



# AFRICAN CICHLID FISH

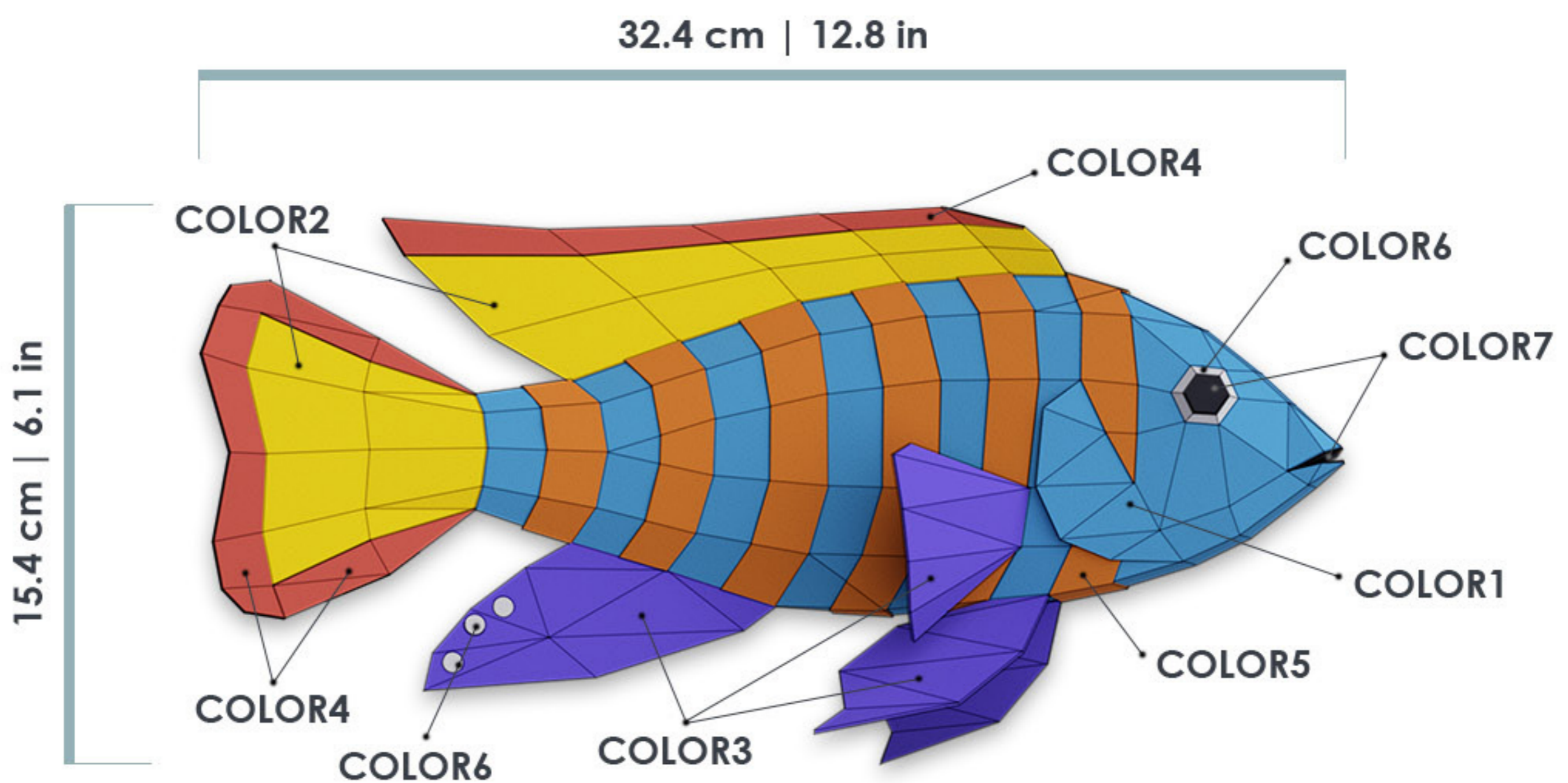
3D PAPERCRAFT MODEL



lowPolysm

Embark on a fun and rewarding adventure by building your very own **lowPolysm AFRICAN CICHLID FISH** 3D papercraft model! With just a few sheets of paper and some simple steps, you'll discover how easy and satisfying it is to create something truly unique. The included templates let you assemble different African Cichlid species—or even design your own a one-of-a-kind creation. Follow these instructions carefully, enjoy the process, and watch your paper model come to life!

## TEMPLATE COLOR REFERENCE



### Template Paper Colors:

COLOR1  
COLOR2  
COLOR3  
COLOR4  
COLOR5  
COLOR6  
COLOR7

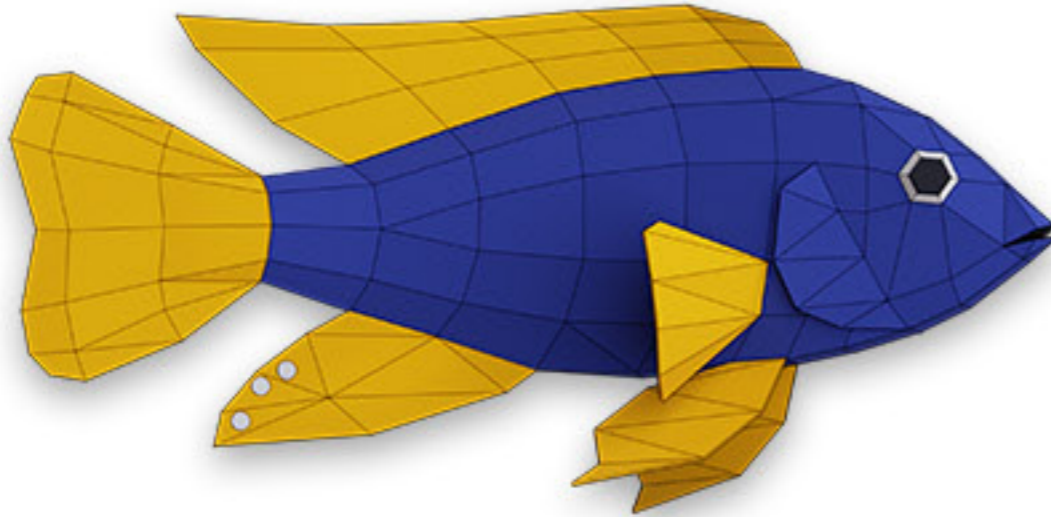
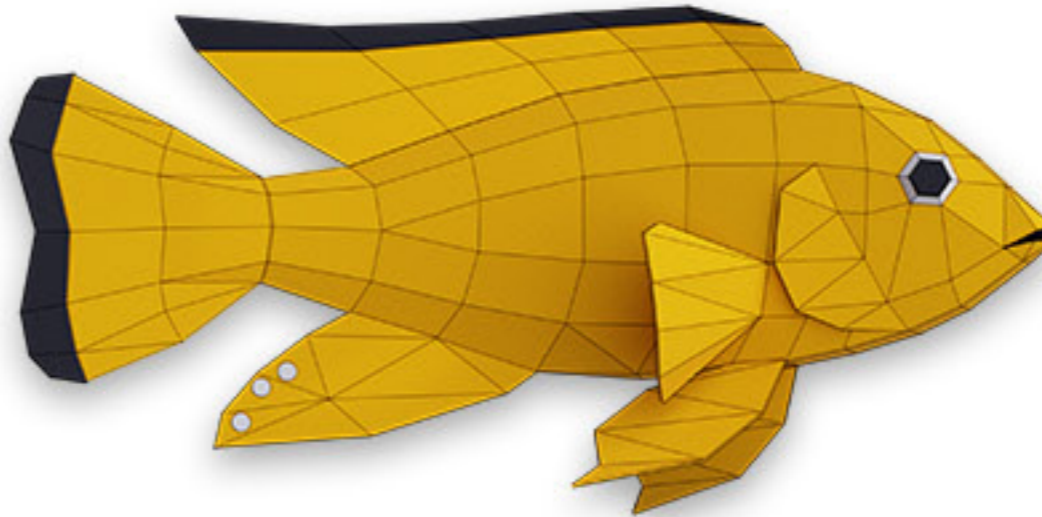

