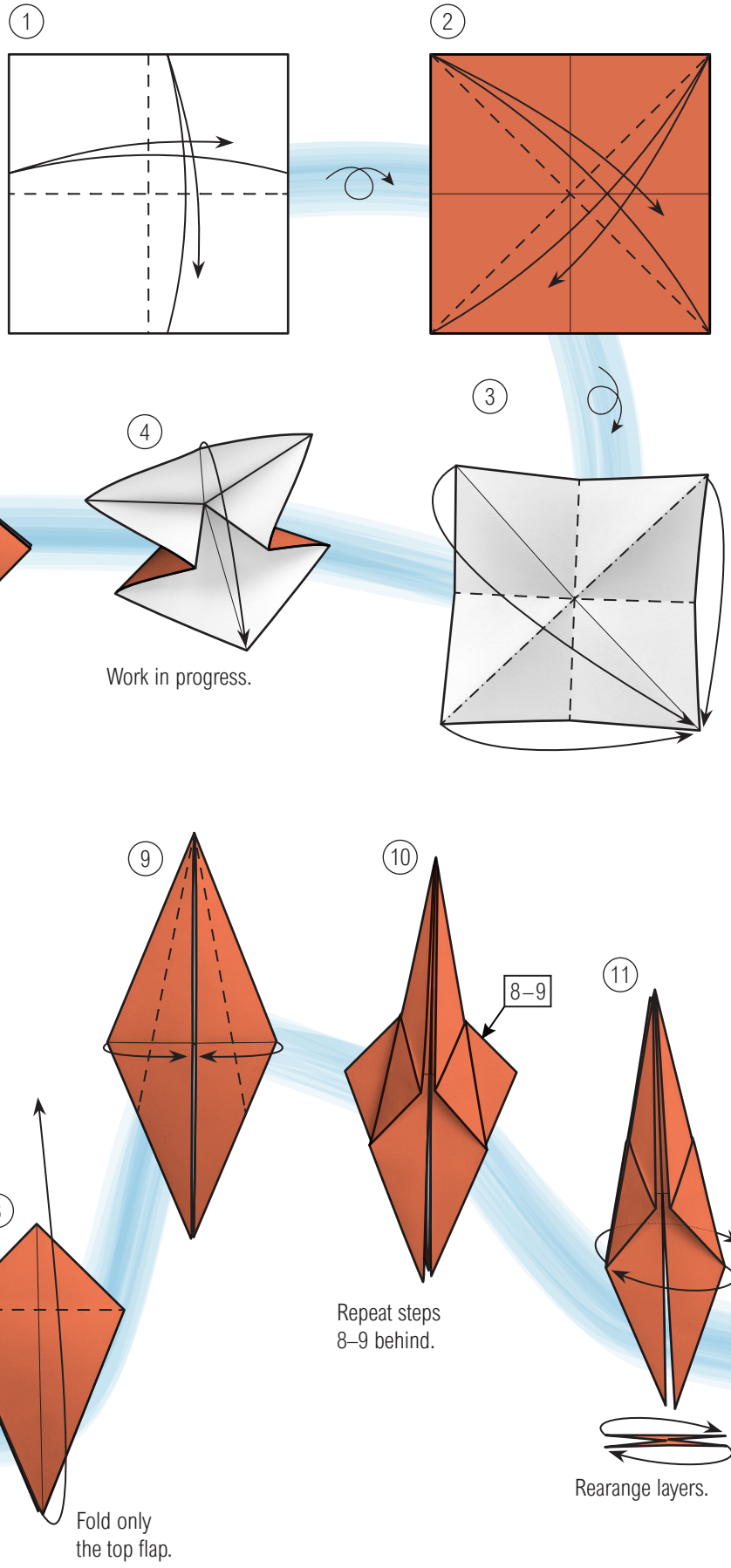
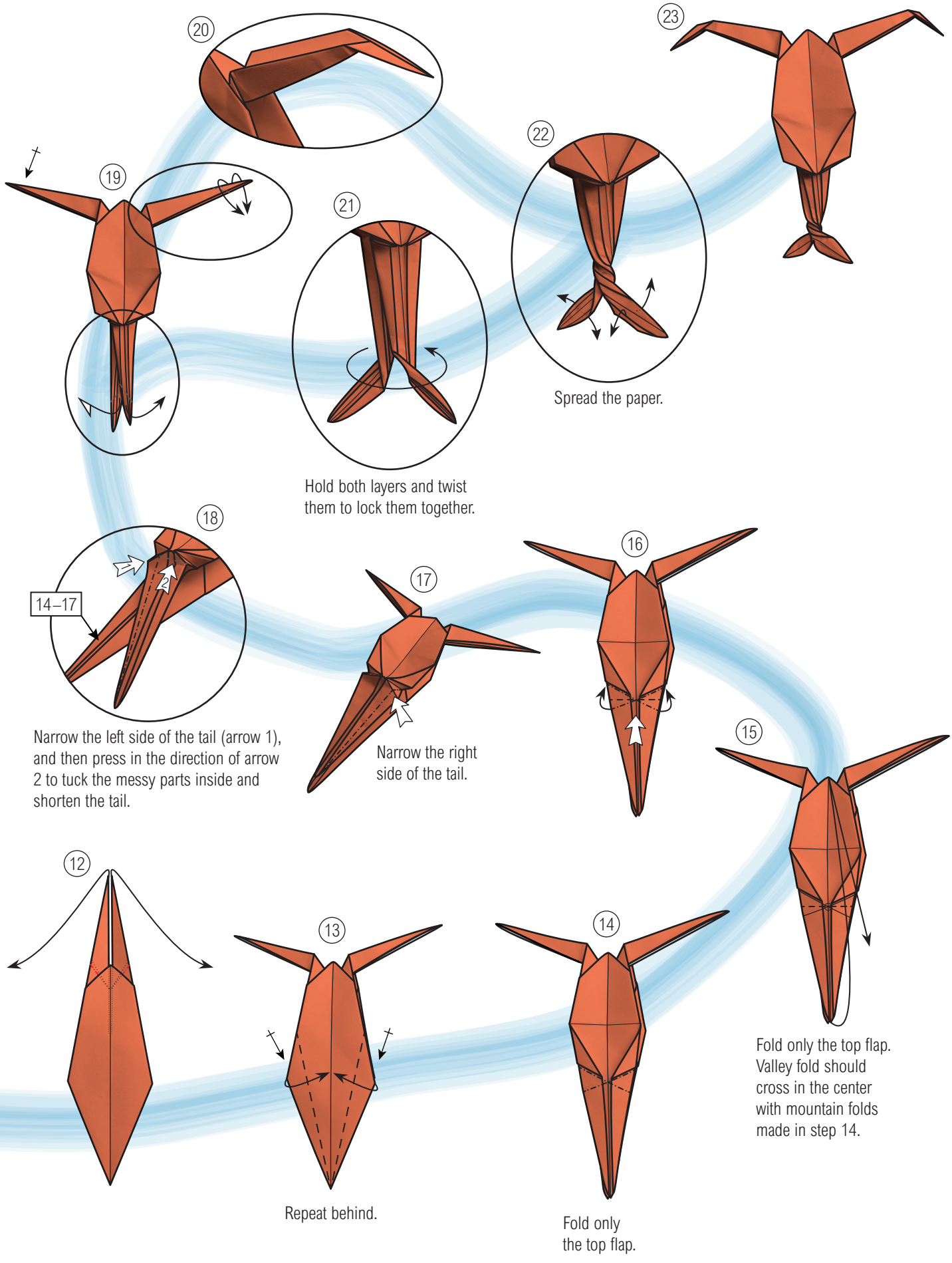
Copepod, basic form

