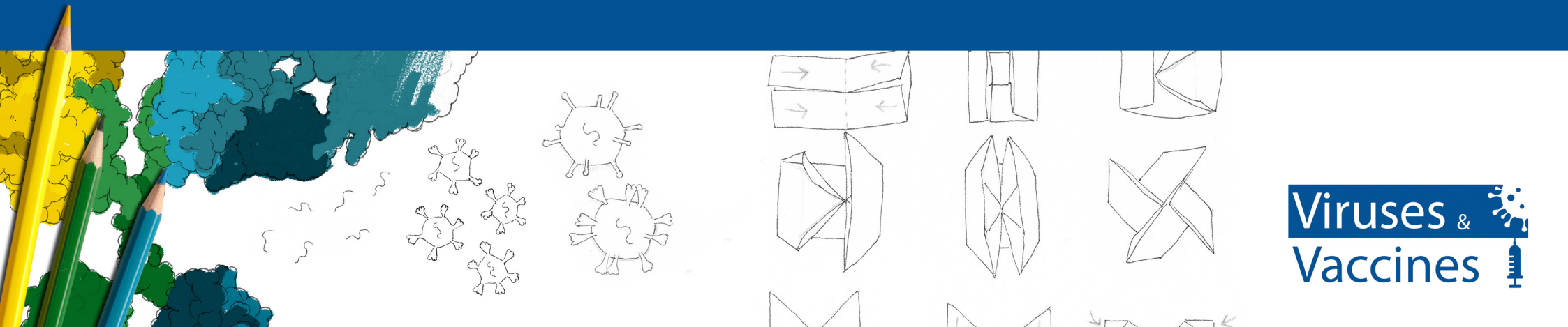
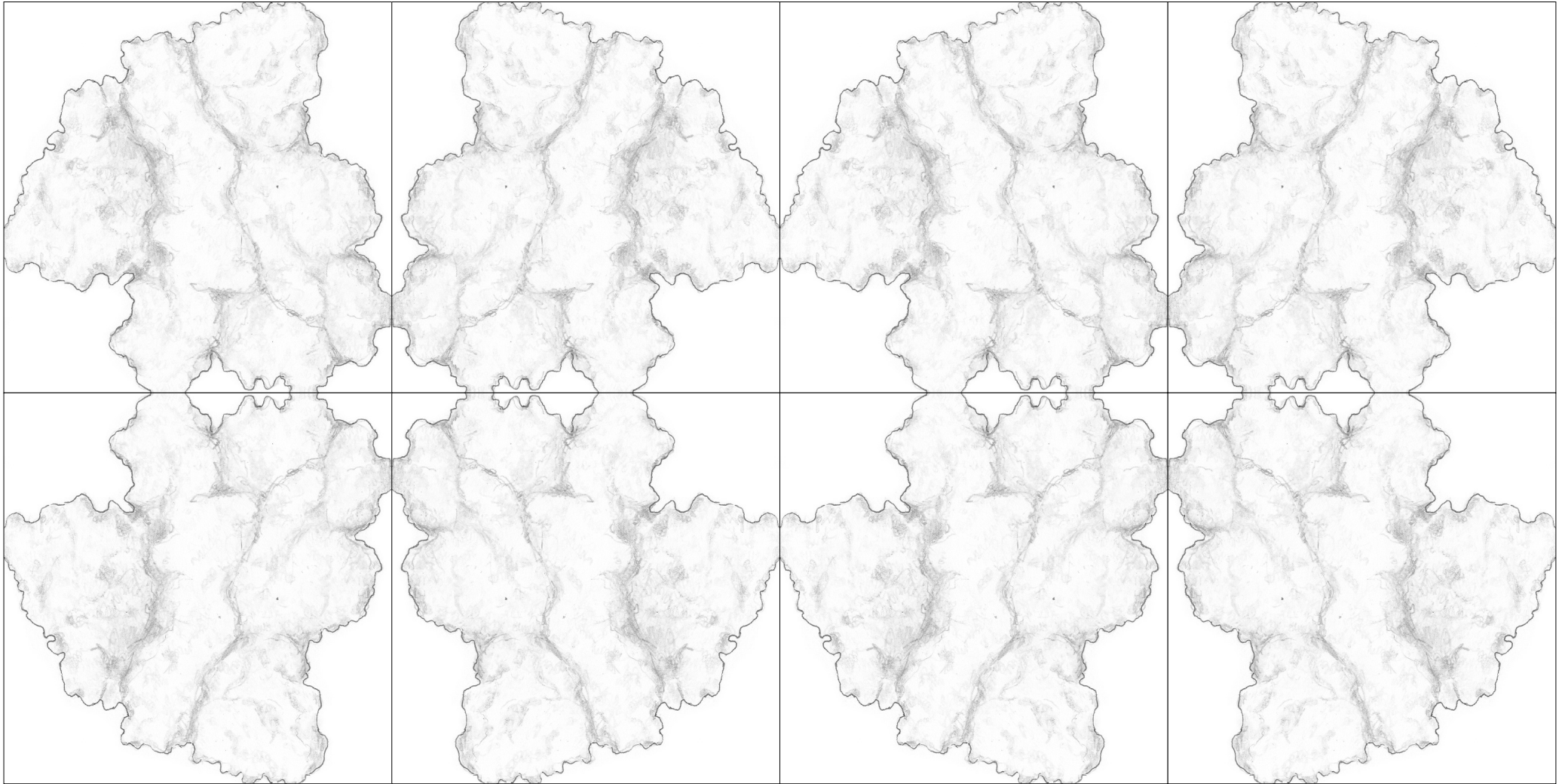