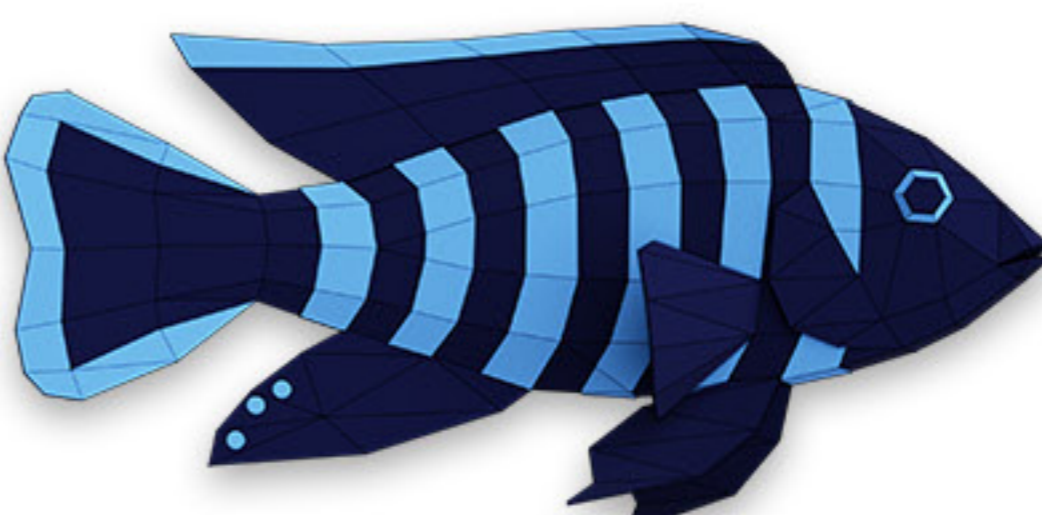
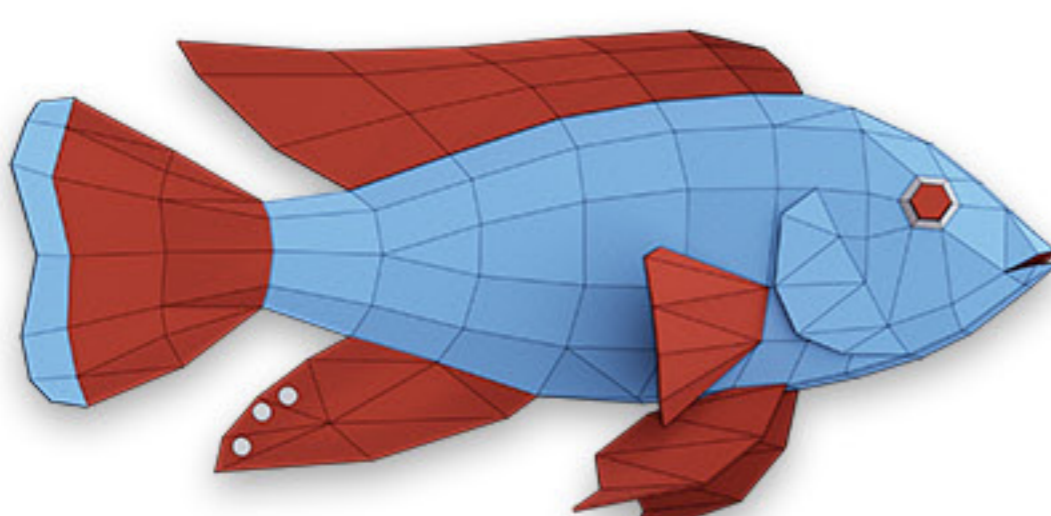
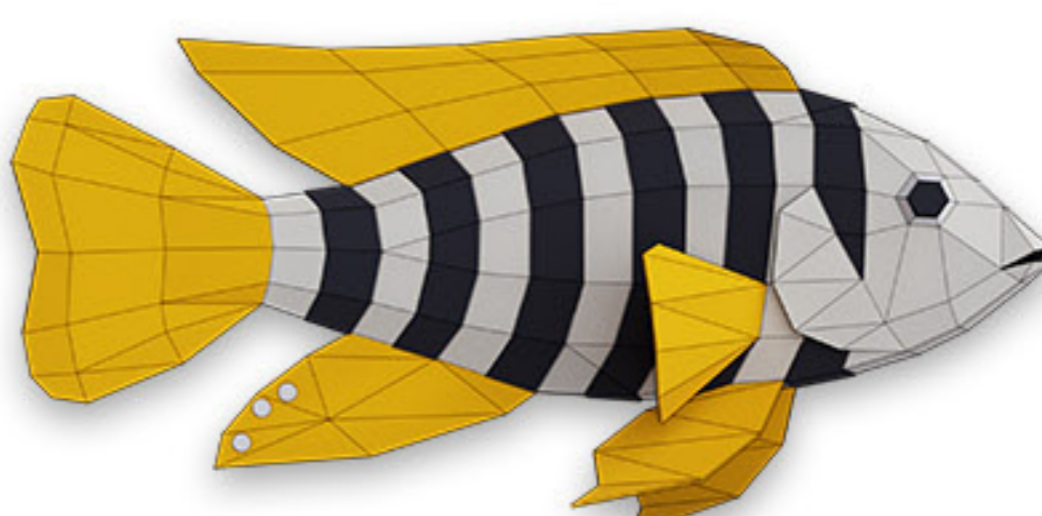
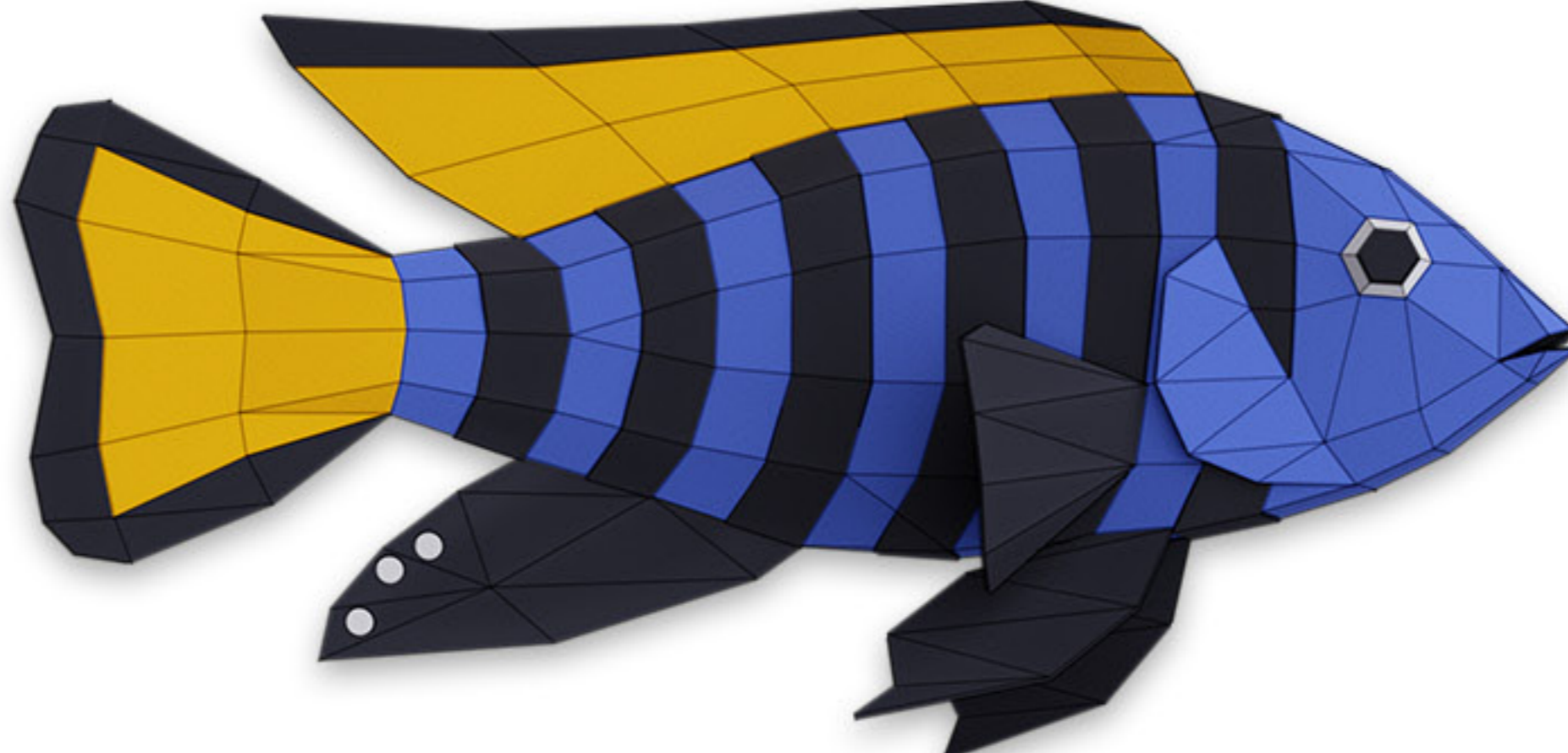
### Fish Body Parts:

**Head, Body, Gills**  
**Tail & Dorsal Fins**  
**Pelvic, Pectoral & Anal Fins**  
**Fin Stripes**  
**Body Stripes**  
Eyes, Egg Spots  
Mouth, Irises

### Nr. of Sheets:

3 sheets  
2 sheets  
2 sheets  
1 sheet  
1 sheet  
1 sheet  
1 sheet

# CHOOSE FISH TEMPLATE COLORS

<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Pseudotropheus Acei</b> 	COLOR1 COLOR2 COLOR3 COLOR4 COLOR5 COLOR6 COLOR7	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Labidochromis Caeruleus</b> 	COLOR1 COLOR2 COLOR3 COLOR4 COLOR5 COLOR6 COLOR7
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Pseudotropheus Flavus</b> 	COLOR1 COLOR2 COLOR3 COLOR4 COLOR5 COLOR6 COLOR7	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Pseudotropheus Demasoni</b> 	COLOR1 COLOR2 COLOR3 COLOR4 COLOR5 COLOR6 COLOR7
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Labeotropheus Trewavasae</b> 	COLOR1 COLOR2 COLOR3 COLOR4 COLOR5 COLOR6 COLOR7	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Labidochromis Perlmutter</b> 	COLOR1 COLOR2 COLOR3 COLOR4 COLOR5 COLOR6 COLOR7
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Labidochromis Mbamba</b> 		COLOR1 COLOR2 COLOR3 COLOR4 COLOR5 COLOR6 COLOR7	

## WHAT YOU WILL NEED?

 Hands	 Printer	 Cardstock 11 sheets	 Ruler
 Dried out pen	 Scissors	 Paper glue	 Time to enjoy

## WHAT NEEDS TO BE DONE?

To create your own personalized lowPolysm AFRICAN CICHLID FISH 3D papercraft model, follow the steps below:

01. PRINT
  02. SCORE
  03. CUT
  04. FOLD
  05. GLUE
  06. FINISH
- ENJOY

# 01. PRINT

- Select paper / cardstock and colors for your paper model. The following paper parameters are recommended:

Paper size: **A4 - 21x29.7cm | Letter - 8.5x11"**

Paper thickness: **220 - 300 g/m<sup>2</sup> | 80 - 110 lb cover**

Paper colors:

<b>COLOR1</b>	<b>COLOR2</b>	<b>COLOR3</b>	<b>COLOR4</b>	<b>COLOR5</b>	<b>COLOR6</b>	<b>COLOR7</b>
<b>3 sheets</b>	<b>2 sheets</b>	<b>2 sheets</b>	<b>1 sheet</b>	<b>1 sheet</b>	<b>1 sheet</b>	<b>1 sheet</b>

or select color(s) of your choice.

- Print the PDF template file on your chosen colored paper(s). Ensure the printing scale is set to "Actual Size", "No Scale", "100% Size" or "1:1 Ratio" according to your printer settings. This will ensure the model is printed at its intended size. To create a smaller model, adjust the printing scale to a lower percentage. For example, a 90% scale will reduce the final model's width and height to 90%.

Template files: [COLOR1-FISH-Template-3sheets.pdf](#)

[COLOR2-FISH-Template-2sheets.pdf](#)

[COLOR3-FISH-Template-2sheets.pdf](#)

[COLOR4-FISH-Template-1sheet.pdf](#)

[COLOR5-FISH-Template-1sheet.pdf](#)

[COLOR6-FISH-Template-1sheet.pdf](#)

[COLOR7-FISH-Template-1sheet.pdf](#)

For cutting machines like Cricut or Silhouette, use template files in **SVG**, **DXF** or **STUDIO3** file format.

Ensure all template files are printed at the same printing scale and with identical settings for all pages!

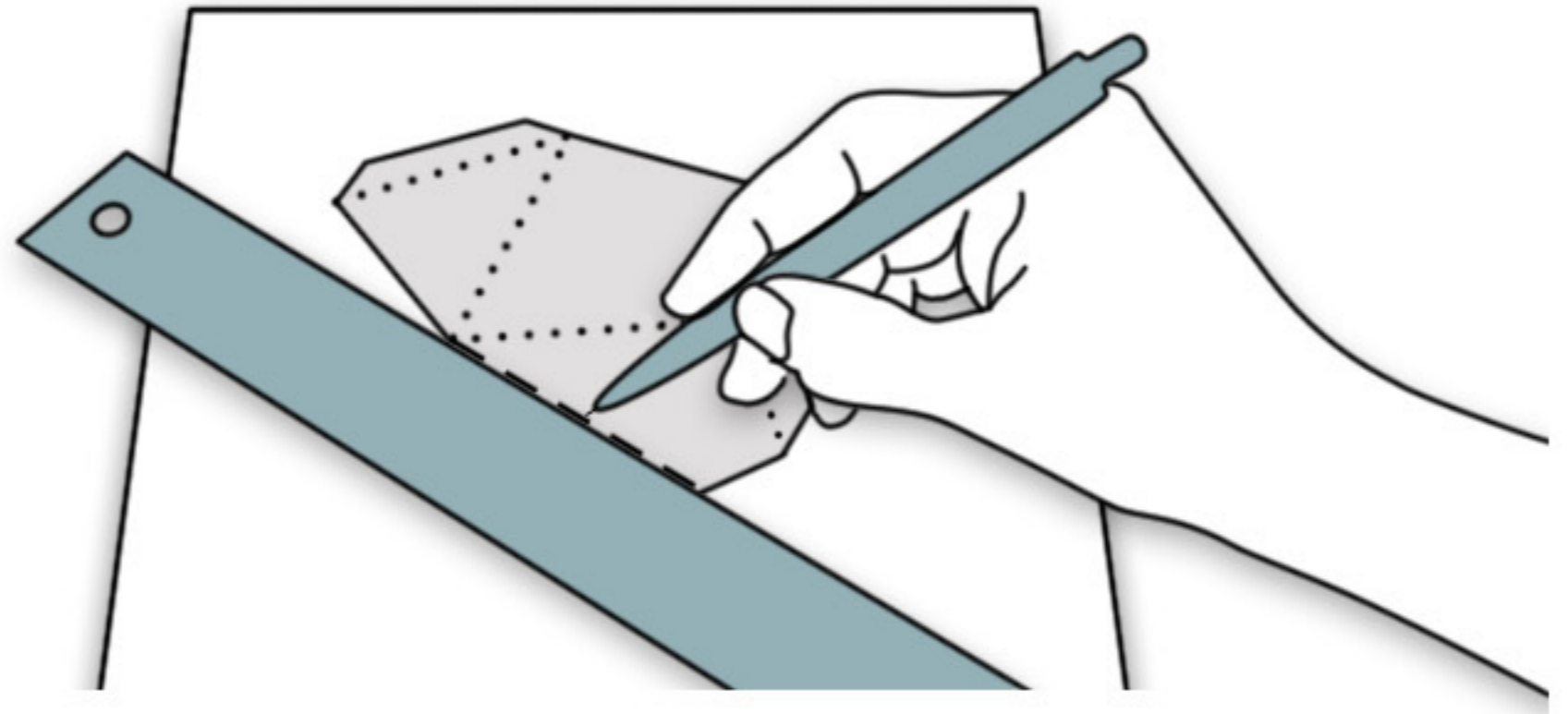
## Printing tips & tricks:

For dark-colored paper, printed template lines and numbers might be difficult to see. In this case, print the template files on regular white printer paper first. Then, glue it onto your desired dark-colored cardstock paper.

If your printer supports larger paper sizes, you can increase the printing scale beyond 100%. The resulting paper model will have proportionally larger dimensions.

## 02. SCORE

Score all dashed — — — — — and dotted ········· lines on the printed template parts using a ruler and dull tool, such as dried-out ballpoint pen.