Diagrammed by Dáša Ševerová

Copepods are tiny crustaceans, 1-5 mm long, that are found everywhere from sunny tropical lagoons to the depths of the Arctic Ocean. They graze on microscopic, plant-like phytoplankton, as well as anything else they can find, including each other. In turn many fish, seabirds, and even whales rely on them as an energy-rich food.



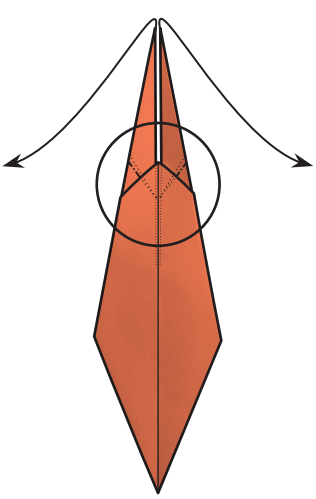

20
23
19
22
21
Spread the paper.
Hold both layers and twist them to lock them together.
18
14–17
16
17
Narrow the left side of the tail (arrow 1), and then press in the direction of arrow 2 to tuck the messy parts inside and shorten the tail.
Narrow the right side of the tail.
15
12
13
14
Fold only the top flap. Valley fold should cross in the center with mountain folds made in step 14.
Repeat behind.
Fold only the top flap.