Fold a virus

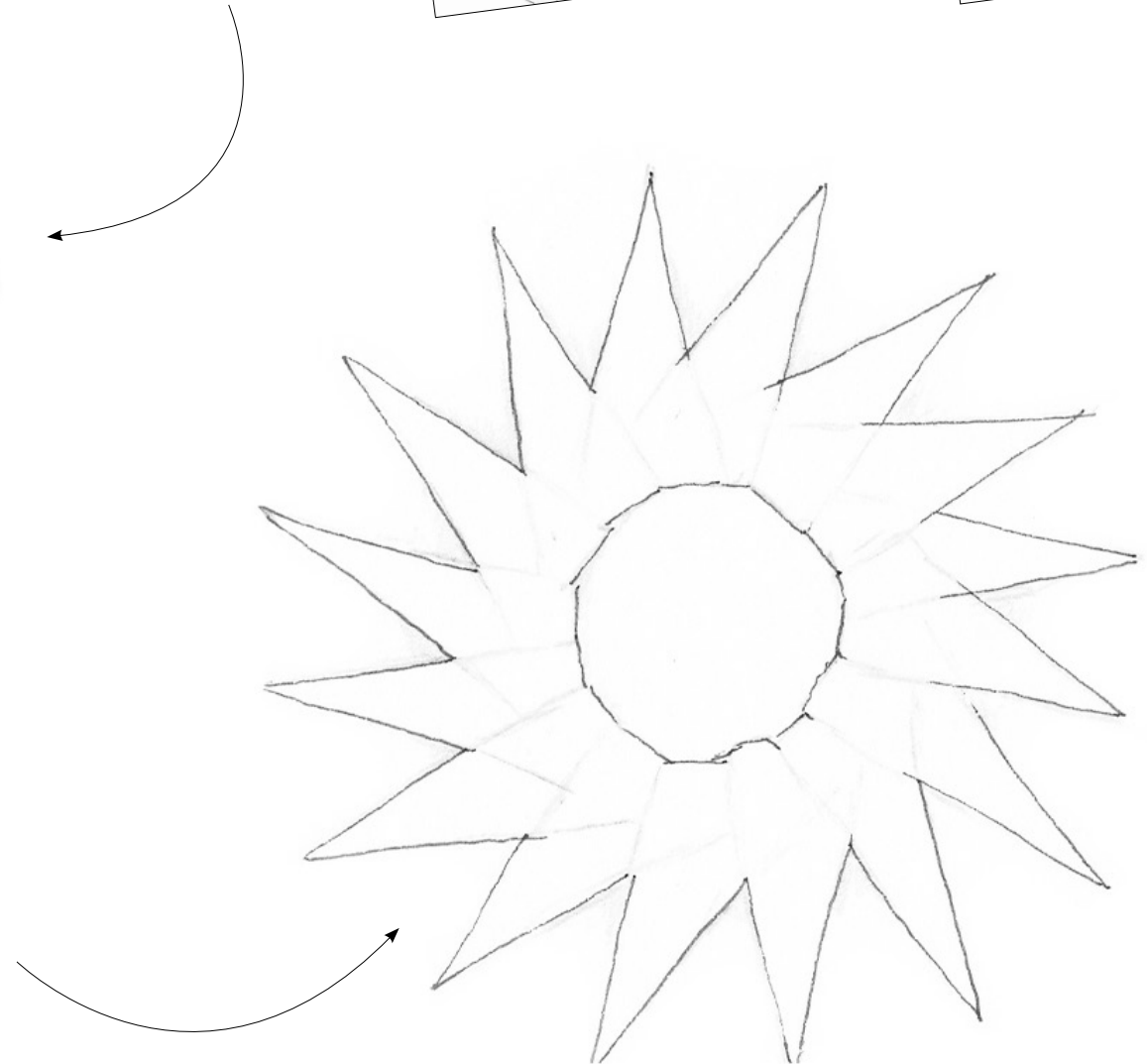
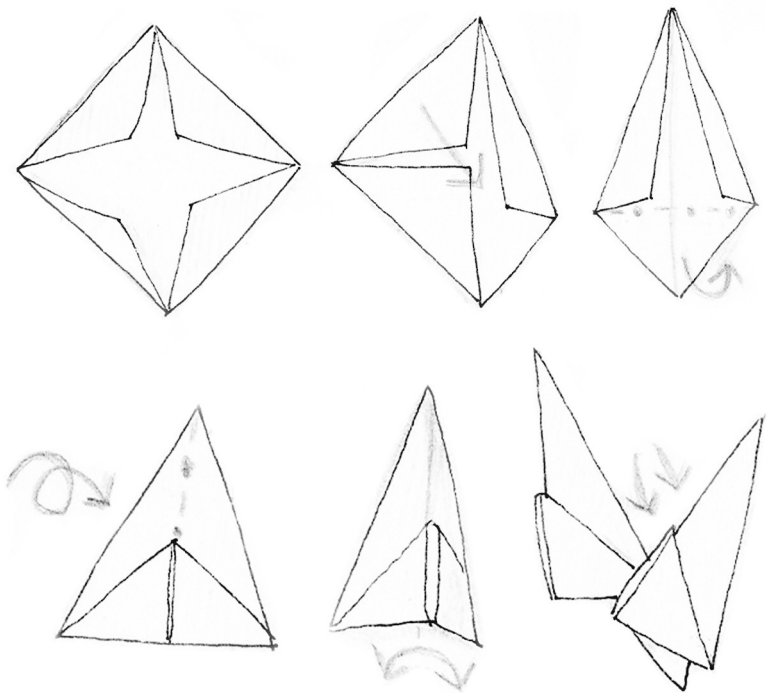