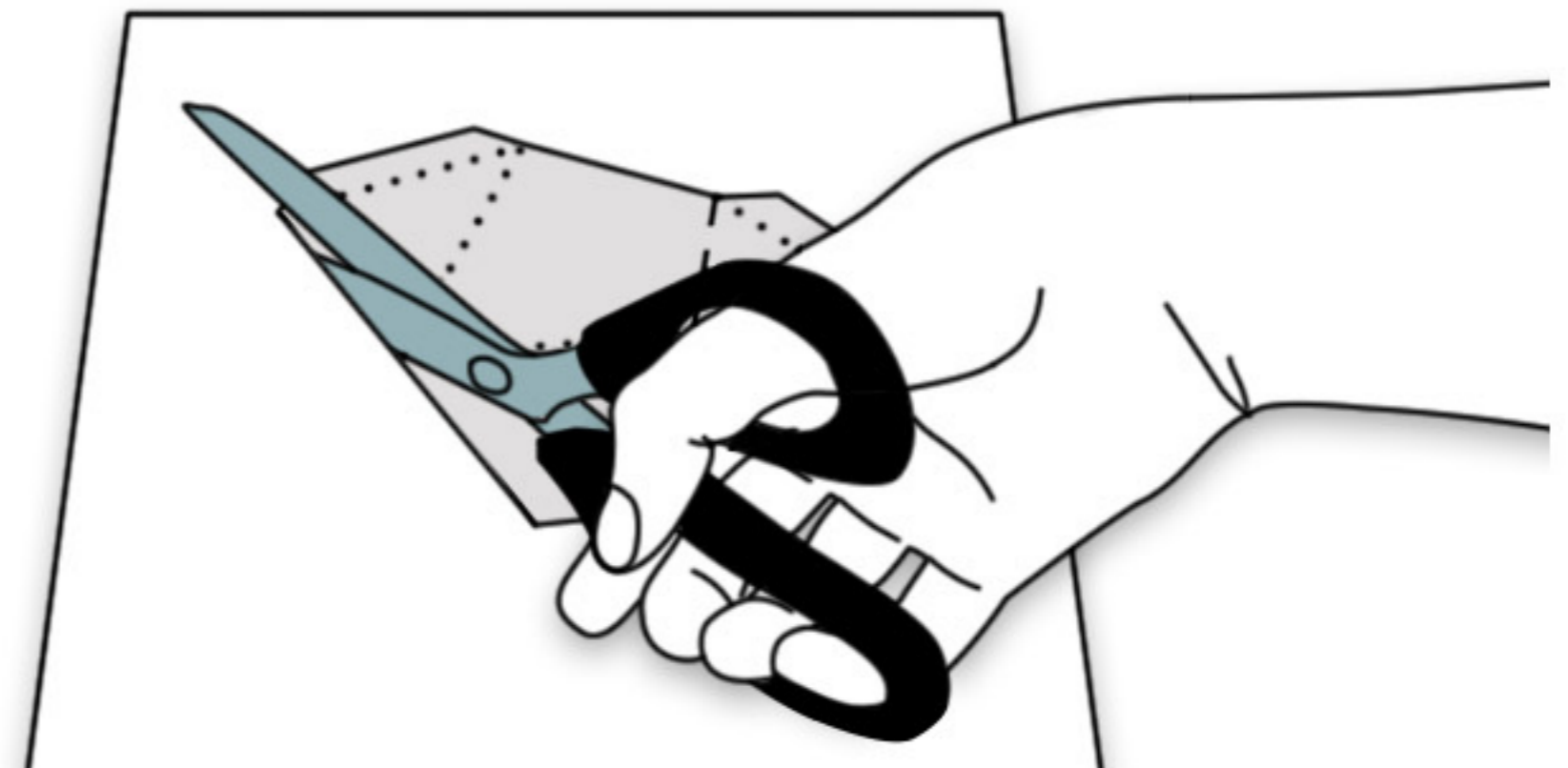
### Scoring tips & tricks:

You can also use other tools such as a sharp ruler corner, pin, nail, awl, or quilling pen for scoring. Be careful and gentle to avoid cutting through the paper. Try it on some scrap paper first.

For machine scoring, use cutting machines like Cricut or Silhouette with the provided SVG, DXF, or STUDIO3 template files and respective cutting software.

## 03. CUT

Cut out the template parts following all the solid ———— lines.



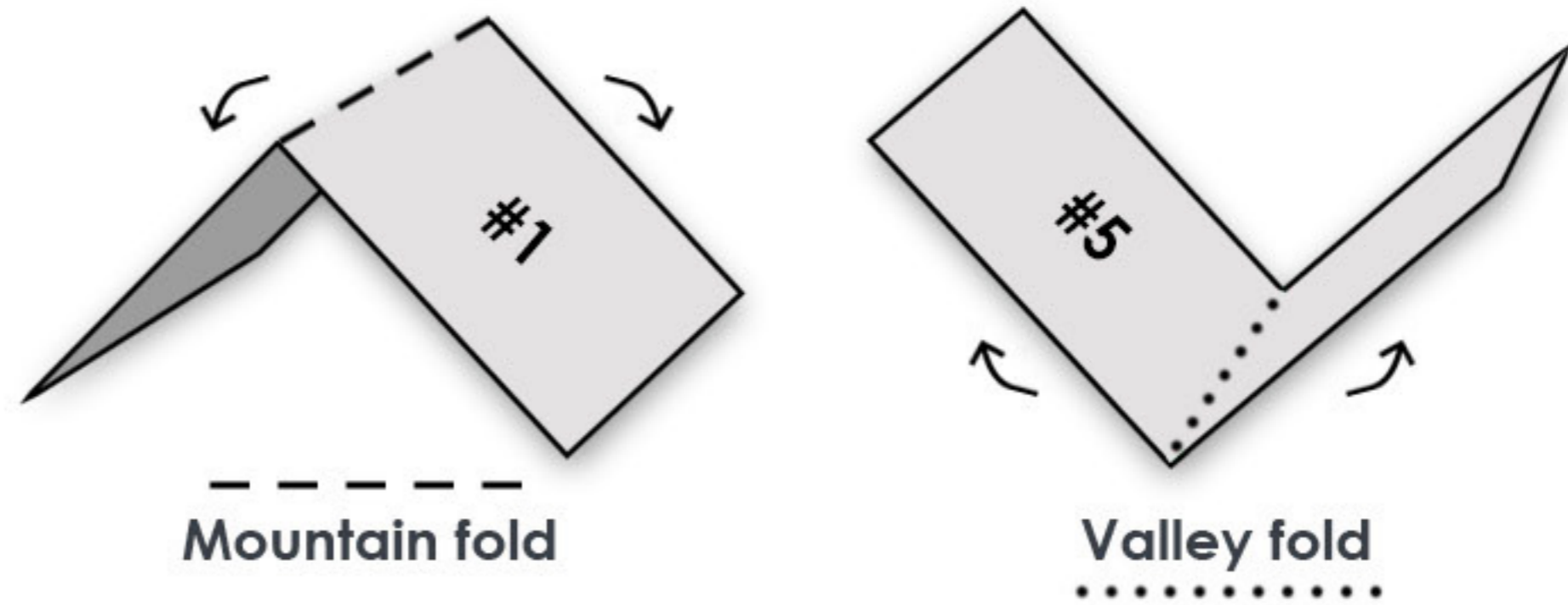
### Cutting tips & tricks:

More precise cuts can be achieved with a ruler and crafting knife. Place the ruler along the solid line and carefully cut with the crafting knife along the ruler's edge. A metal ruler is most appropriate for this technique rather than a plastic or wooden ruler.

For machine scoring, use cutting machines like Cricut or Silhouette with the provided SVG, DXF, or STUDIO3 template files and respective cutting software.

## 04. FOLD

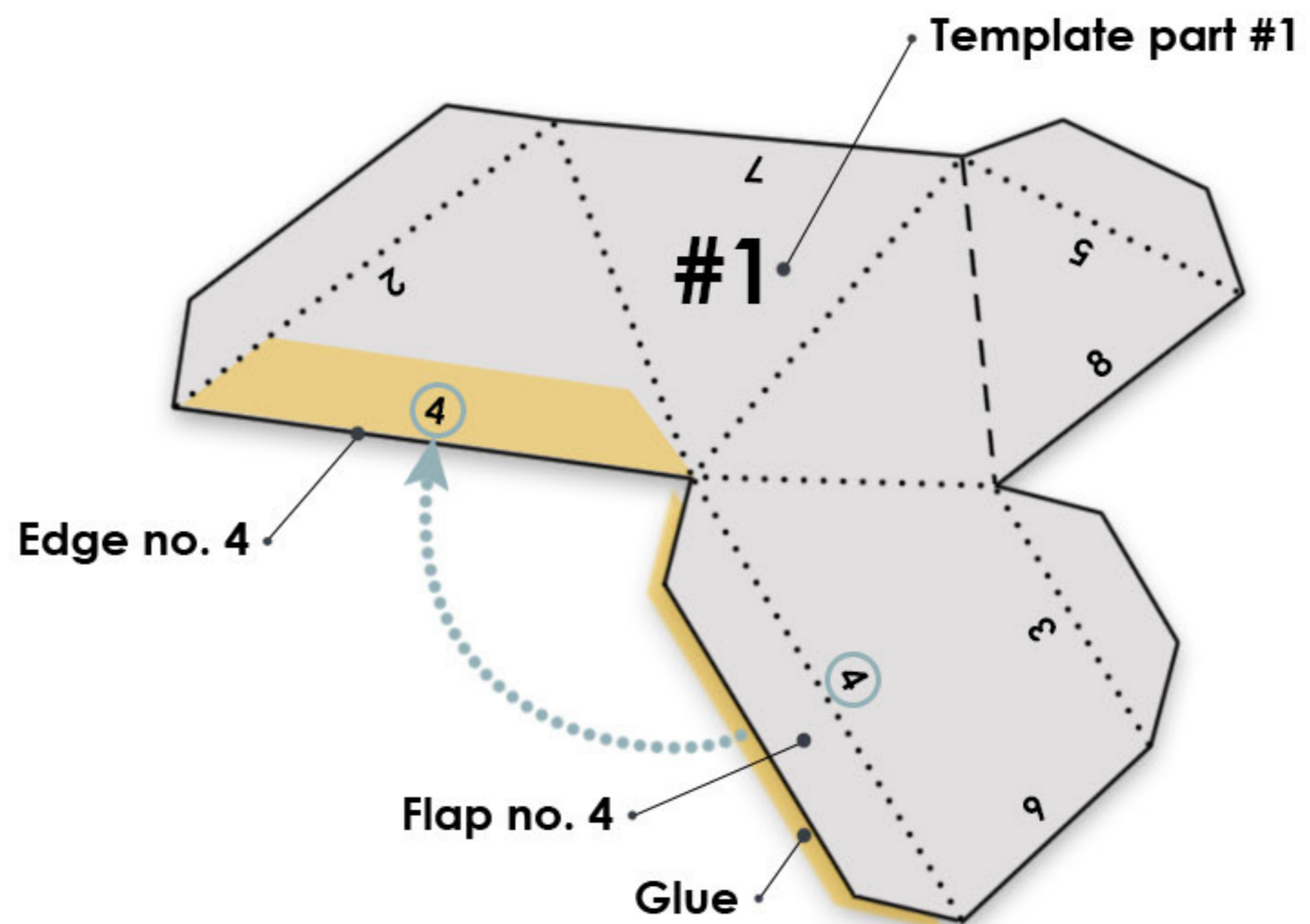
- Fold all the scored lines. Dashed **-----** lines indicate mountain folds, while dotted **.....** lines indicate valley folds. These folds will become the edges of your 3D papercraft model.



