

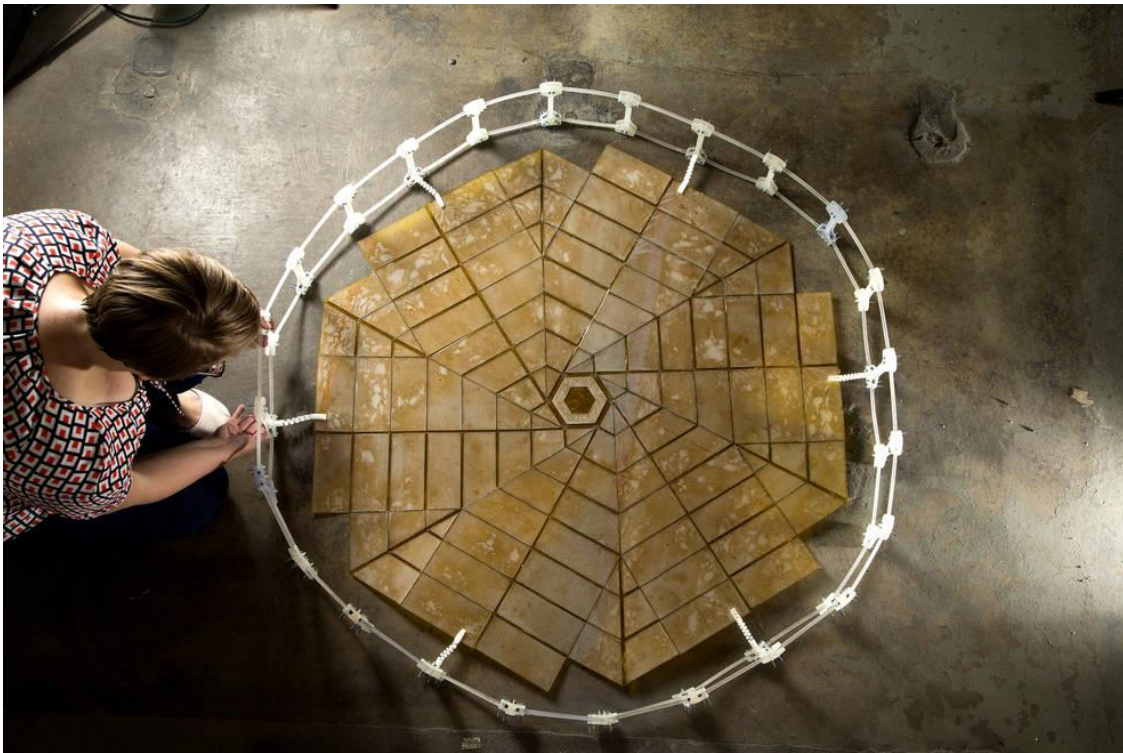
Connection Activity: Origami and Solar Panels in Space

Estimated time: 60 minutes

Materials: Octagon ring/ninja star model, Solar array and origami (picture, article and video).

Procedure:

1. Discuss with the students about the different applications of origami, think about the benefits of folding certain objects we use on an everyday basis. Students will observe the octagon ring/ninja star model they previously folded, analyze the benefits of having a transformable design like this one and write a list of possible applications.
2. Show the following image to the students and ask:



- What do you observe in this image?
- How this model can be used?
- Have you ever seen something like this before?

3. Students can read an article about the [solar arrays and origami](#) which is a prototype. Then, watch the [video solar arrays and origami](#). Instructor and students can discuss about this prototype and the importance of using renewable energy sources. Return to the list and add more origami applications.
4. Students will research about new technologies inspired by origami designs, and share the information with the rest of the class.
 - An extension of this activity can be to design a new artifact based on origami principles or models that already exist. Students can fold any design they want and create something useful with it.