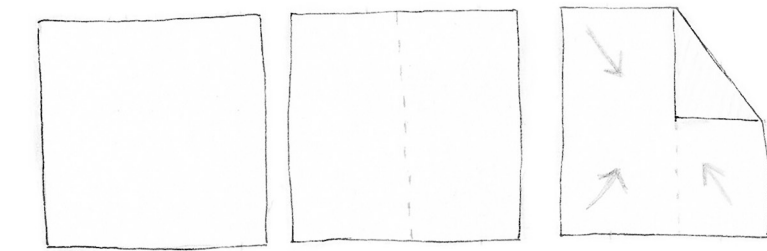
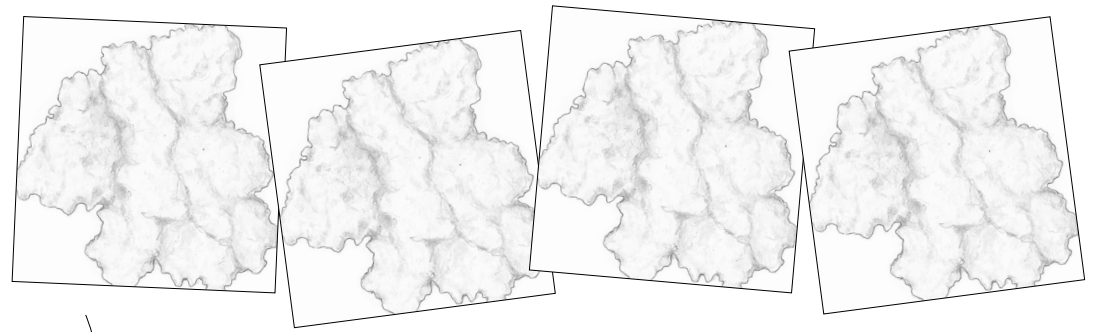