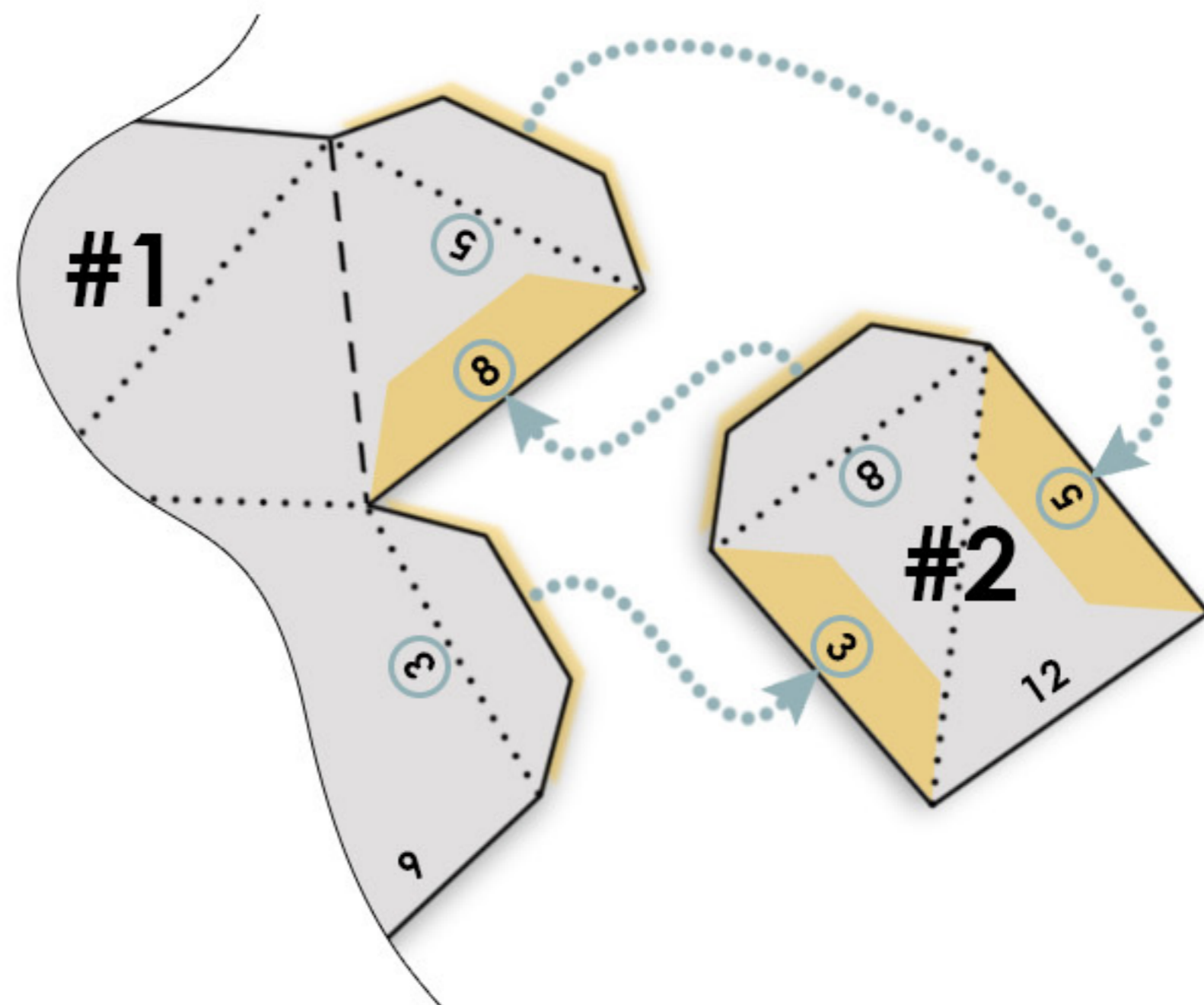
## 05. GLUE

- Glue flaps to the edges with the same numbers. Start by gluing the flaps within individual template parts.

Example:



- Glue all the connecting flaps between template parts **#1** and **#2**. Then, continue to template part **#3** and onwards. Visual assembly guide and assembly steps are shown on the next pages.



### Gluing tips & tricks:

All printed sides of the template parts should be inside of the paper model. Flaps, lines, and numbers stay inside and should not be visible from the outside of the finished model.

Flap and edge numbers only indicate corresponding pairs that need to be glued together, not the gluing order.

Test-fit the connecting parts before applying glue. Then, spread a thin layer of glue on the designated side of a flap.



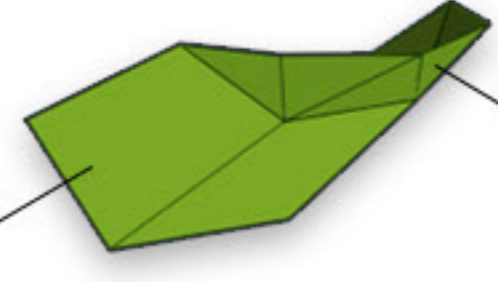
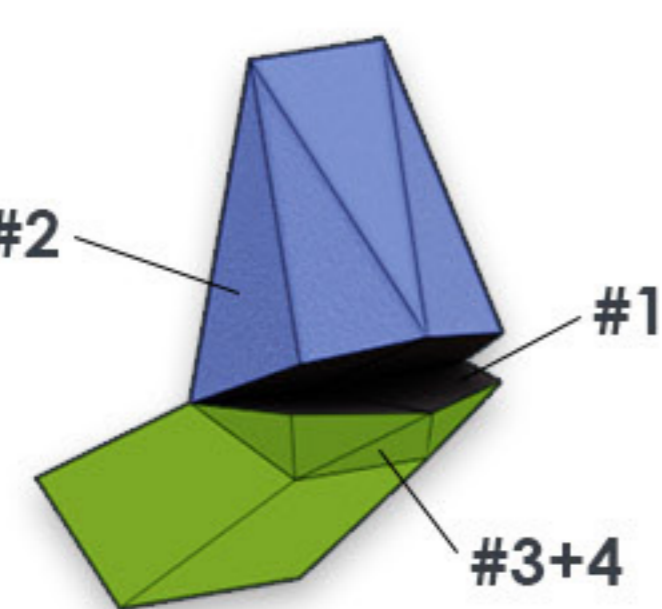
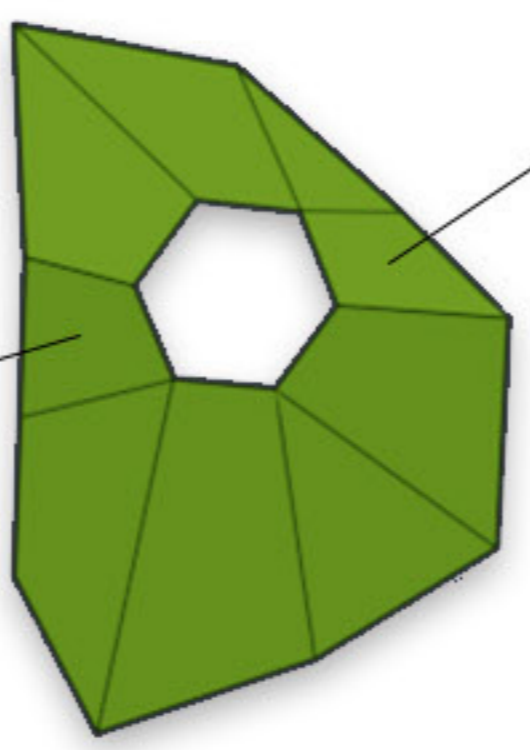
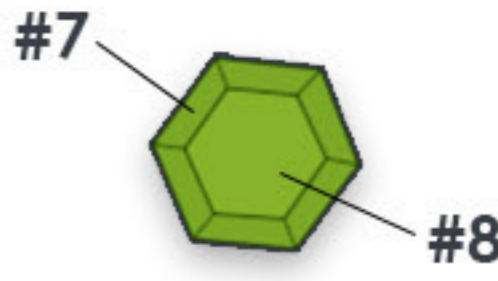
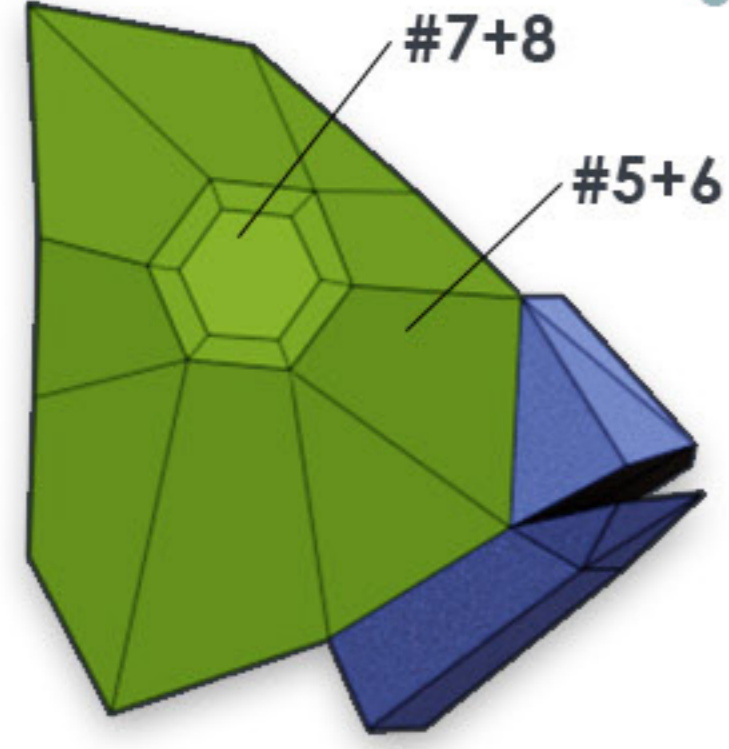
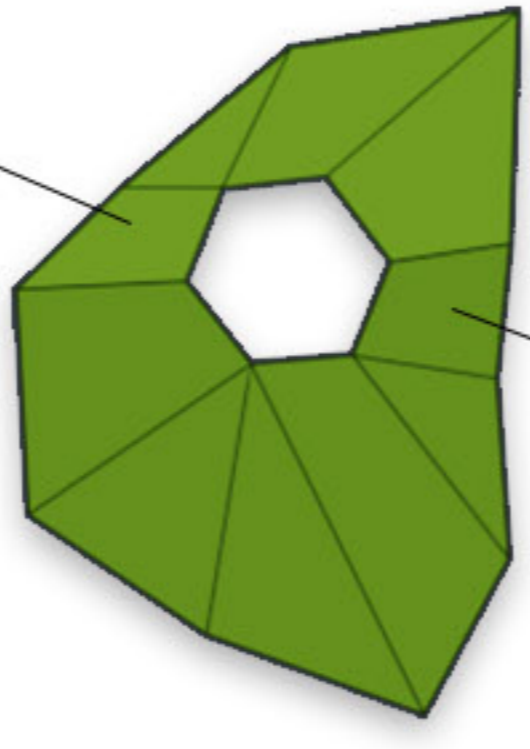
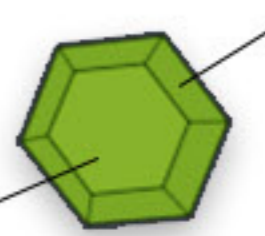
Always glue one flap at a time and wait until it dries out completely before proceeding to the next flap.

