

Activity Idea

Koinobori Paper Craft

Japanese Cloth Carp Streamers

Recommended age level: 4 – 8

Kodomo no hi, or Children's Day, is a Japanese national holiday that takes place on May 5th, the final day of Golden Week. This day is set aside to respect and honor children for their individual strengths and to wish happiness upon them. Traditionally koinobori, or cloth carp streamers, which symbolize the desire for children to become brave and strong, are flown on poles outside public buildings or private residences to bring luck and good fortune to the children inside. This activity will allow you to make your own paper koinobori.

What you need:

Paper
Coloring supplies (Crayons, markers, etc)
Scissors
Glue
Hole puncher
12 inch string
A stick (like a chopstick)



What to do:

1. Print out and color the second page of this activity sheet.
2. Follow the labels which will tell you where to cut and glue. Use a hole puncher to cut out the circles.
3. Fold the string in half and remember where the center is. Stretch the string out then place the stick in the center and tie a knot around it.
4. Loop one end of the string through one of the holes of your koinobori and tie a knot. Repeat on the other side.

