Sunprint Origami

Origami is the traditional Japanese art of creating shapes from folded paper. Instructions for all kinds of folded shapes are readily available; pick your favorite and use your own original Sunprint to make a unique masterpiece!

What you need:

- Origami pattern
- Square sunprint paper (the 4x4 or the 8x11 paper trimmed to 8x8 work well)
- Objects to make a pattern on the paper
- Sheet of acrylic
- Pan of water
- Heavy book (optional)

Making the Sunprint:

- 1. Find a place out of the sun to prepare your print.
- 2. Arrange the objects you chose on the paper. You can use any Sunprinting technique to create a pattern.
- 3. Let the paper develop in sunlight until the exposed areas are a light bluish white.
- 4. Soak it in water for around 45 seconds.
- Once your print has dried and developed, fold it into the origami shape of your choice. It might help to flatten the dried paper under a heavy book before folding, to remove any wrinkles or creases.

Going Further:

- What happens if you fold the paper into a shape first, and expose it folded? What shapes do you see when you unfold it? Why?
- Another idea is to fold the shape out of a scrap piece of paper first, and then after you see which areas are visible at the end, put objects on your Sunprint paper only in those places, creating a specific pattern.