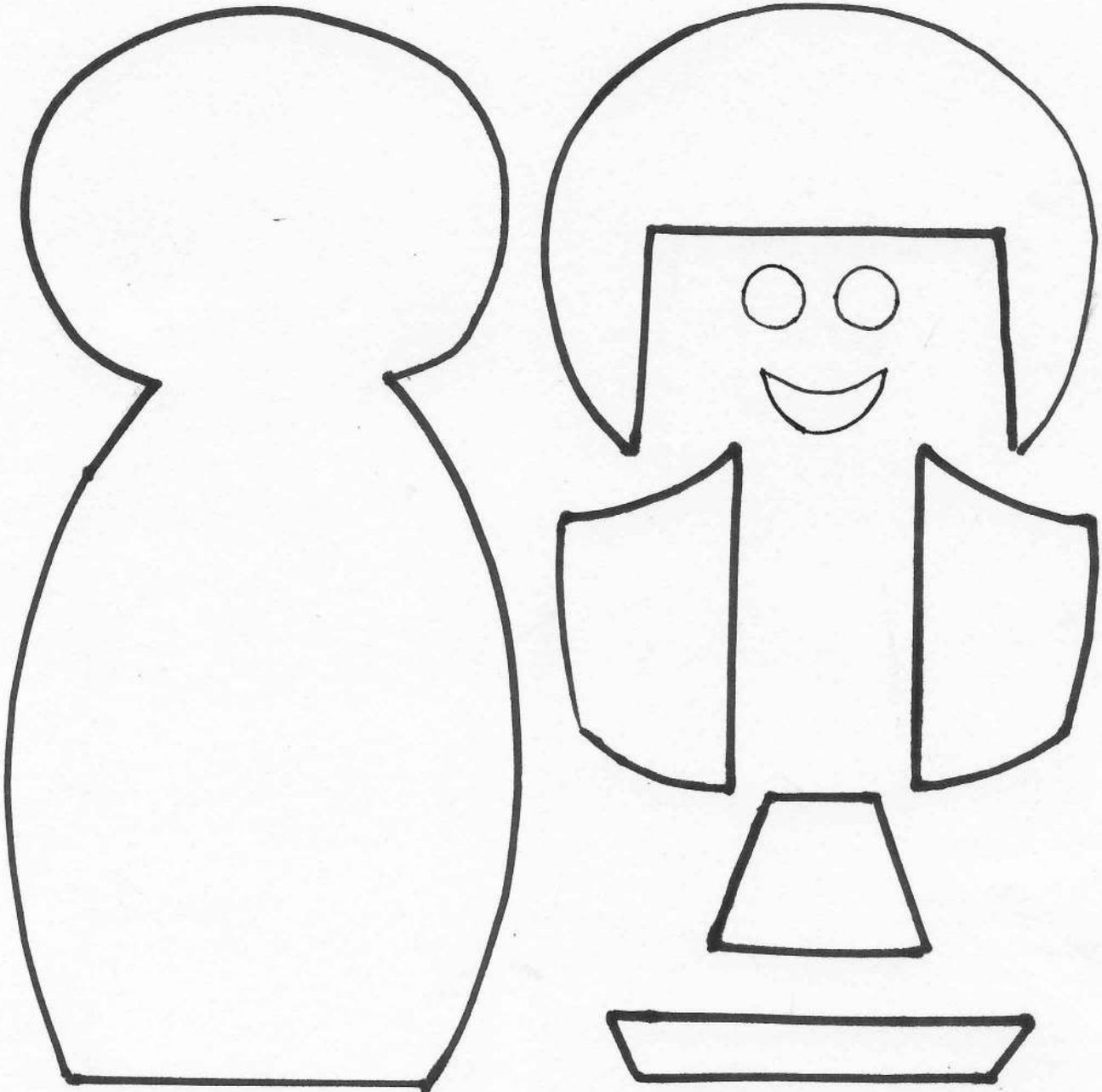




Kokeshi Doll Bento Box Template

Kokeshi are wooden dolls originally from the northeast region of Japan. They are handmade with a simple body shape (head and trunk) with no arms or legs. It is said that they were originally sold to visitors at hot springs in the Tohoku region of Japan during the late Edo period (1600-1868) to supplement business and keep workers' hands busy during the winter months. The Kokeshi is still believed to be a lucky charm doll so people keep Kokeshi around their homes for goodluck. There are 11 types of Kokeshi dolls...can you research what these are?

