

# Origami Paper Folding



Dale Neves, Education Chair, District 2  
Developed by Dale Neves  
September 2020



# Origami Paper Folding

## Goals and Objectives

- Goals
  - Provide information about Origami.
  
- Objectives
  - Learn the history of Origami
  - Provide information about Origami Paper Folding.
  - Explain how the Japanese use symbols to help “show” how to fold the Origami patterns.
  - Demonstrate how to fold several beginner Origami designs.

## Materials Needed (available from <http://teea.tamu.edu>)

- Origami Paper Folding PowerPoint (videos are embedded in the Powerpoint)
- If not using the Powerpoint, you can download the 2 videos from the TEEA website.
- Origami Paper Folding Handouts – Samurai Helmet and Paper Cup
- Origami Paper Folding Evaluation
- Origami paper or wrapping paper cut into 6” squares; 2 pieces for each participant

Presenting the program:

There are 2 ways you can present this program –

1. Show the Powerpoint. There are videos demonstrating Origami in the file. To play the videos, move your cursor over the slide and click on the Play icon.
2. Use the printed program materials to share the program information and show the videos.

# Origami Paper Folding

Developed by Dale Neves  
2020 TEEA Education Chair, District 2

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## Lesson Goals

- History of Origami
- Symbols of Origami
- Learning Origami
  - Samurai Helmet
  - Drinking Cup



This lesson is presented in the voice of Dale Neves.

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# Origami

## The History of Origami

According to Britannica.com it is hard to decide who first invented paper. The first papermaking process was documented in China during the Eastern Han period (25–220 AD) traditionally attributed to the court official Cai Lun.

Encyclopedia Britannica.com

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During the 6th century, paper was introduced into Korea and then into Japan by Buddhist monks. It is Japan that paper folding became an art form and evolved into what we know today as “Origami”.

[Origami-resource-center.com/history-of-origami.html](http://Origami-resource-center.com/history-of-origami.html)

In Japan, paper was very expensive and not available to the general public. Paper and paper folding was limited to religious rituals and formal ceremonies.

By the 1700's origami began to emerge in the Japanese culture.

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I remember my mother teaching me how to fold several origami models when I was a young girl. She would show us how to make a paper ball that she would lightly bounce around in her hand. The paper ball she taught us how to make was a simple inexpensive toy that we had a lot of fun with bouncing it back and forth to each other.

That is the first memory I have of folding origami. My mother is Japanese. My Japanese heritage is something I will always cherish.

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About the time I turned 25 I had the chance to go to Japan with my mother and first son. Everywhere we went, I looked for origami books and origami paper. Many of the books I bought were written in Japanese. My mother didn't teach us how to speak or read Japanese, but I was able to figure out how to fold origami from those books because the Japanese use diagrams and symbols to explain what to do next.

Let's look at what those diagrams and symbols are:

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## Lines

	Means folds to be made in this step
	Means the paper should be folded behind or under.
	Means a hidden portion

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## Symbols

	Fold forward along dotted line.
	Fold under along line.
	Fold and unfold.
	Flip over.
	Rotate.
	Diagram enlarged.
	Cut.

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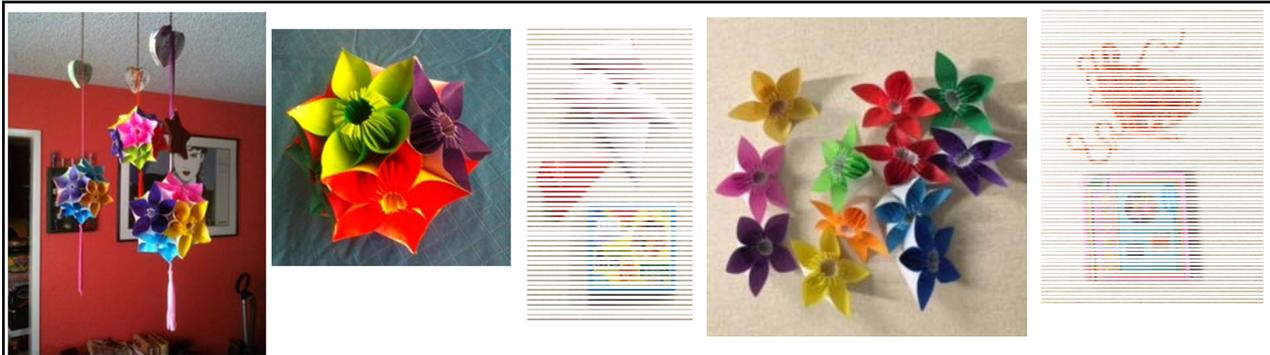
Here is a picture of my mother, Tomiko Numura Vaughan, and me. We folded some Origami Cranes.