Fold a virus

For the purposes of this activity, print this page twice to get 16 squares. Then, cut them out individually.



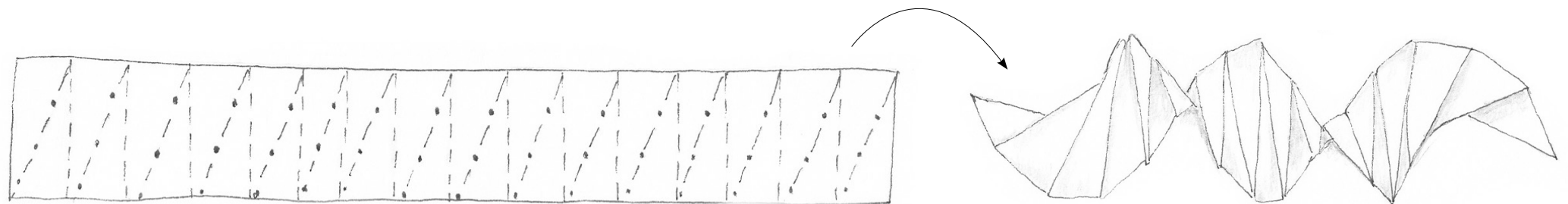
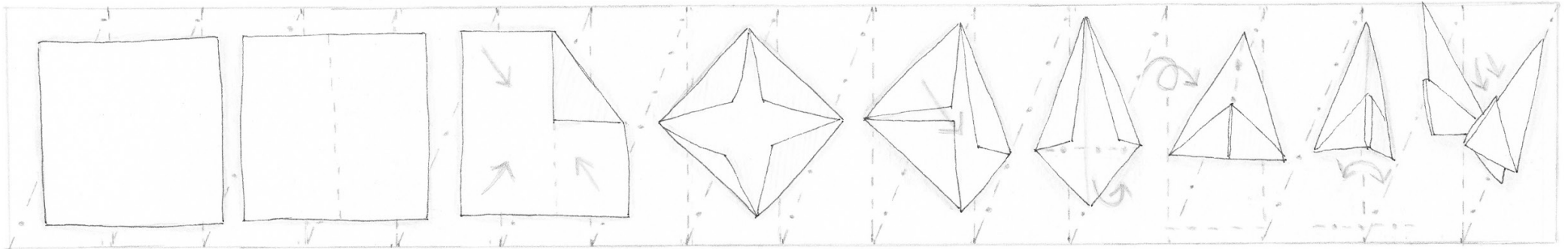
To make your own spiky virus, use the 16 little squares you have cut out. See below for how to fold each square into a spike or better still, follow along with me in the ['How to fold an origami virus'](#) video. All 16 spikes will create a spiky modular outside but a virus needs instructions to be complete so it can be transmitted to someone else.



Fold DNA (or RNA)

Viruses are tiny. Each contains genetic information (DNA or RNA) to make more viruses. This genetic material includes instructions for proteins, which are like tiny strings of beads that fold up to make pieces of the virus, including spikes.

Next, cut out the instructions for making the spikes on the previous page. Fold along the tiny lines (or follow the video) and it will become a helix-like structure (like the SARS-CoV-2's RNA). If you gave your virus with instructions to someone else, they could start making viruses too!



--- Valley fold
- - - Mountain fold