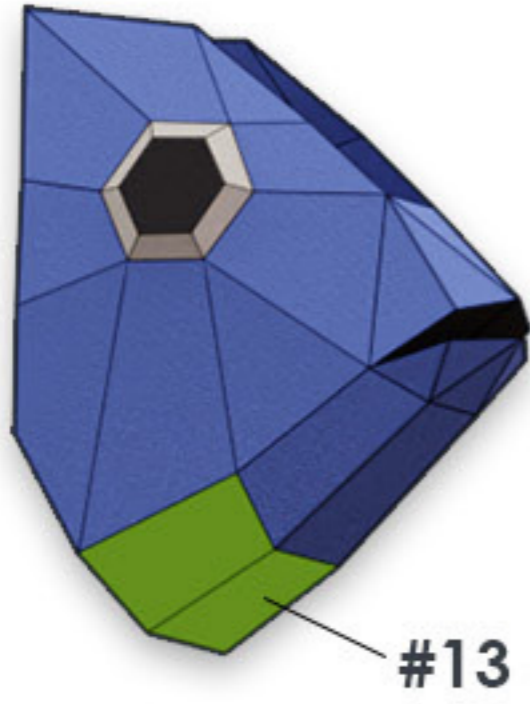
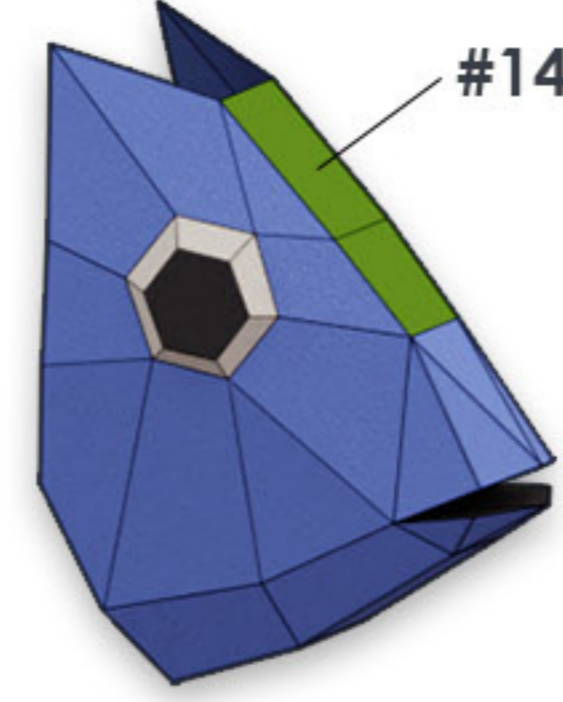
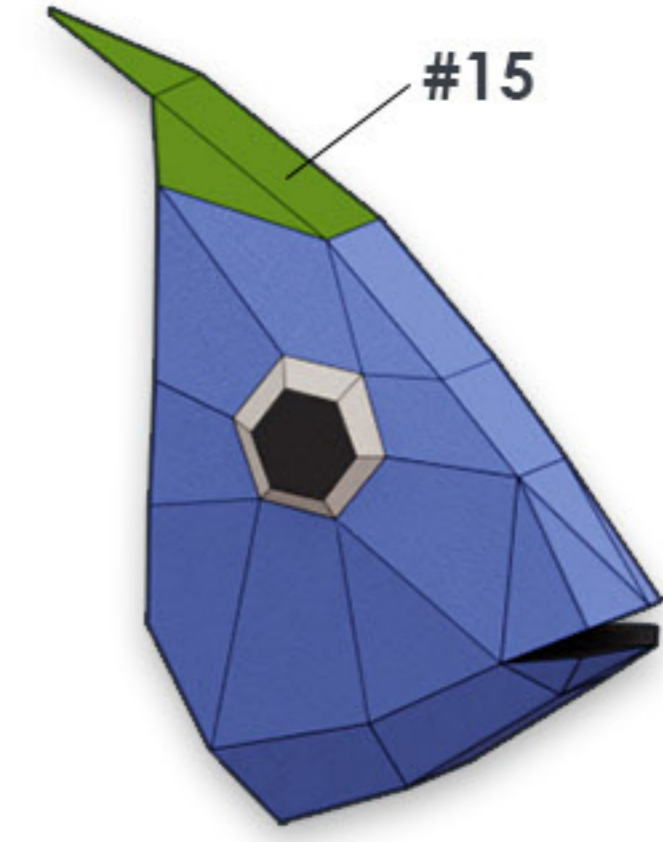
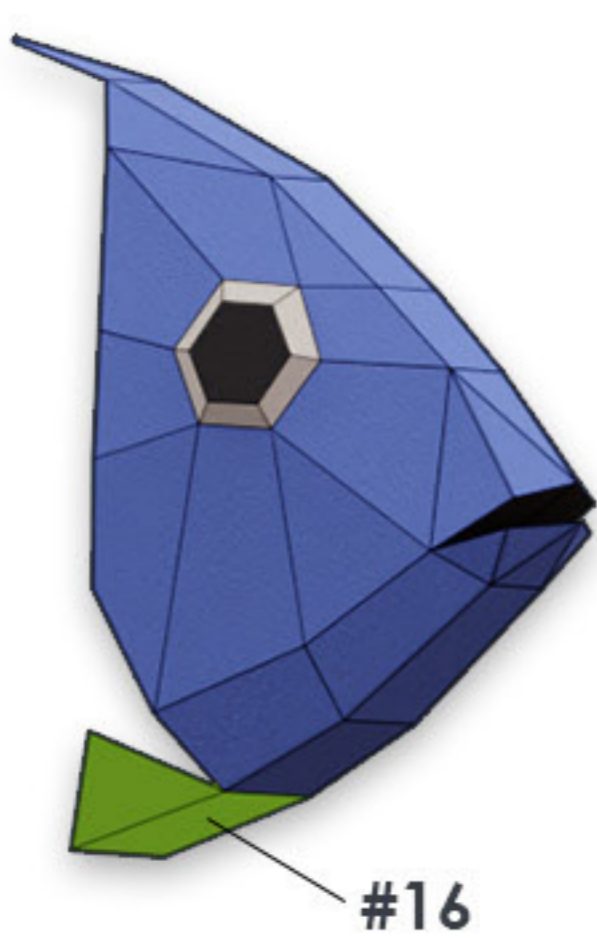
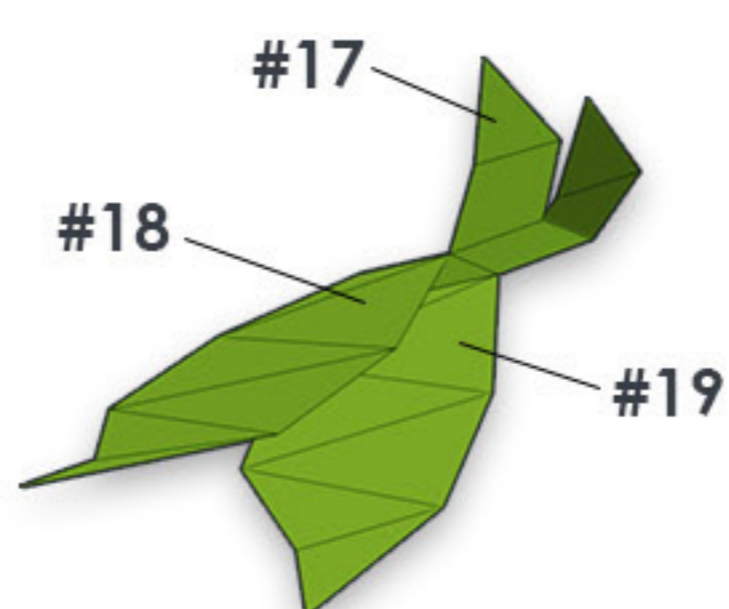
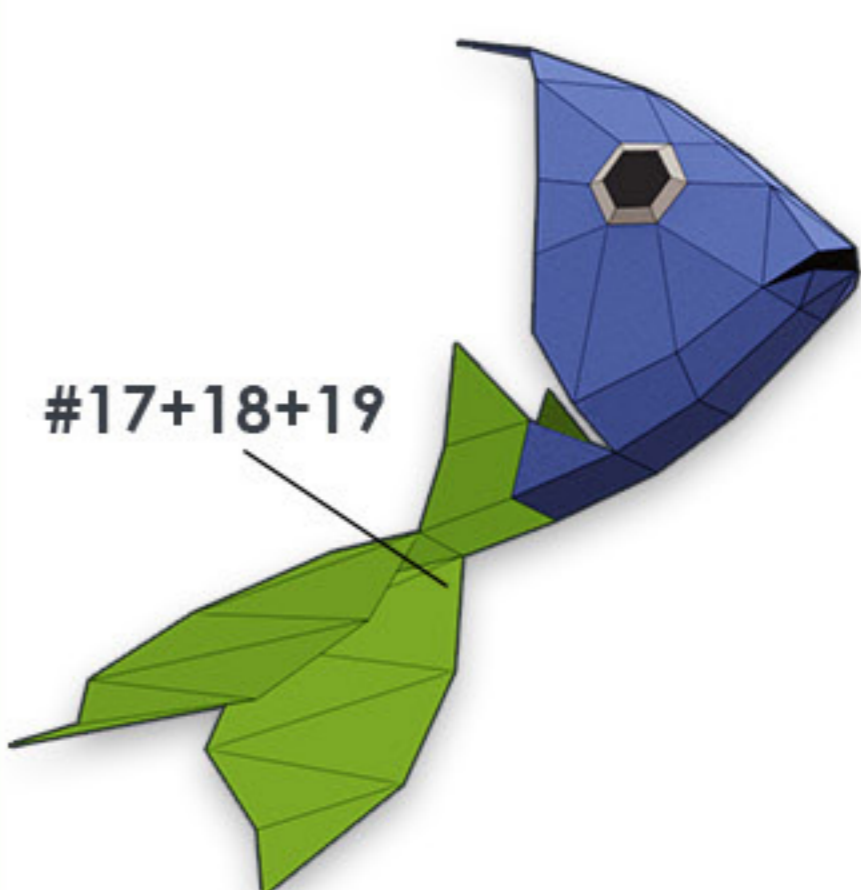
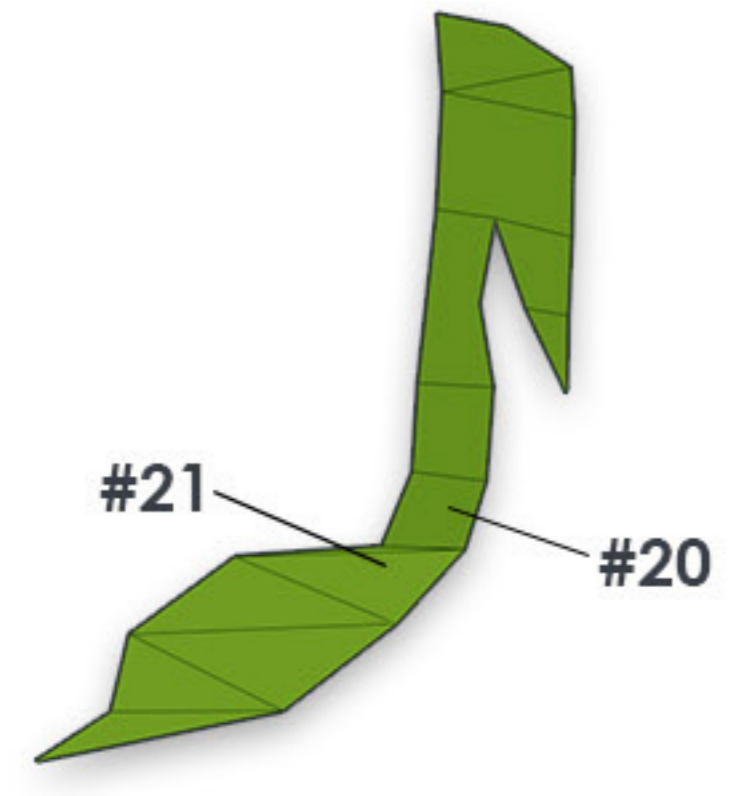
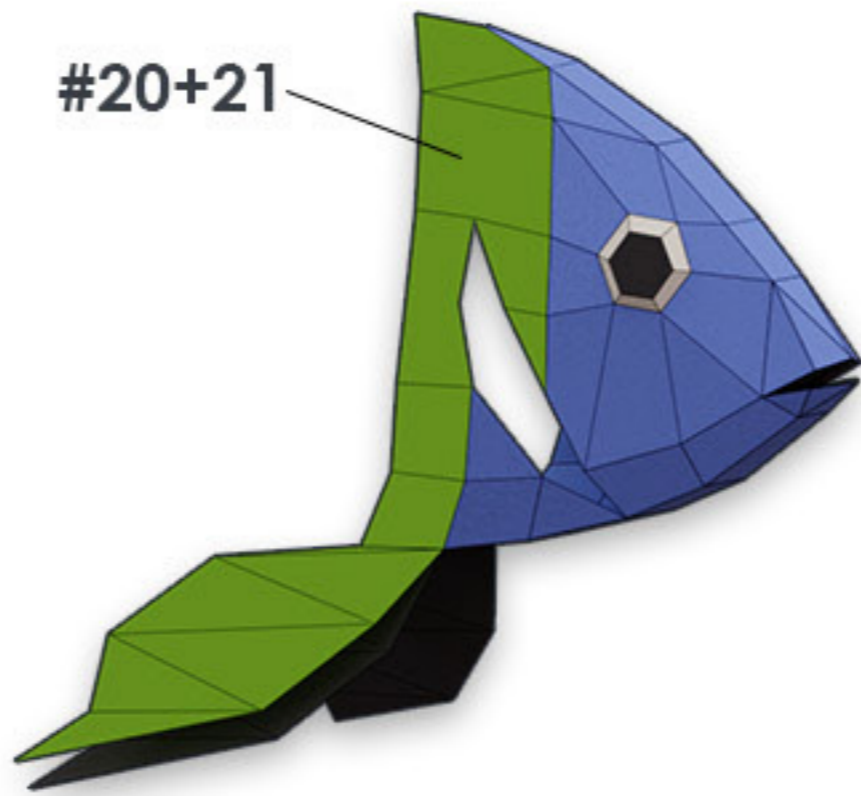
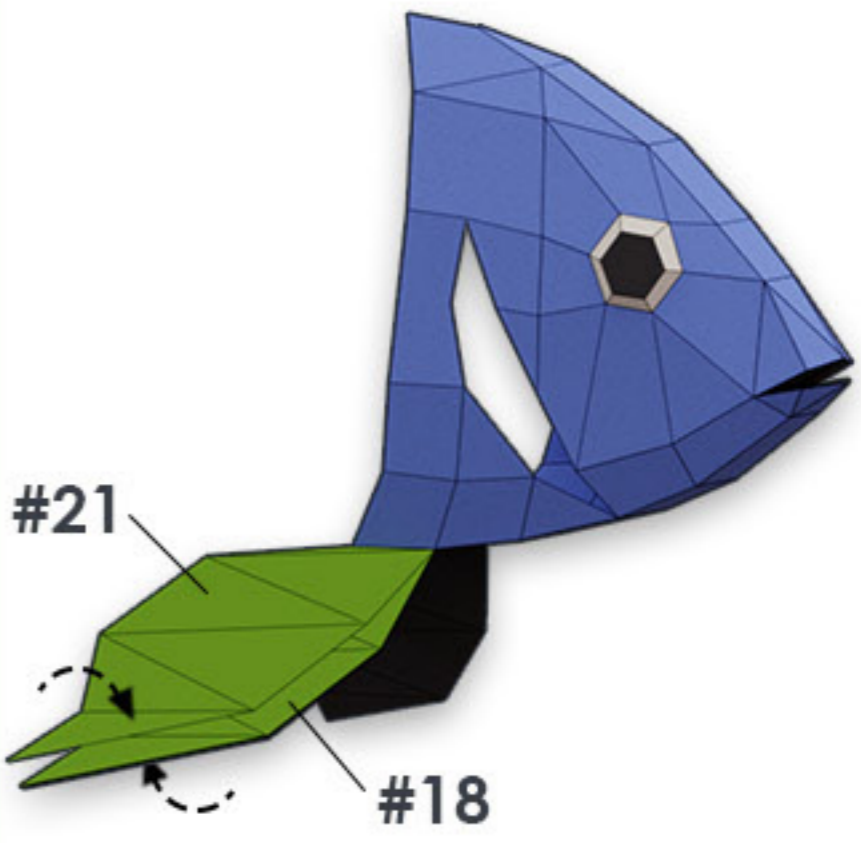
Be accurate when gluing flaps to the edges. Both corners of a flap must precisely match both ends of the corresponding edge.