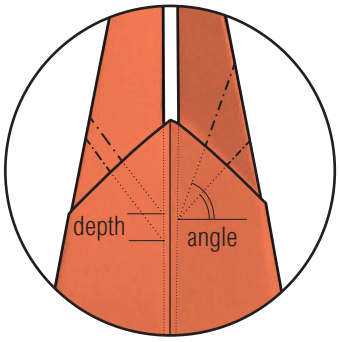
Variations

With some simple variations in the shape and the position of antennae, the length of the body and the tail, we can better represent different species. Here are some of such possible variations to experiment with.

Antennae (12) + (19)

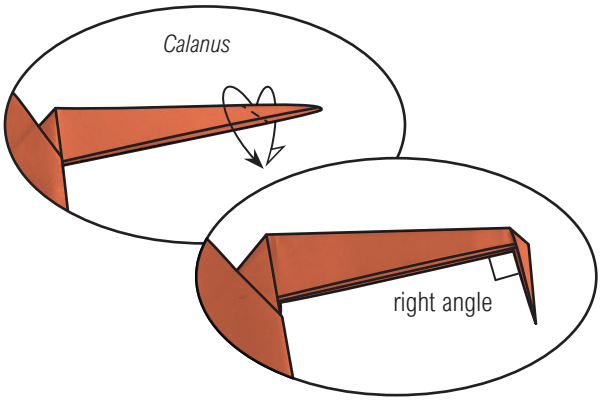
Position & angle of the antennae, step 12

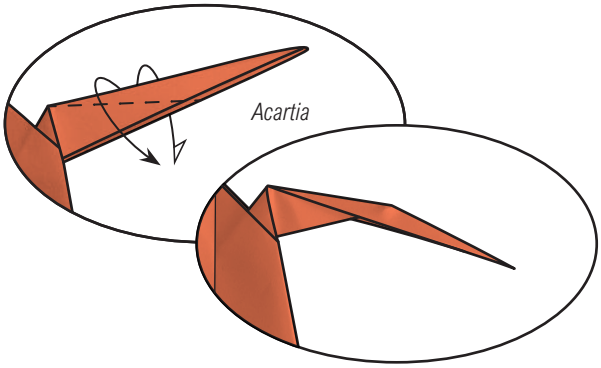


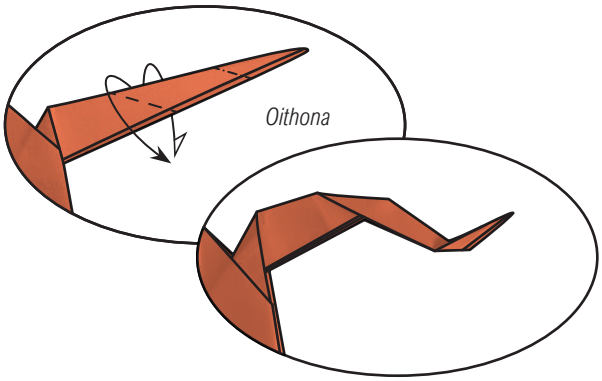


Position of the antenna depends on the depth and the angle of the fold in step 12. Experiment with it to obtain different antennae.