OCW TIP: Be sure to flip your pieces over when you trace them on the foam so that you don't see pencil marks on your final design!



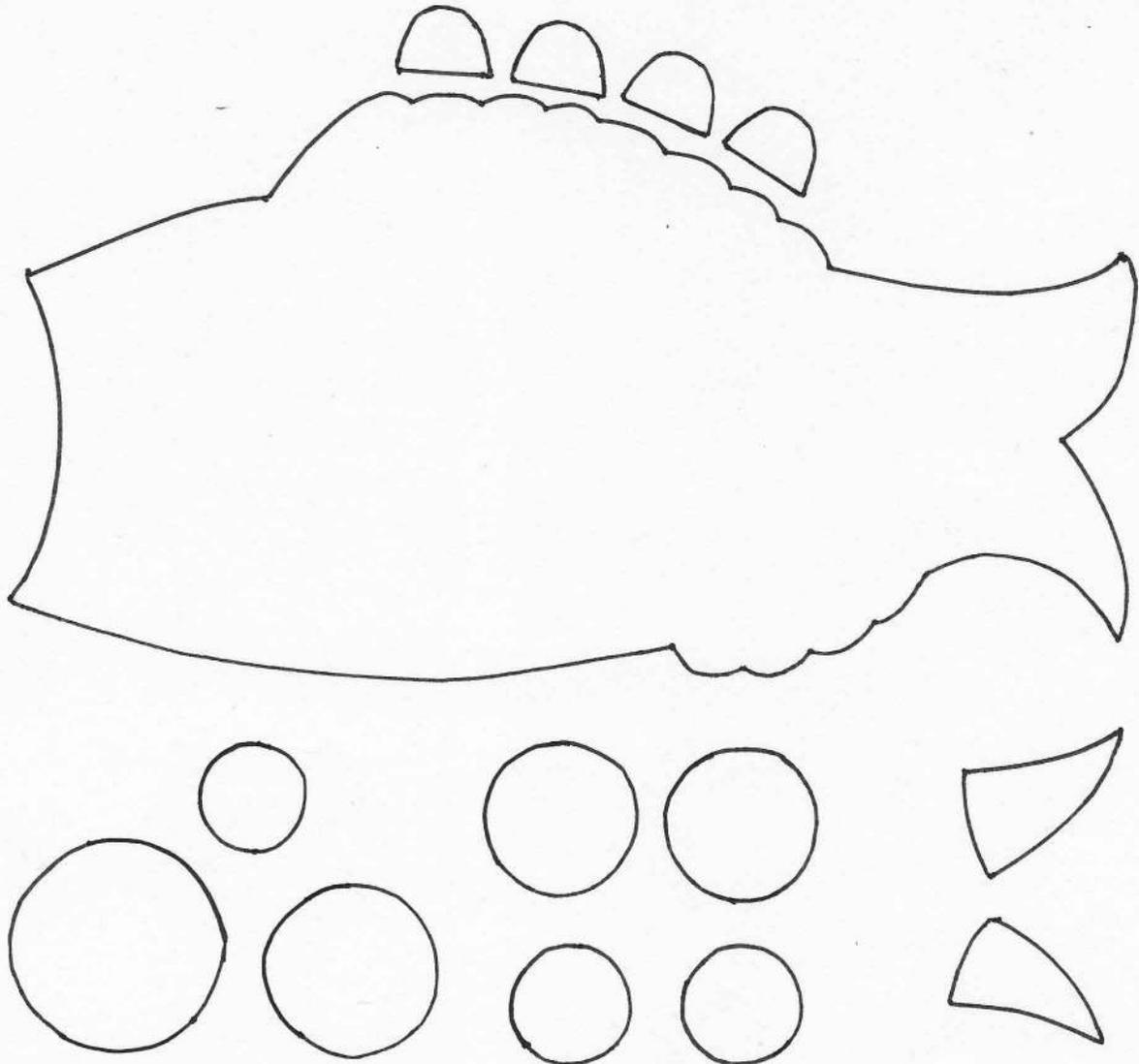


JAPAN

Koi Fish Bento Box Template

Koi fish are colorful carp fish kept for decorative purposes in outdoor water gardens or ponds in Japan and other parts of the world. Varieties of koi are distinguished by their color, patterns, and scales. The most common colors of koi are white, black, red, orange, yellow, blue, and cream. The koi fish symbolizes persistence, determination, wealth, success, and good fortune. They can grow up to 3 feet, although the longest koi fish was recorded at a whopping 4 feet long and 91 pounds! Koi fish are omnivorous and love lettuce and watermelon!

OCW TIP: Be sure to flip your pieces over when you trace them on the foam so that you don't see pencil marks on your final design!