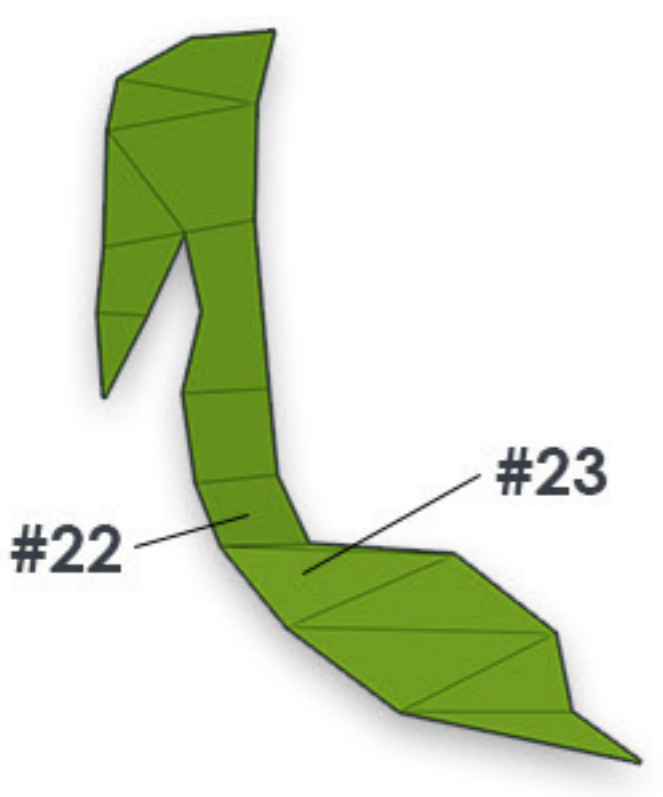
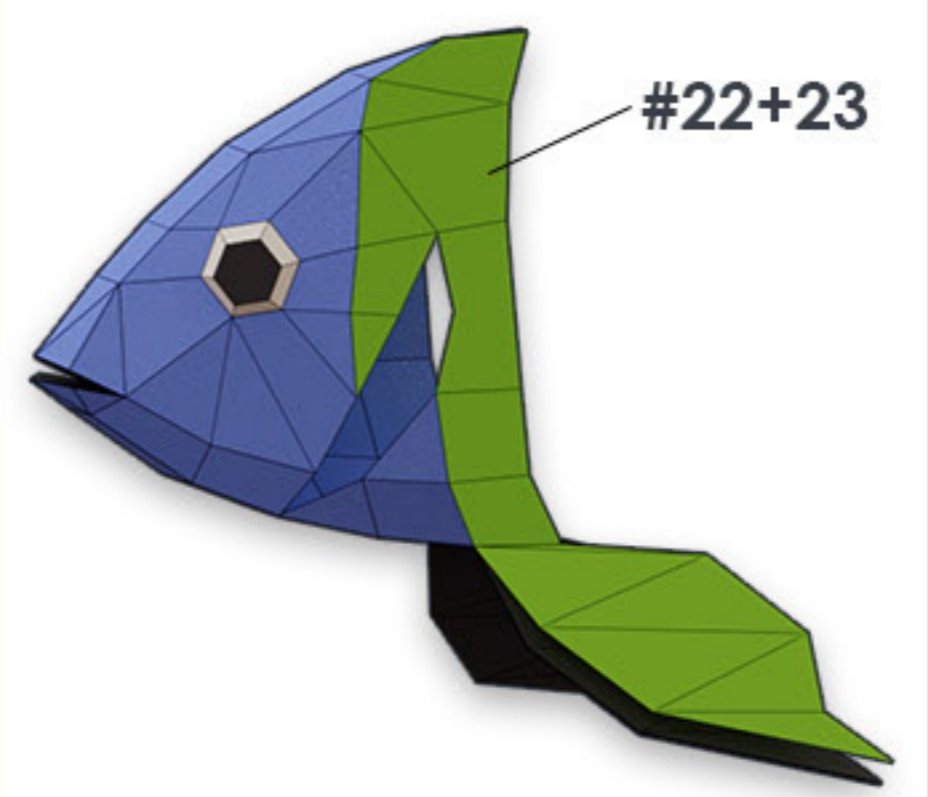
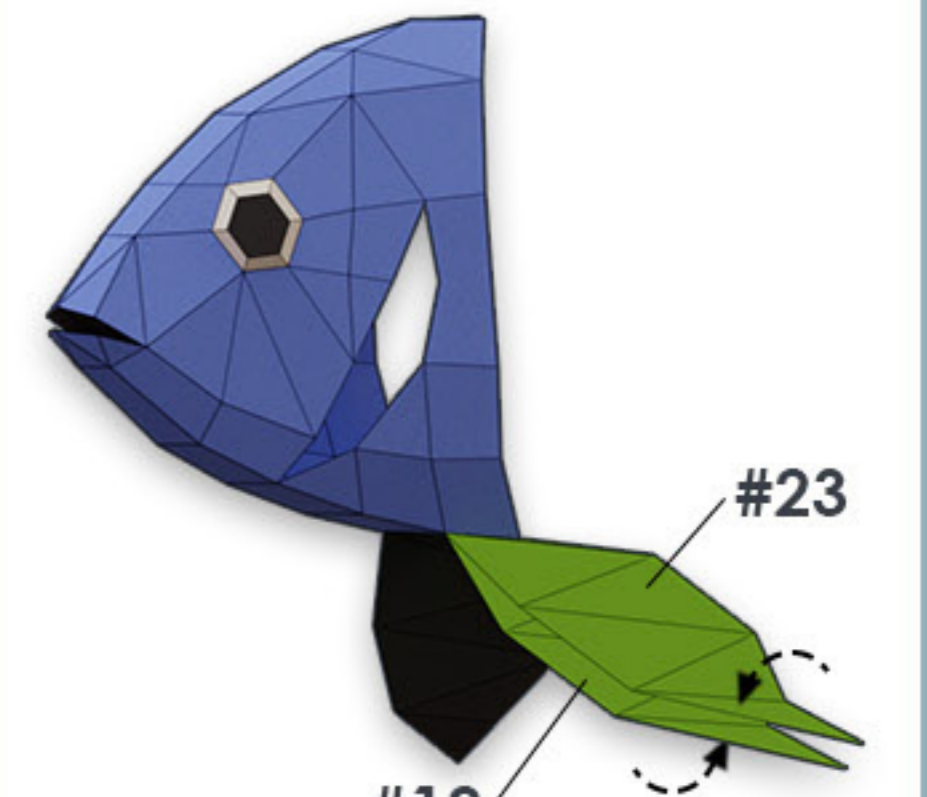
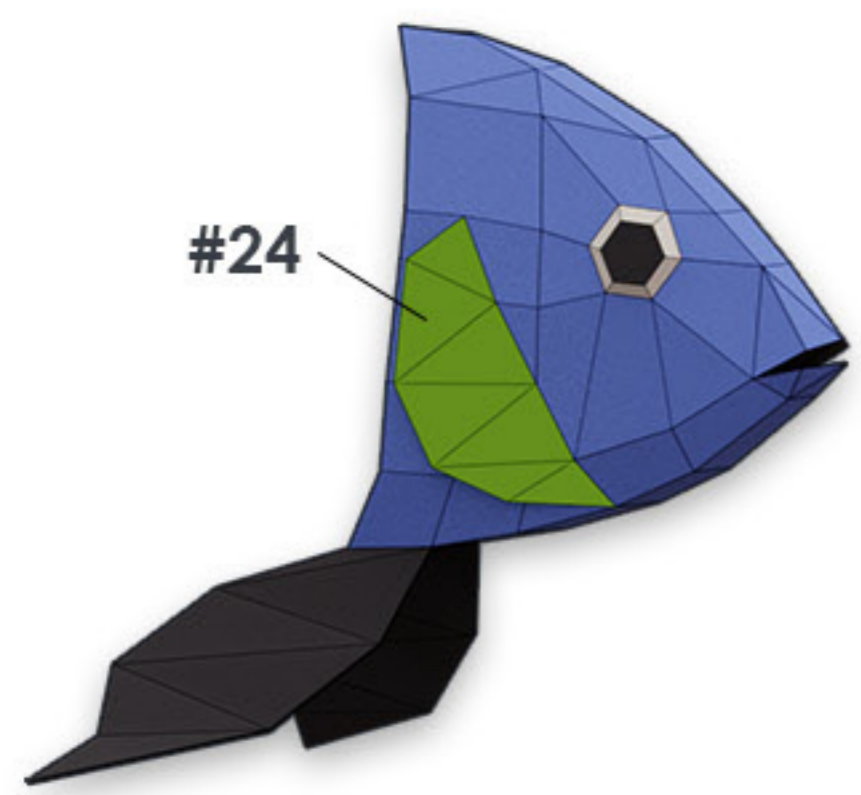
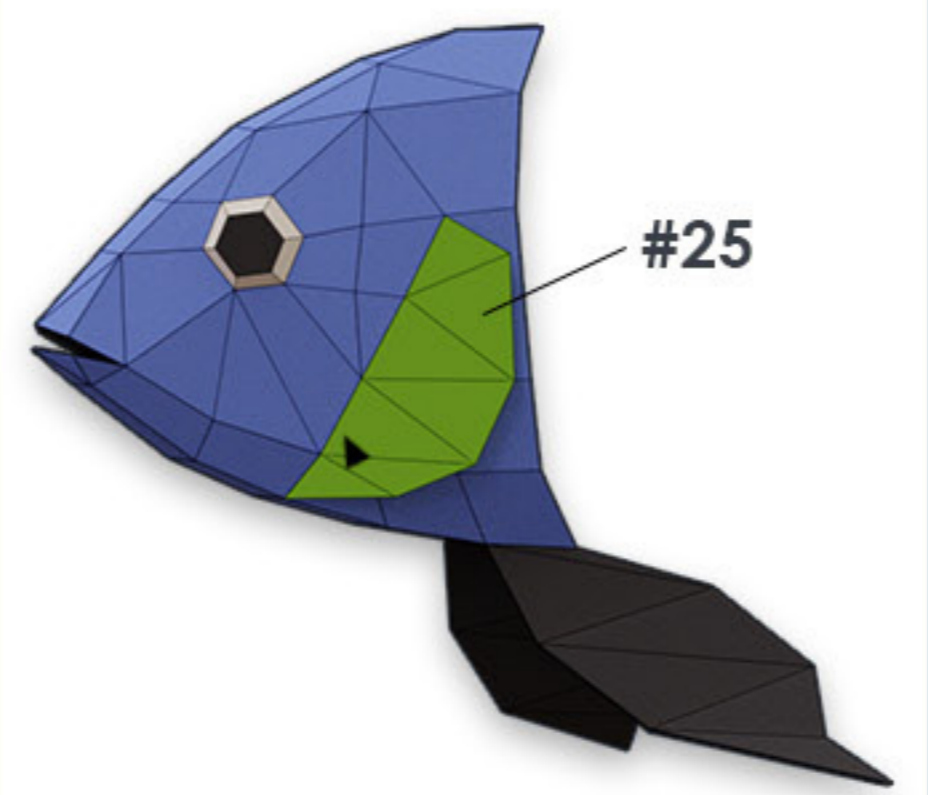
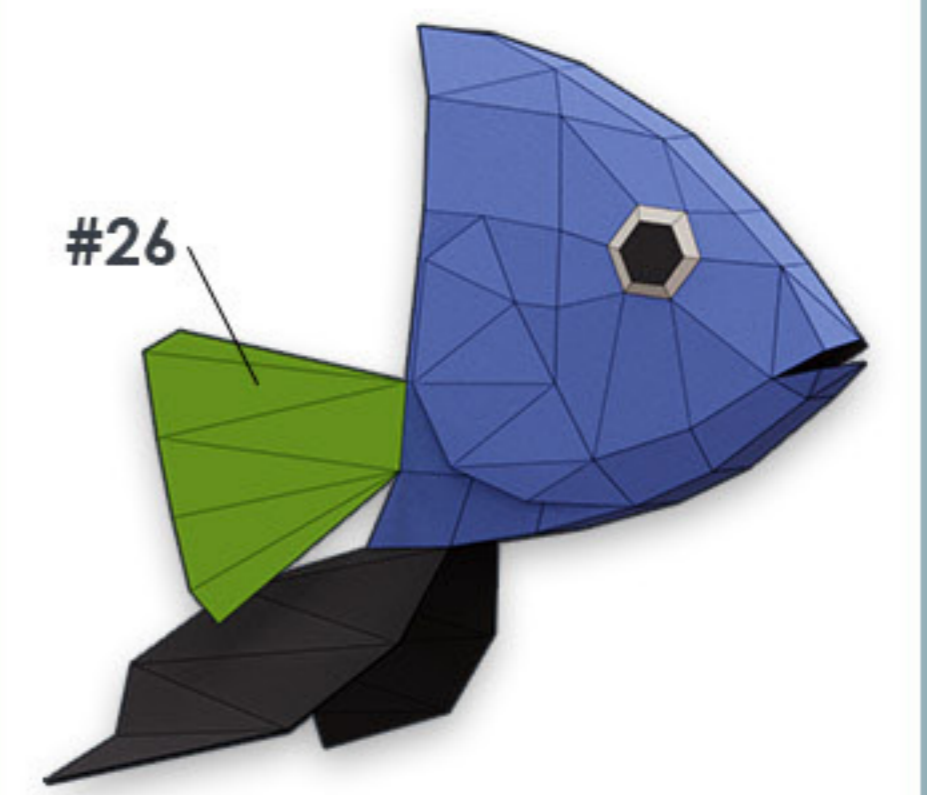
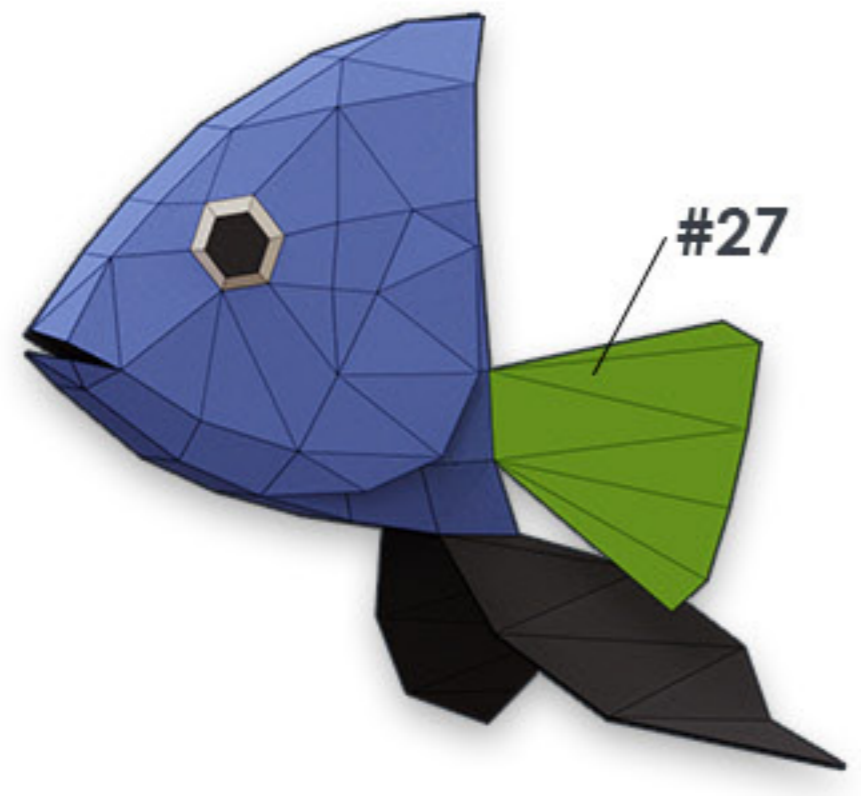
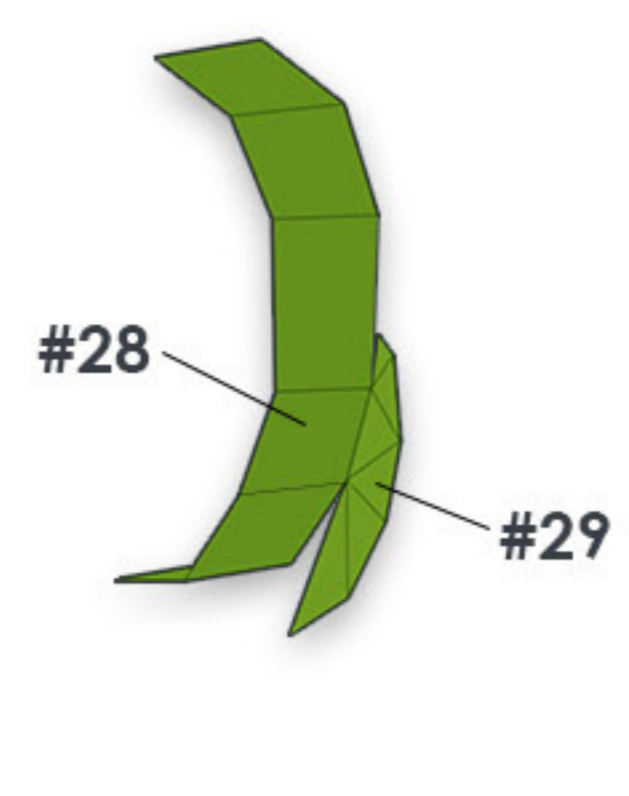