The two pictures below are a crane wreath and a heart with a crane folded at the top of the heart.



The crane wreath is 8 separate cranes interlocked without glue. The heart with the crane is folded from one piece of paper.

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This model is a favorite of mine. Each flower has five petals. The third picture shows the five petals. After you fold each petal, you unfold and reverse fold so the color of the paper is on the inside of each petal. The petals are glued together to create each flower. It takes twelve flowers to create this flower ball. The last picture shows the cording which is made from a braided material. This is used to create a tassel and thread some of the cording through the flower ball to create a way of hanging the flower ball up.

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This is one of my mother's favorite designs. The origami paper is two different colors. A different color on the front and back. Each flower is folded, unfolded, then reverse folded. There are about 50 - 60 flowers in each flower ball. You stitch through the end of the flower and string 11 flowers together for the center ring. Stitch 10 flowers in the ring above and ring below the center ring. The next row above and below will have about 6 or 7 flowers each. The next rows may need 3 or 4 flowers strung in a ring. If the ball isn't full enough, you can glue flowers in the top and bottom. My mother displays these in a bowl in her living room.

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There are many YouTube videos on the internet that demonstrate how to fold different origami patterns. Start off with the beginner patterns and progress through to more advanced patterns.

Go to YouTube and type in "Origami videos" or "Easy Origami videos" in search.

You can also find directions for origami patterns on the internet. Here is a wonderful website with easy to advanced patterns.

<https://www.origami-resource-center.com/site>

I also found some great Origami instructions on Pinterest. Go to Pinterest's search and type in "Free Origami Patterns". There are some really cute origami bookmarks you can make.

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Let's try your hand at Origami!

We'll be starting with a Drinking Cup then we'll try the Samurai Helmet.

Everyone must have made Sailor hats out of a sheet of news paper. The Samurai Helmet is similar to that pattern. Both the paper cup and the Samurai helmet are what they call "Traditional patterns".

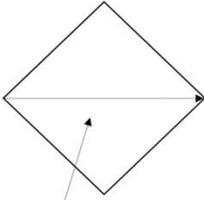
The Samurai Helmet can be used as a bookmark by putting the helmet over a few pages of the book you are reading. Place the pages of your book between the front and back folds of the helmet.

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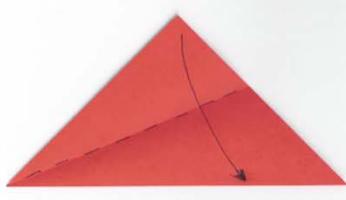
For each Origami design you have a handout showing the steps involved. We'll also view a video demonstrating the steps. Each video is also posted on the TEEA website if you want to watch again from home.

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# Drinking Cup



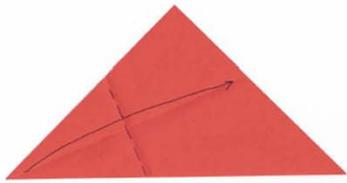
Fold bottom corner up to top corner.



Fold Down and crease.



Unfold.



Fold left corner over to the right.



Fold right corner across to the left.

15



Fold front sheet down.