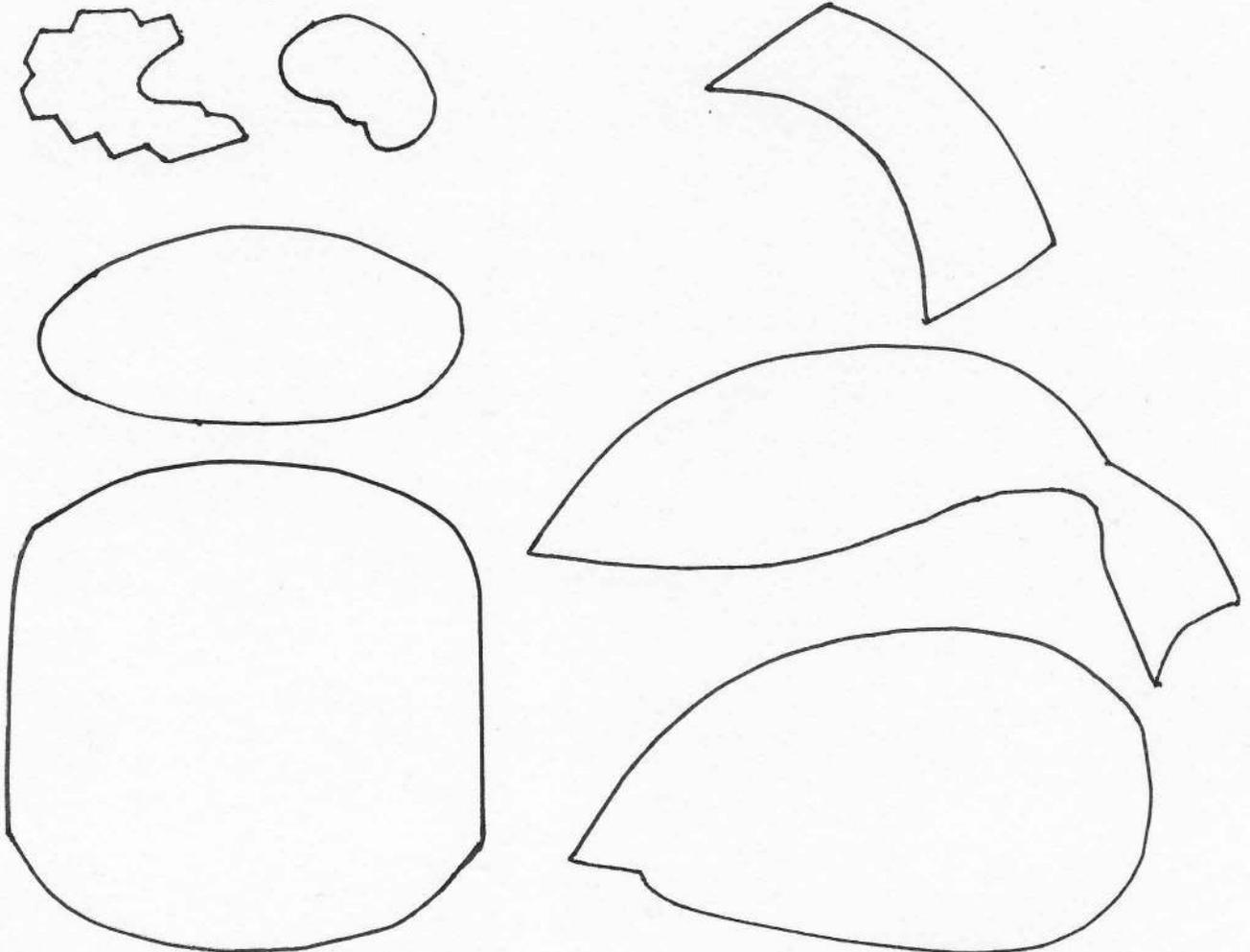


JAPAN

Sushi Bento Box Template

Sushi is a Japanese dish of specially prepared rice (containing a bit of vinegar, sugar, and salt) called "shari" that is combined with a variety of ingredients such as raw or cooked seafood and vegetables. There are so many types of sushi and each sushi presentation is unique depending upon the person, or sushi chef, who prepares. Some types of seafood used in sushi are salmon, tuna, crab and eel. These can be cooked or served raw. Sushi is served with pickled ginger and a heap of spicy wasabi paste. Although it may seem otherwise, sushi is traditionally eaten with the hands and not chopsticks. There are six different types of sushi - can you research what these are?

OCW TIP: Be sure to flip your pieces over when you trace them on the foam so that you don't see pencil marks on your final design!



