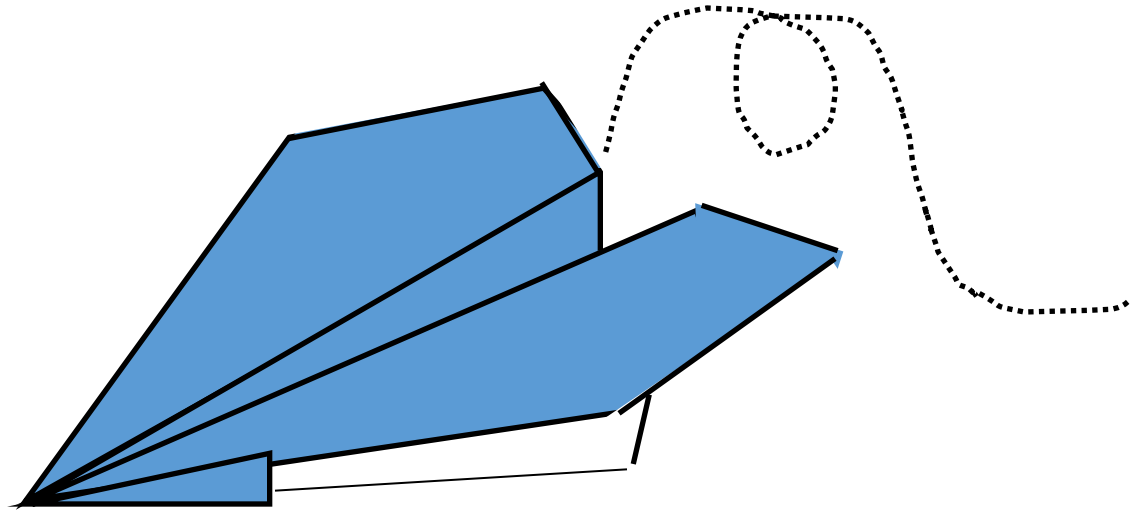


5) Fold backward in the dotted line.



6) Fold in the dotted line.

Finished!



You can find many different folding patterns for paper airplanes. The way you fold can affect the way that your plane will fly. Try experimenting with different folds, different types and weights of paper, and then consider adding paper clips or taping coins to the wings to get different results.

You can mark a starting line with tape or string and keep track of how far your plane will fly. You can also try flying in different wind conditions to see how the plane will fly differently.

If you make them with family, try to compare whose plane goes the fastest, the highest, the furthest, etc.

Stem Connections

In this activity you will be looking at aerodynamics, which studies the movement of air and the way objects move through it, forces, such as drag, which is the friction between the air and the plane which slows it down, and lift, the force that directly opposes the weight of the plane and that holds it in the air.

Other Paper Airplane Resources

The Kid's Guide to Paper Airplanes by Christopher L. Harbo

Paper Airplanes: Flight School Level 1 by Christopher L. Harbo

The Ultimate Paper Airplane by Richard Kline