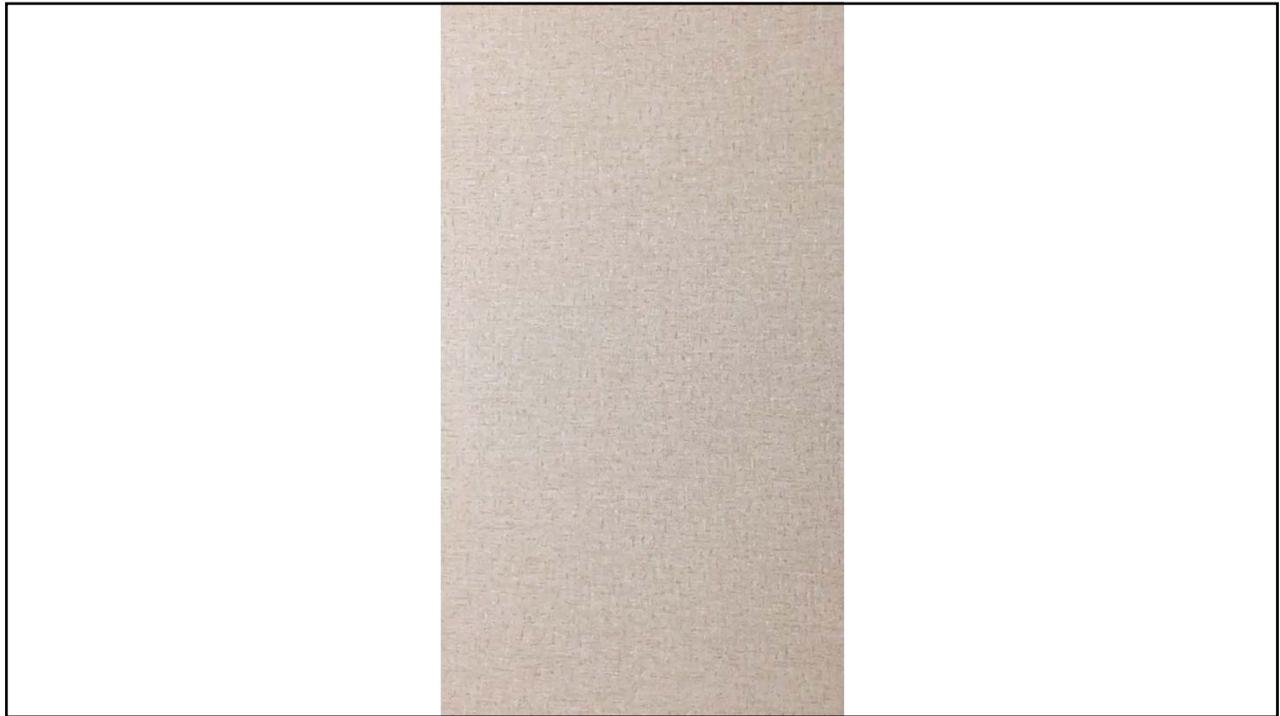


Fold back sheet over.



Open.

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### Samurai Helmet

Fold bottom corner up to top corner.

Fold right corner up.

Fold left tip up.