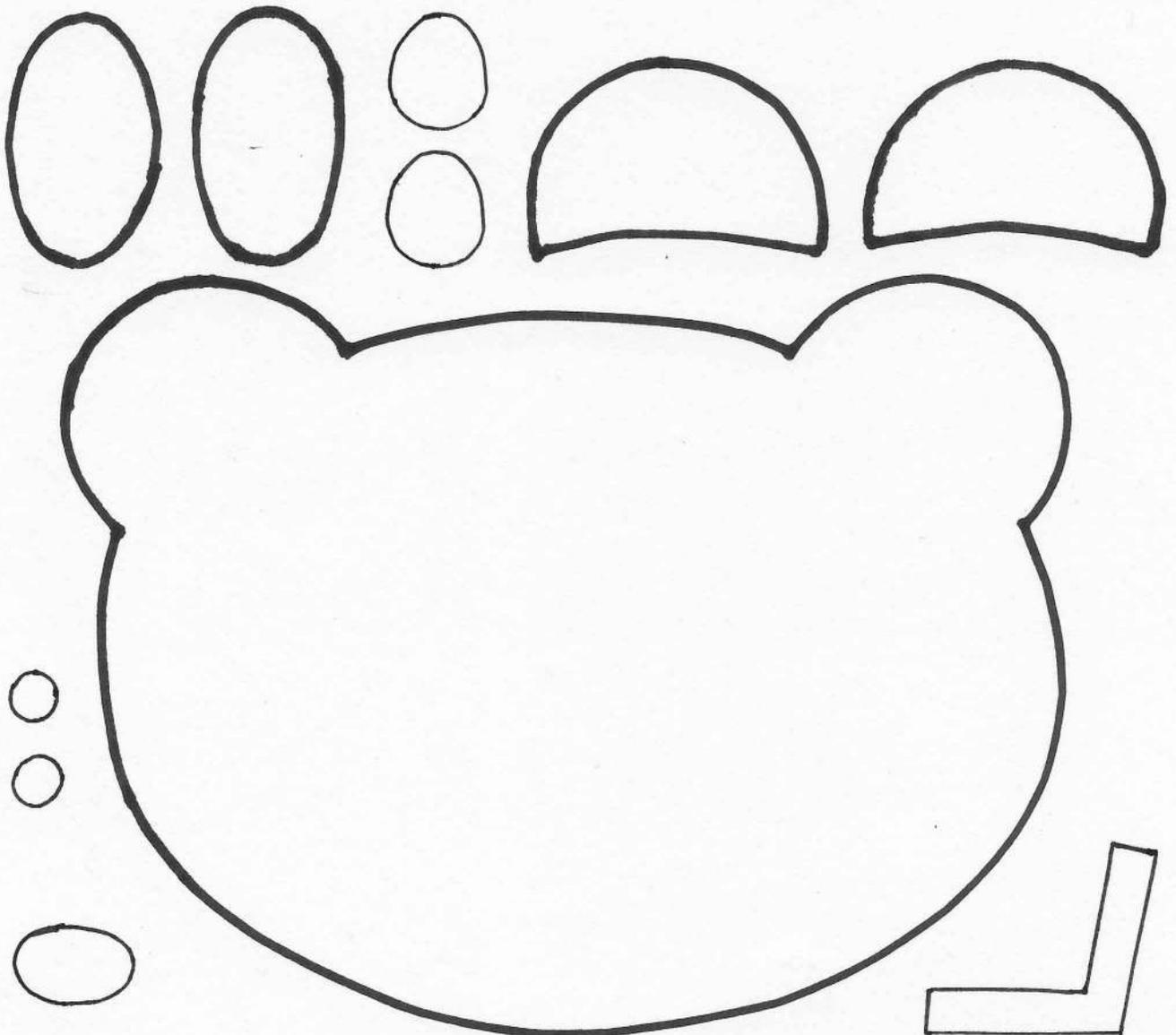


JAPAN

Panda Bento Box Template

Believe it or not, a panda's diet is 99% bamboo! In the wild, they will also eat other grasses, tubers and occasionally the meat from birds or rodents. Pandas are recognized by the large, black patches around the eyes, over the ears and across its big round body. The average weight for an adult panda is between 220-250 pounds. It doesn't