Less is more and this also applies to amount of glue you should use. Apply a few drops of glue on the flap, spread it evenly and remove any excess glue with a toothpick or scrap paper. You can put a small amount of glue in a bowl and use a small paintbrush for application.

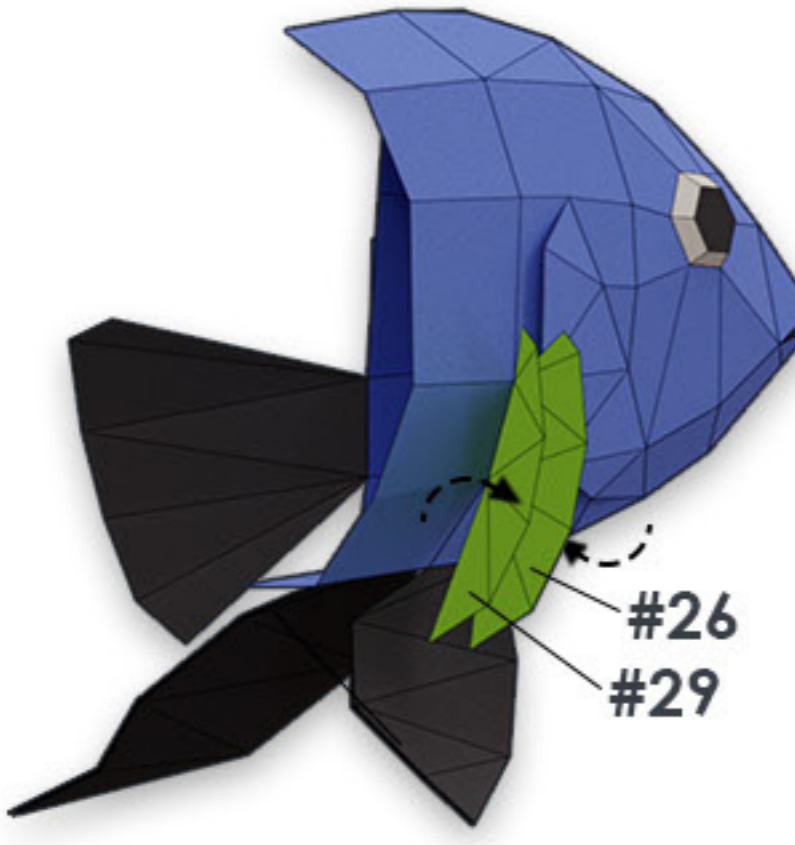
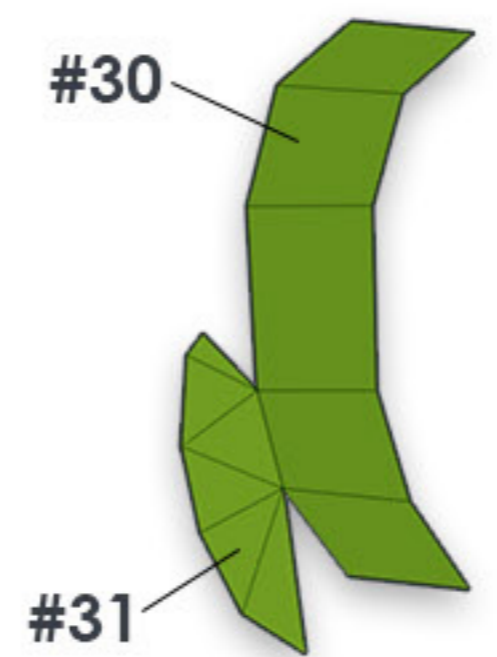