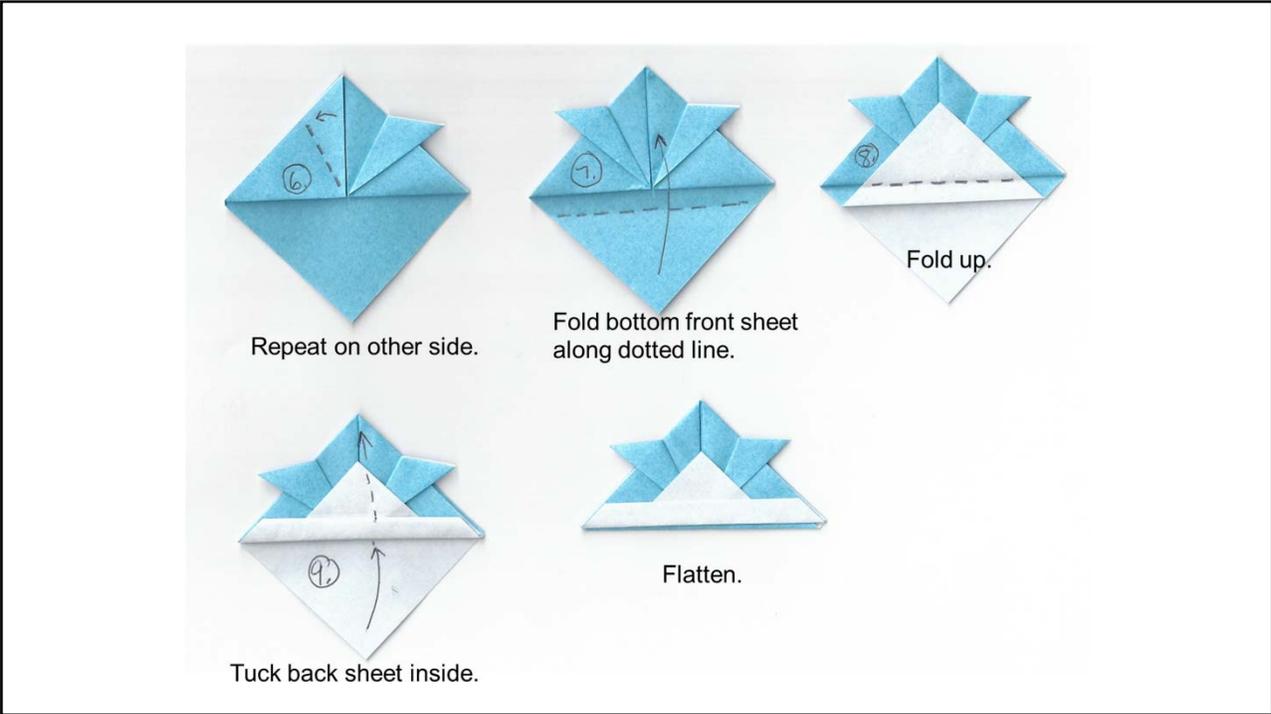
Rotate

Fold along dotted line.

Fold left tip up.

Fold left corner up.

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You can find origami paper in almost any craft store. When I was teaching my students how to do origami, I would buy thin wrapping paper from Dollar General and use a square plastic template to trace and cut squares out of the wrapping paper. I used a plastic template because the size of the squares was consistent. My students would use this paper after they had already mastered the art of paper folding.

If you live near Dallas, Fort Worth, Carrollton or Plano, you have Japanese stores called “Daiso” that sell origami paper. The price of that origami paper is \$1.50. This is what they call the 100 yen store. 100 yen is equal to \$1.50.

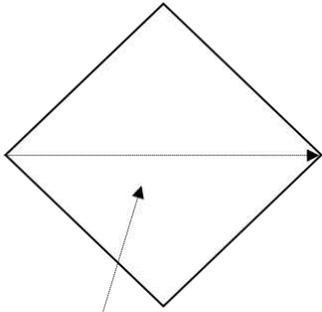
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## References

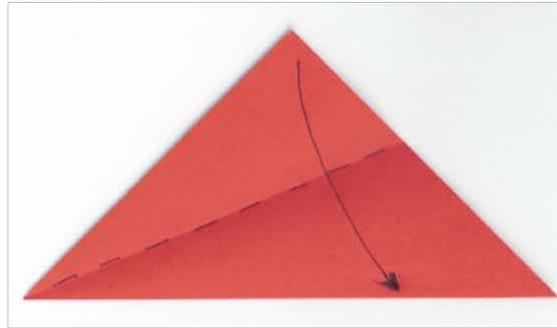
- Encyclopedia Britannica.com
- [Origami-resource-center.com/history-of-origami.htm](http://Origami-resource-center.com/history-of-origami.htm)
- <https://www.origami-resource-center.com/site>

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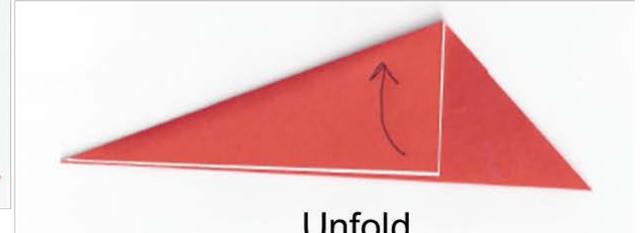
# Drinking Cup



