

Make your own Krill



Krill are related to crabs, lobsters, crayfish, shrimp and woodlice. 7 species of krill are found in Antarctic seas. Growing up to 6cm in length, they can live for over 5 years.

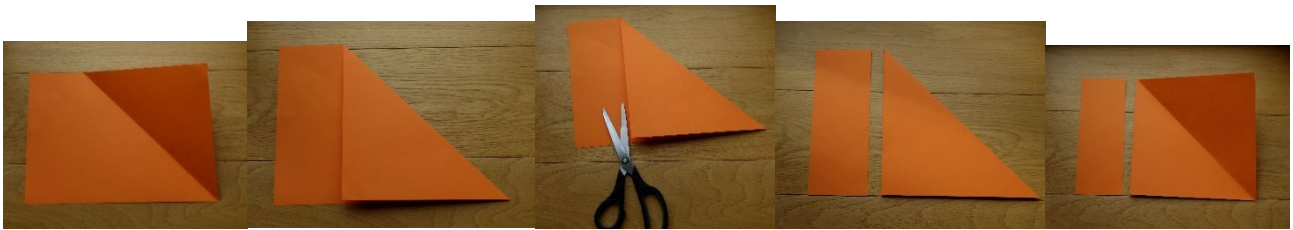
To avoid predators, krill gather in dense swarms of more than 10,000 individuals per cubic meter of water. During daylight they hide in deep waters, rising towards the surface during the night. Despite swarming, Krill are the main prey of many penguins, fish and baleen whales. The largest animal on earth, the blue whale, filters up to 4 tonnes of Krill through its sieve-like baleen every day.

Many types of Krill are bioluminescent which means they emit light. Researchers are still trying to understand exactly why they do this. Could it be camouflage, or maybe social interaction?





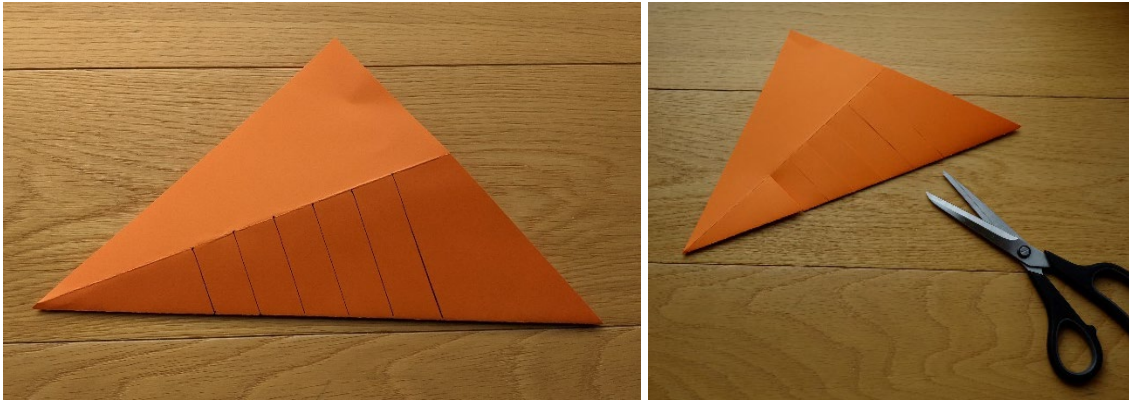
You will need: A4 paper or thin card, a small piece of contrasting paper (approx. 6x8cm), scissors and glue.



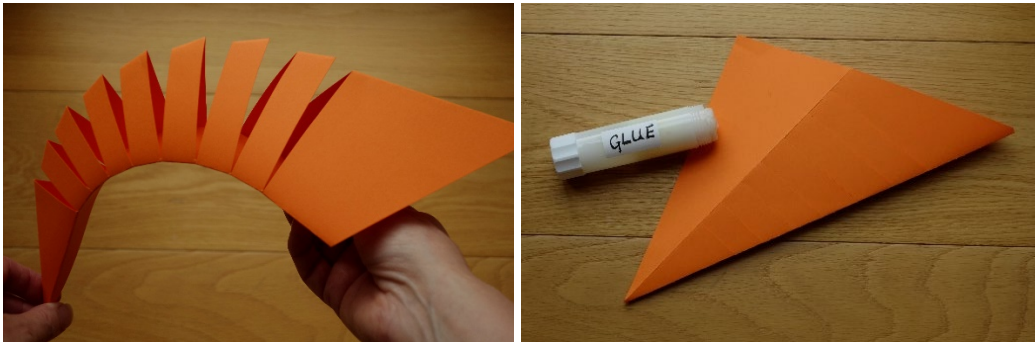
Starting from one corner, fold a triangle and cut to form a square and a rectangle. Put the rectangular piece to one side as you will need it later.