seem like a panda could grow so heavy on a diet of bamboo, does it? And did you know that the panda has thumbs? This makes it easier to hold bamboo while eating it. And here's another fun fact: the panda's tail, averaging 4-6 inches long, is the second-longest in the bear family (the longest belongs to the sloth bear)!

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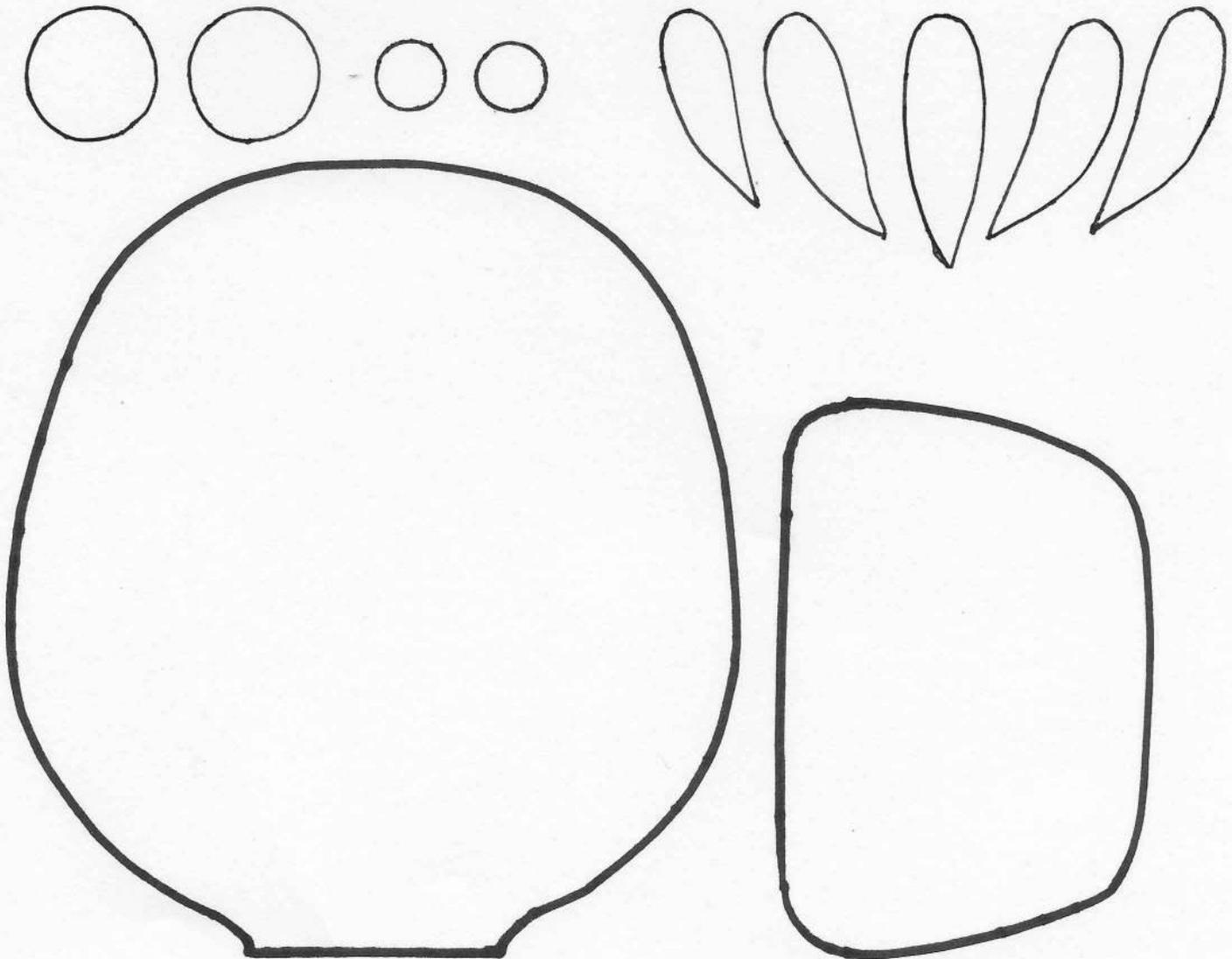