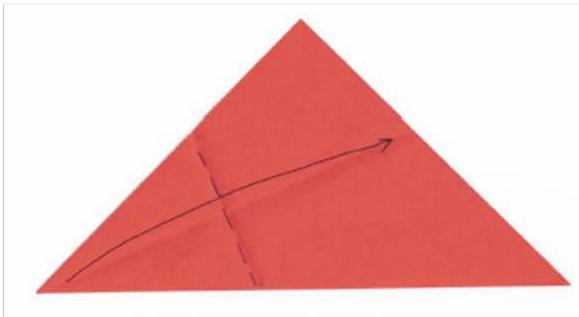
Fold bottom corner up to top corner.



Fold Down and crease.



Unfold.



Fold left corner over to the right.



Fold right corner across to the left.



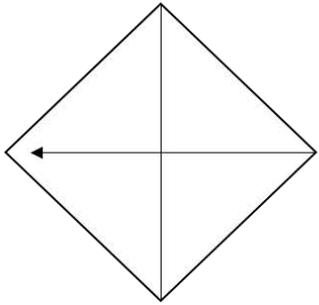
Fold front sheet down.



Fold back  
sheet over.

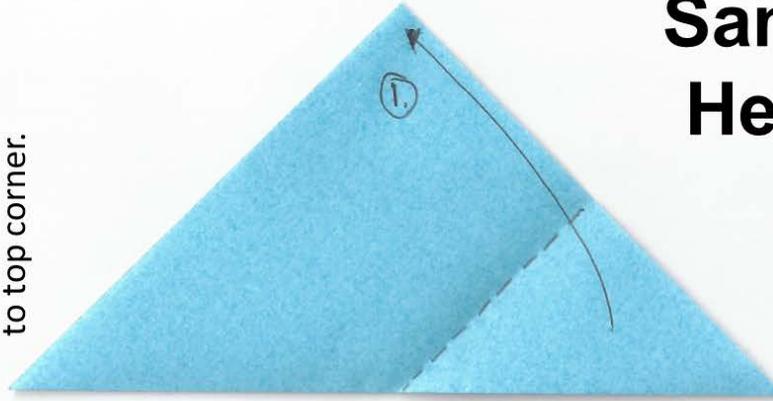


Open.

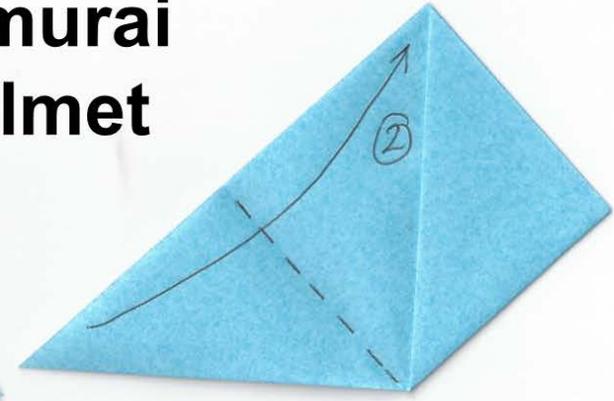


Fold bottom corner up to top corner.

# Samurai Helmet

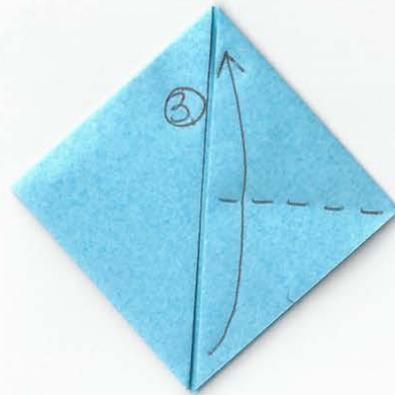
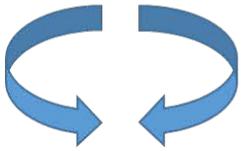


Fold right corner up.

