Paper Girls
One holiday that Japanese girls look forward to with great excitement is Hina Matsuri (March 3rd), a day dedicated entirely to dolls. The tradition dates back hundreds of years and often features elaborate silk costumes. With these directions, your child can create her own collection of dolls dressed in origami kimonos.

MATERIALS
Poster board, red and black construction paper
Colored markers
Tape

1. From the poster board, cut out a simple doll's body that measures about 7 inches tall (it should resemble a large, round-headed clothespin). Trim below the head to create sloping shoulders.
2. For the kimono, cut out a 6-inch square from the red paper.
3. From the black paper, cut out a 6” by 3/8-inch sash and a wig. In the center of the wig, cut a horizontal opening wide enough to accommodate the doll's head.
4. With colored markers, draw on a face.
5. Next, form a collar by folding down the top of the kimono 3/8 inch from the edge. Color it.
6. Lay the kimono flat so that the folded collar is facedown. Fit the wig onto the doll's head and then center the body on top of the kimono. Fold a top corner of the kimono down over the doll's shoulder.
7. Working on the same side of the kimono, fold the paper vertically to cover the doll's body. Use the same method to fold the opposite side of the kimono.
8. Wrap the sash around the doll from front to back and tape together the ends.