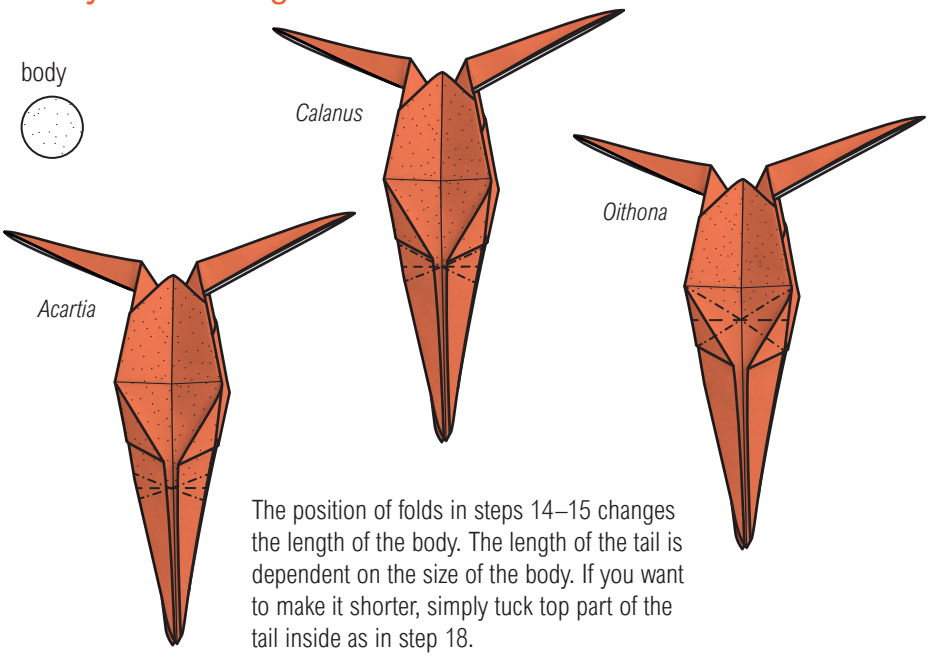
Shape of the antennae, step 19





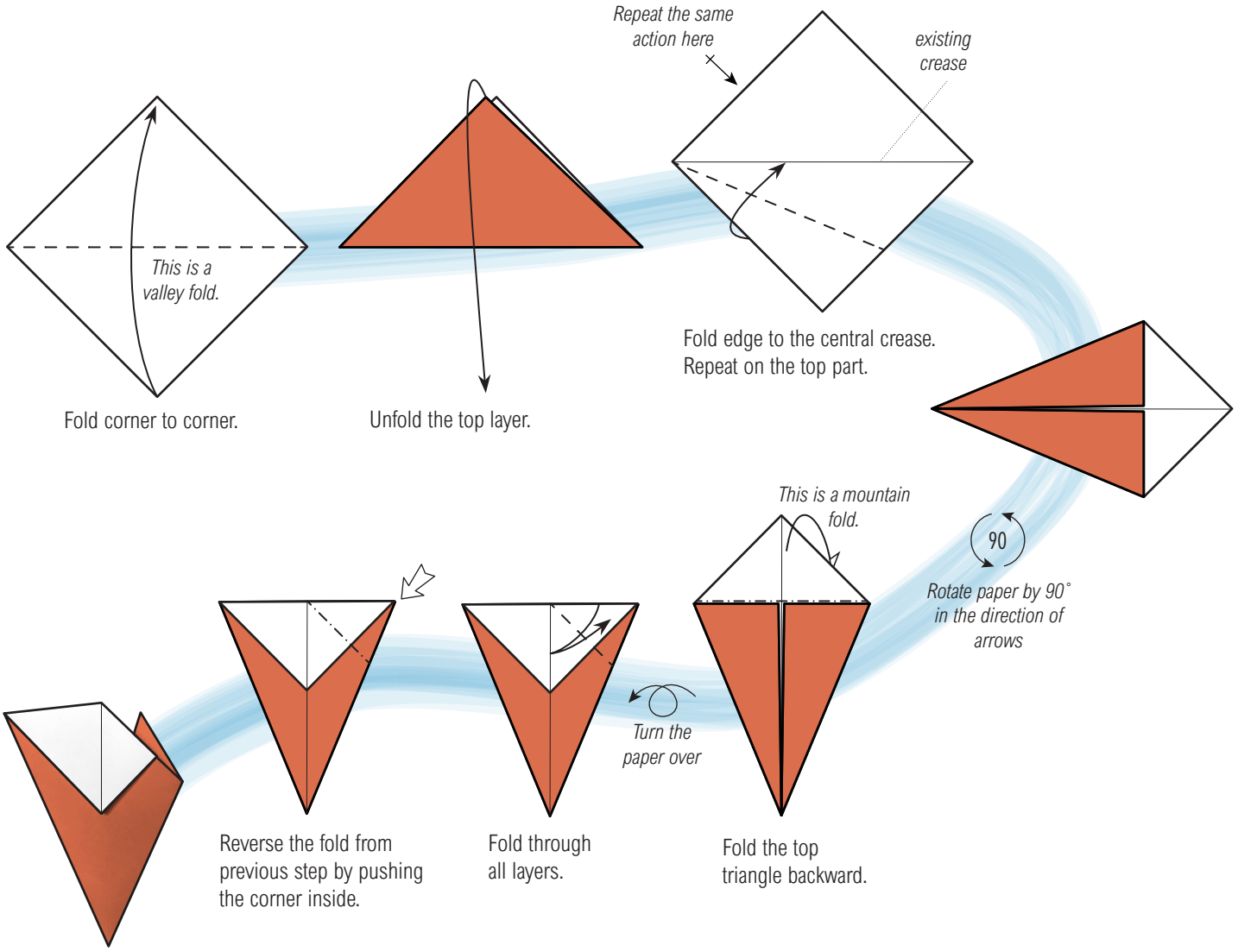


Body & tail length (14) + (15)



The position of folds in steps 14–15 changes the length of the body. The length of the tail is dependent on the size of the body. If you want to make it shorter, simply tuck top part of the tail inside as in step 18.

Origami Basics



edge of the paper/flap

existing crease

invisible layers

valley fold

mountain fold

arrow going under layers

Turn the paper over

Rotate paper (rotate by a specified angle as in the example)

Push in the direction of the arrow

Repeat same step here

6–7 Repeat steps 6-7 here