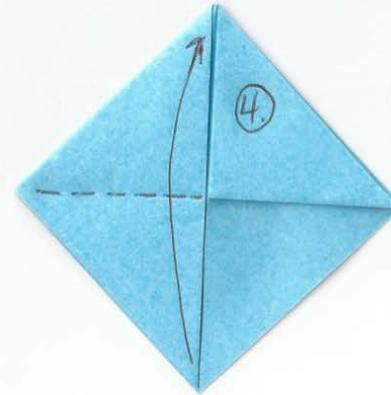


Fold left tip up.

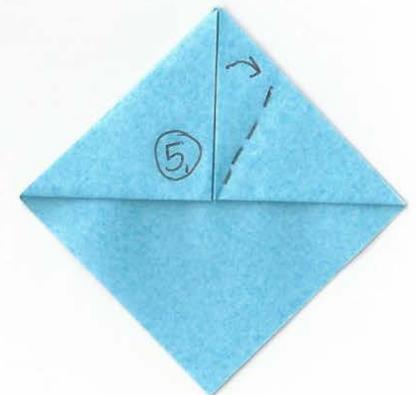
Rotate



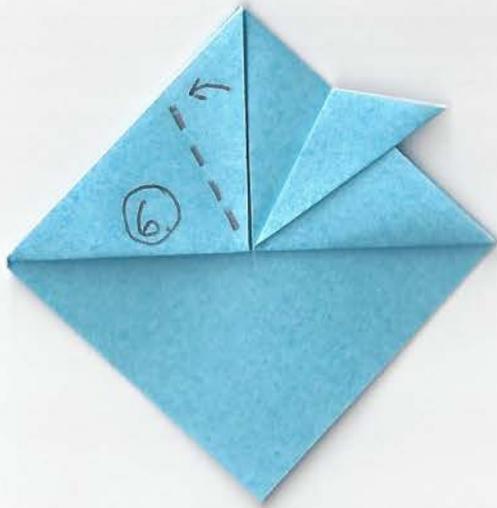
Fold along dotted line.



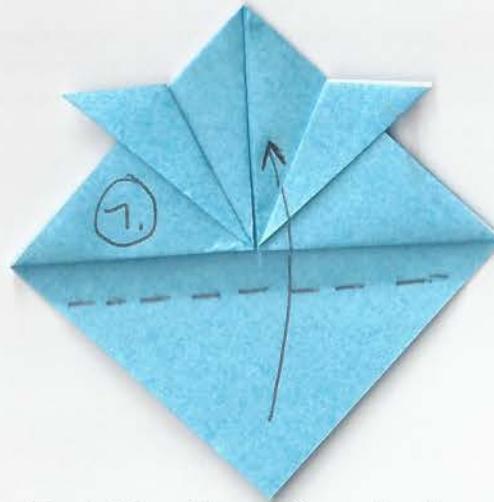
Fold left tip up.



Fold left corner up.



Repeat on other side.



Fold bottom front sheet  
along dotted line.



Fold up.



Tuck back sheet inside.



Flatten.



Please take a moment to provide feedback on this program.

1. Regarding the **overall program/teaching** (rate your response by circling a number):

Statement	Scale (1= Worst, 5 = Best)				
The value of the lesson was	1 not valuable	2	3	4	5 very valuable
The overall teaching was	1 poor	2	3	4	5 excellent
The teacher's knowledge of the lesson was	1 poor	2	3	4	5 excellent

2. Regarding **what you know and actions you plan to take** (circle your response):

- I learned new information today. YES NO
- I plan to use the information I learned today. YES NO
- I feel this information will help me to continue learn more about Origami designs YES NO

3. This lesson was delivered by a(n) (check only one):

\_\_\_\_\_ TEEA Member. \_\_\_\_\_ Extension Agent/Specialist \_\_\_\_\_ Other Speaker.

4. Please tell us about yourself.

I am a \_\_\_\_\_ Woman. \_\_\_\_\_ Man.

I am in District: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12

I have been a member of TEEA for \_\_\_\_\_ years.

My age is \_\_\_\_\_ years-old.

5. Additional Comments.

Thank You For Completing This Form!