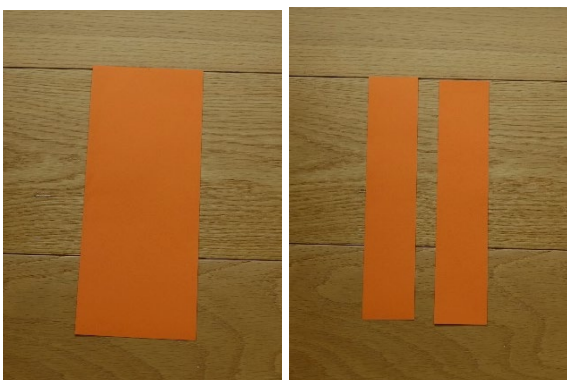
Fold the sides of the square in to make a kite shape. This will be the body of your krill.



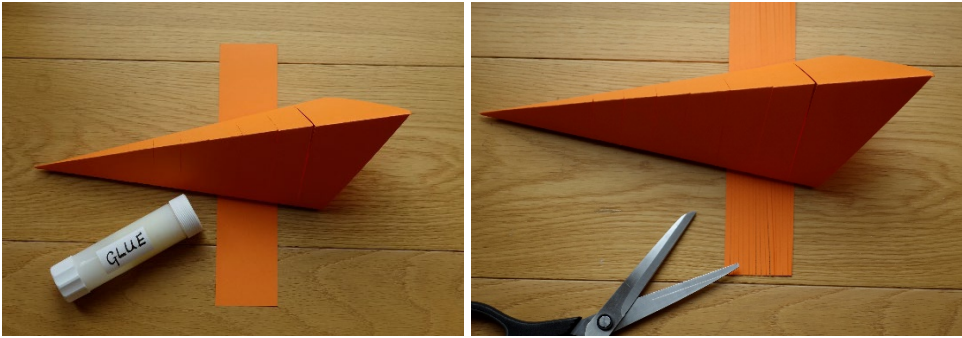
Now open out and fold along the original fold line to make the triangle again. Carefully cut lines from the original fold, up to the new fold lines. Your cuts should be about 2cm apart. *Leave a thumb length at both ends of the original fold.*



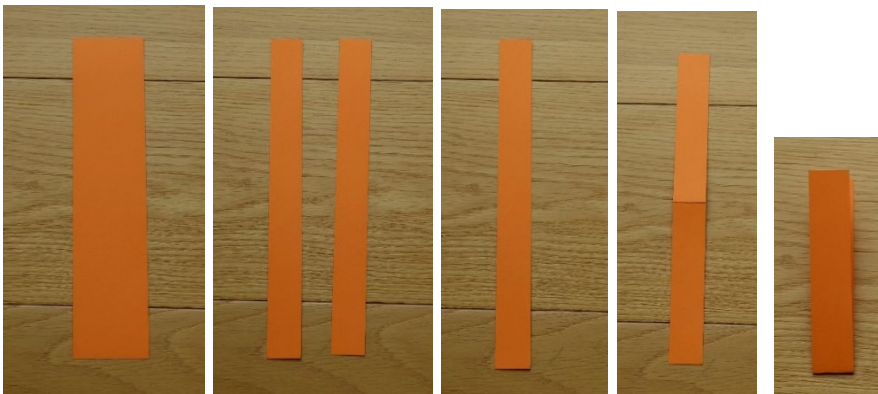
Place the 2 uncut triangle sides on top of each other to form a 3D shape triangular prism shape. Check that your krill can flex and move freely (if not you will need to carefully increase the cuts so that each exactly reaches the fold). Glue the uncut triangle sides together to form the body of a 3D krill.