Daruma Doll Bento Box Template

Have you ever heard of a Daruma doll? It is a Japanese traditional doll that is hollow and very round in shape. It is modeled after Bodhidharma, a Buddhist monk who is the founder of the Zen tradition of Buddhism. It is said that among other things, Bodhidharma had a reputation for wall-gazing and legend states that he sat facing a wall in meditation for nine years without moving, which caused his legs and arms to fall off from atrophy. Notice how the Daruma doll does not have arms and legs. The eyes of a Daruma are often blank when sold only to be filled in one by one by its owner once large goals have been reached. Perhaps you will leave the eyes of your Daruma doll blank? Daruma dolls are a symbol of good luck and given as a gift of encouragement to friends and family.

OCW TIP: Be sure to flip your pieces over when you trace them on the foam so that you don't see pencil marks on your final design!

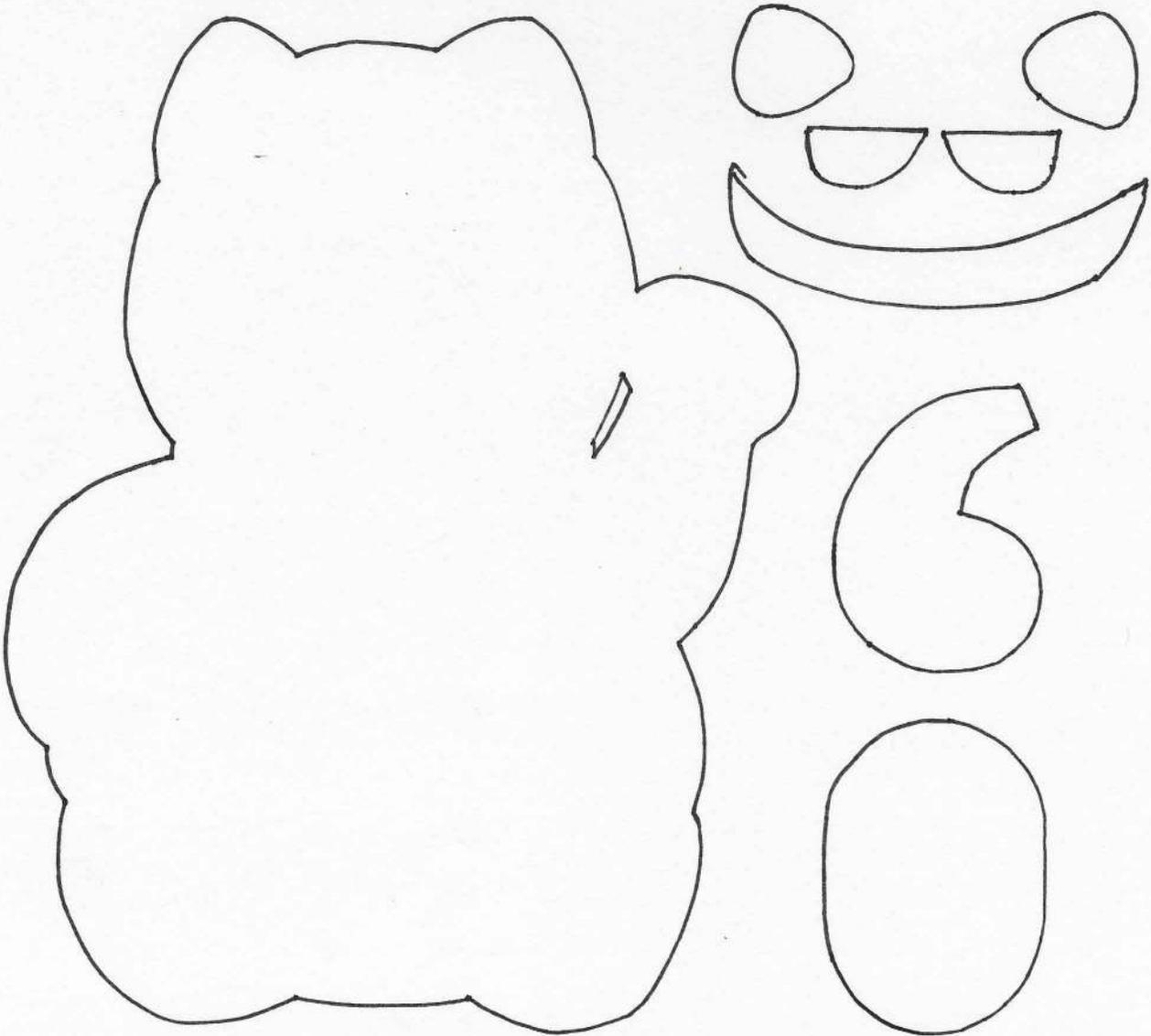




Maneki-Neko Bento Box Template

Maneki-neko is a common Japanese figurine which is often believed to bring good luck to the owner. The figurine depicts a cat beckoning with an upright paw, and is usually displayed at the entrance of shops, restaurants, or someone's home. We are not exactly sure about the origins of Maneki-neko, but one legend states that a wealthy man took shelter from a rainstorm under a tree next to a temple. He noticed a cat that seemed to be beckoning to him, so he followed it inside the temple. Shortly thereafter, lightning struck the tree under which he had been standing. Because the cat had saved his life, the man was so grateful that he became a benefactor of the temple and brought it much good luck. When he passed away, a statue of the cat was made in his honor.

OCW TIP: Be sure to flip your pieces over when you trace them on the foam so that you don't see pencil marks on your final design!





JAPAN

Cherry Blossom Tree Bento Box Template

The significance of the cherry blossom tree in Japanese culture represents the fragility and beauty of life. It is a reminder that life is overwhelmingly beautiful but it is also short, so live your life to the fullest. The Japanese word for cherry blossom is "sakura" and in the Spring, the cherry blossom trees bloom to life all across Japan. During this time, visitors come from all over the world for "hanami", cherry blossom viewing, and celebrate with festivals in local parks and gardens. Viewers bring a picnic lunch (bento box) to enjoy with family and friends under the vast orchards of cherry blossom trees. The blossoms usually remains on the tree for two short weeks so it is important to plan your trip carefully!

OCW TIP: Be sure to flip your pieces over when you trace them on the foam so that you don't see pencil marks on your final design!