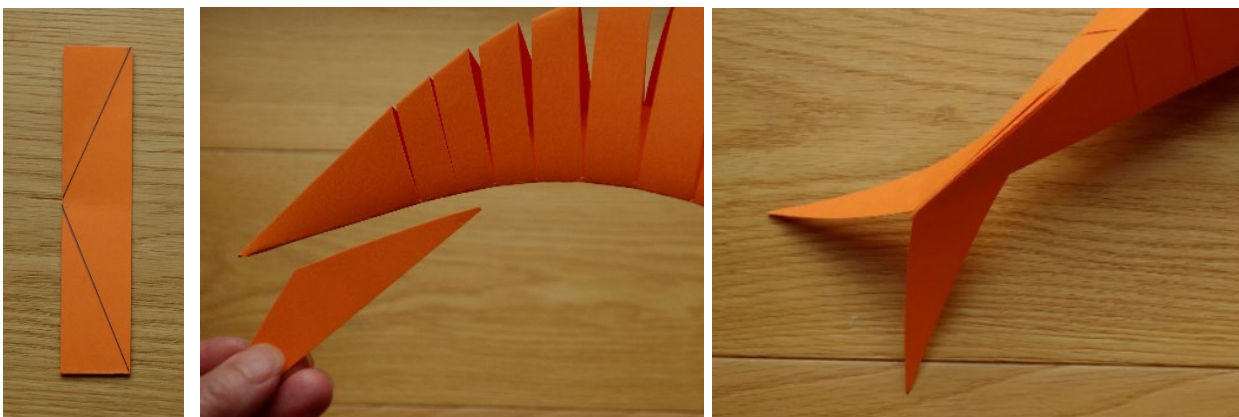
Cut the leftover rectangle in half vertically. Put one of the rectangles aside for later.



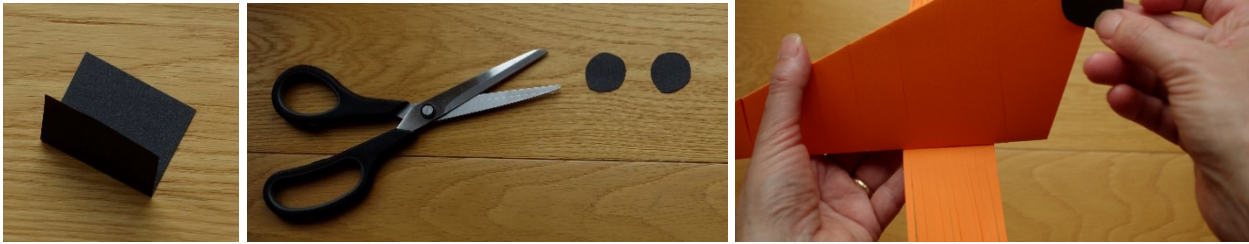
To make the frills/fins, position one of the rectangles under the krill and stick in place. Now cut up towards the main body to form the frill/fins.



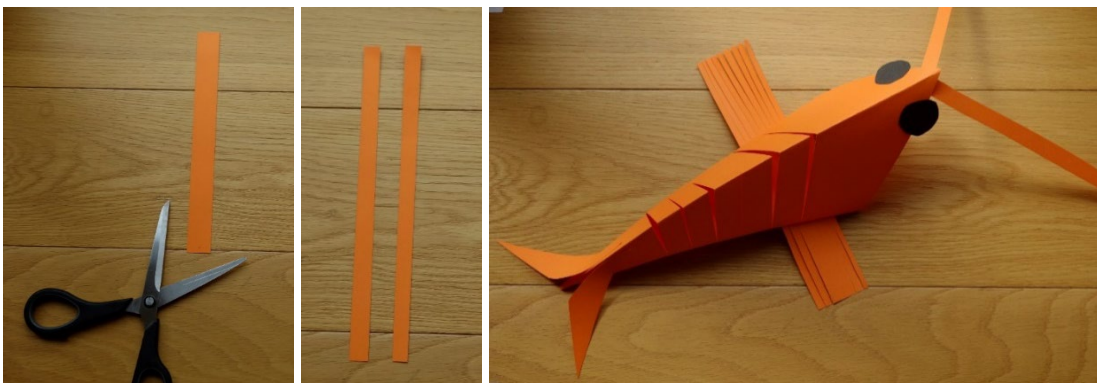
Cut the remaining rectangle in half again vertically. Put one of the rectangles aside for later. Fold your rectangle in half horizontally.



To make the tail, cut out 2 large triangles from your folded paper and stick in place on either side of your krill.



To make the eyes, fold the contrasting paper in half horizontally. Cut out 2 large circles and stick in place.



To make the antenna, cut the leftover rectangle in half vertically. Stick them just inside the head of the krill.

Now all you need to do is name your krill.

We'd love to see pictures of your krill.



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