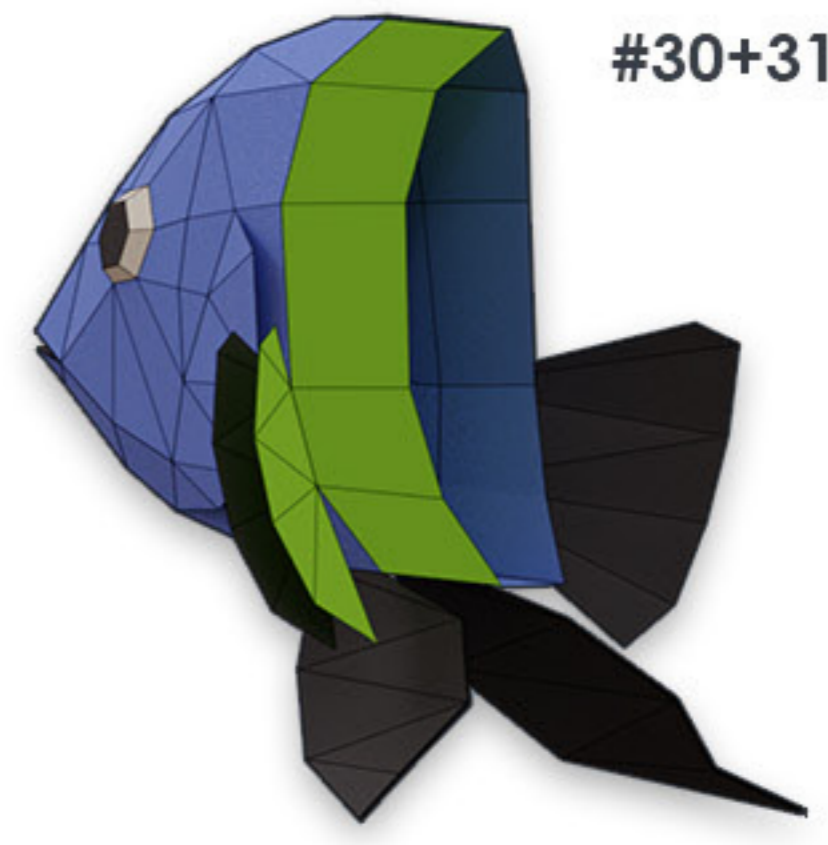
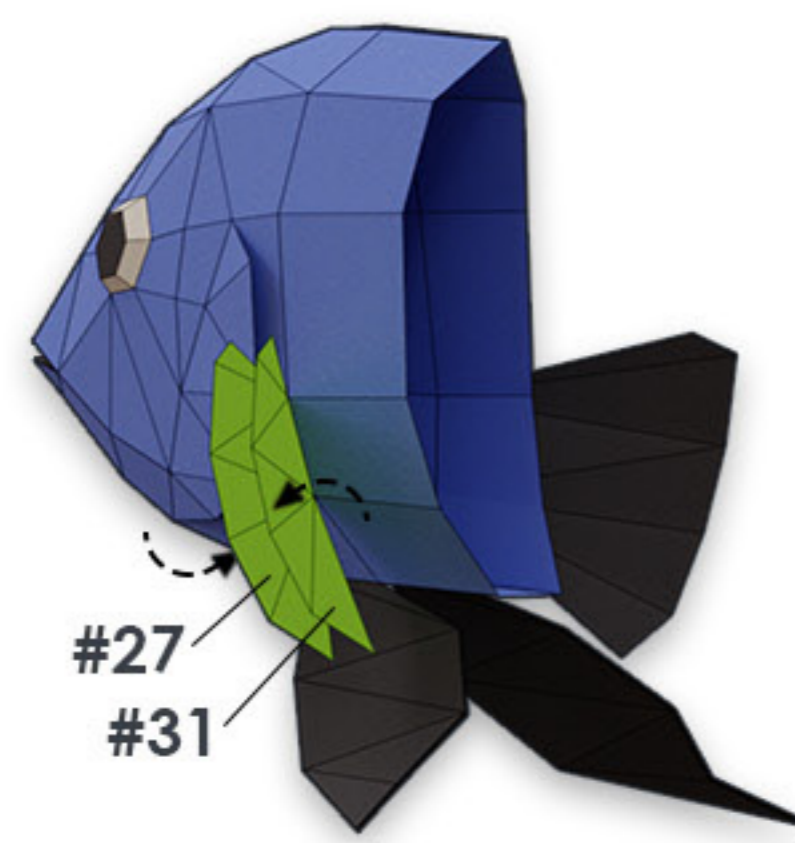
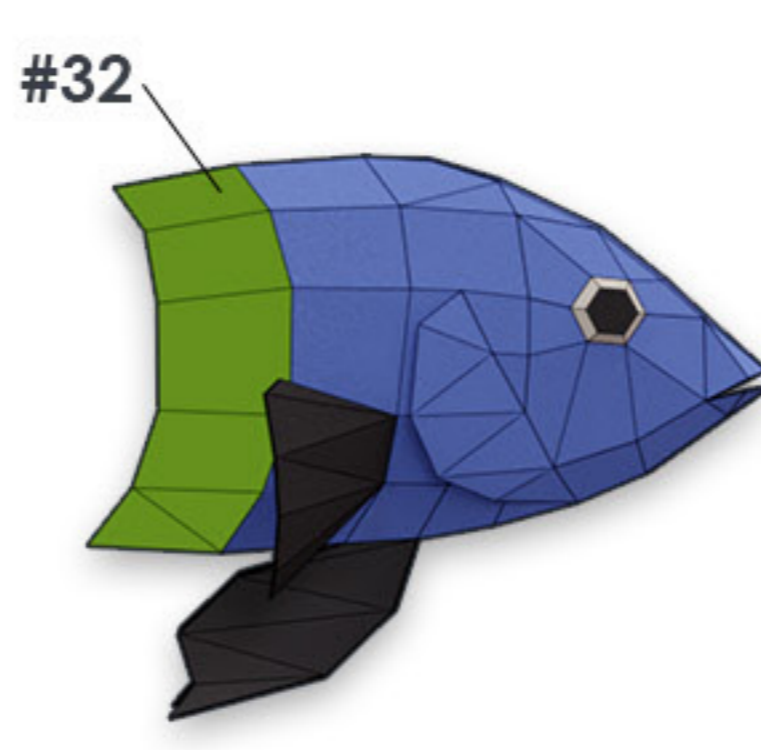
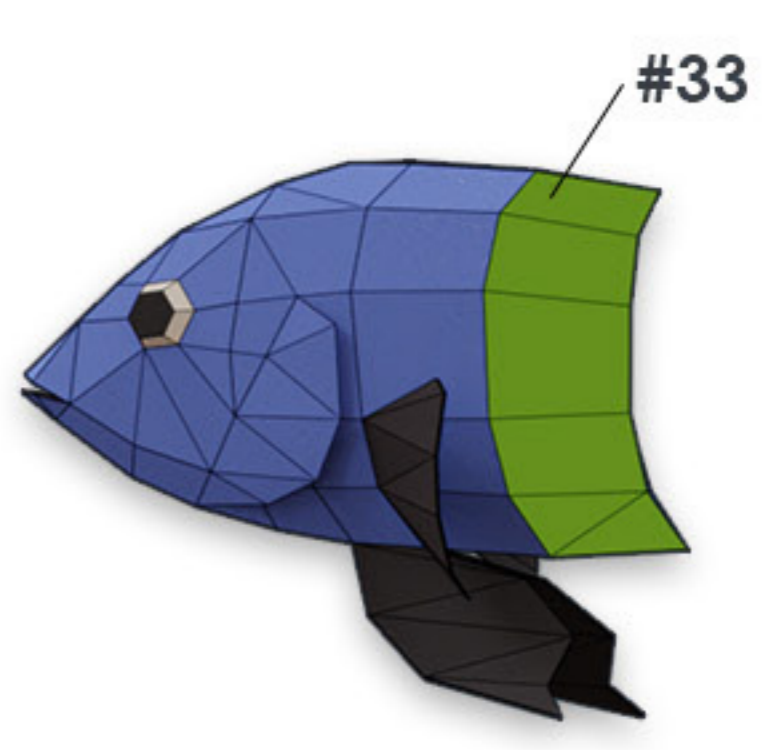
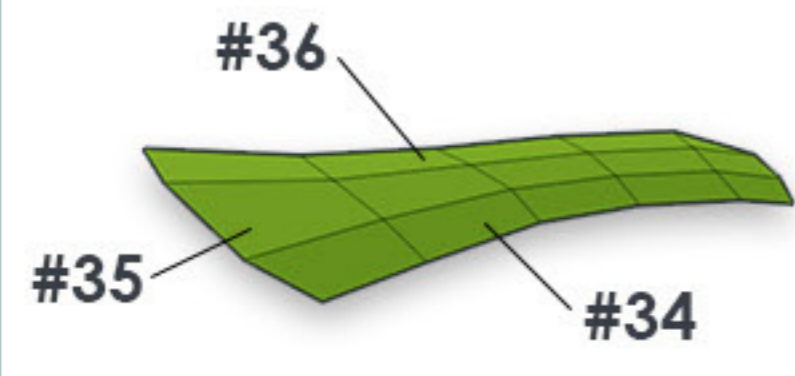
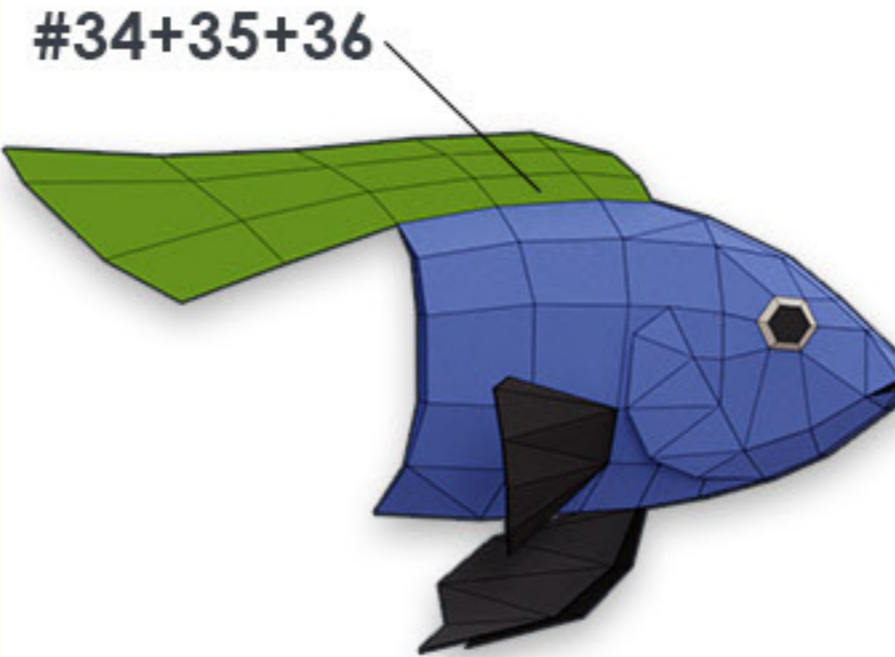
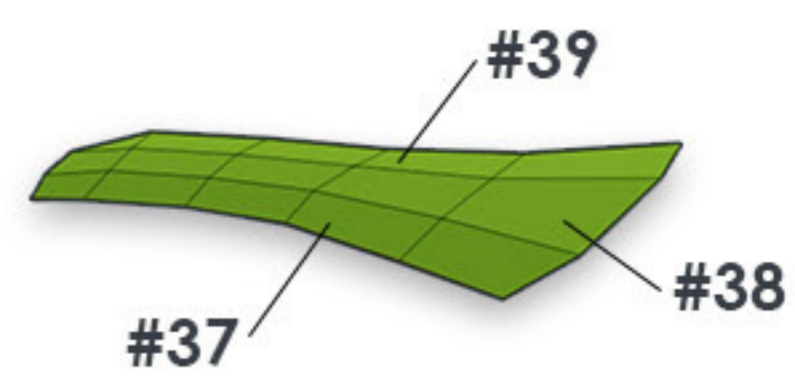
For hard-to-reach flaps, use a paintbrush to apply glue.

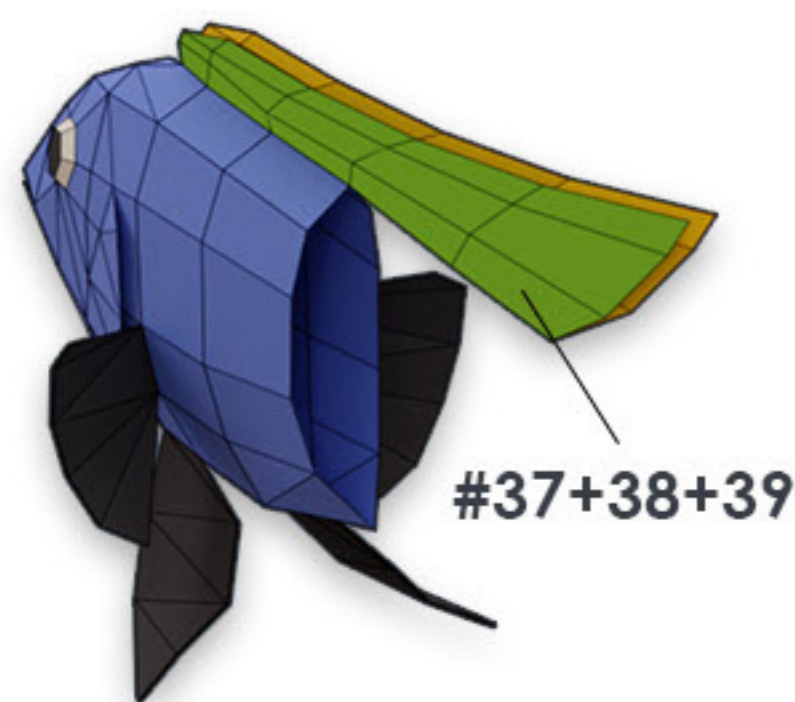
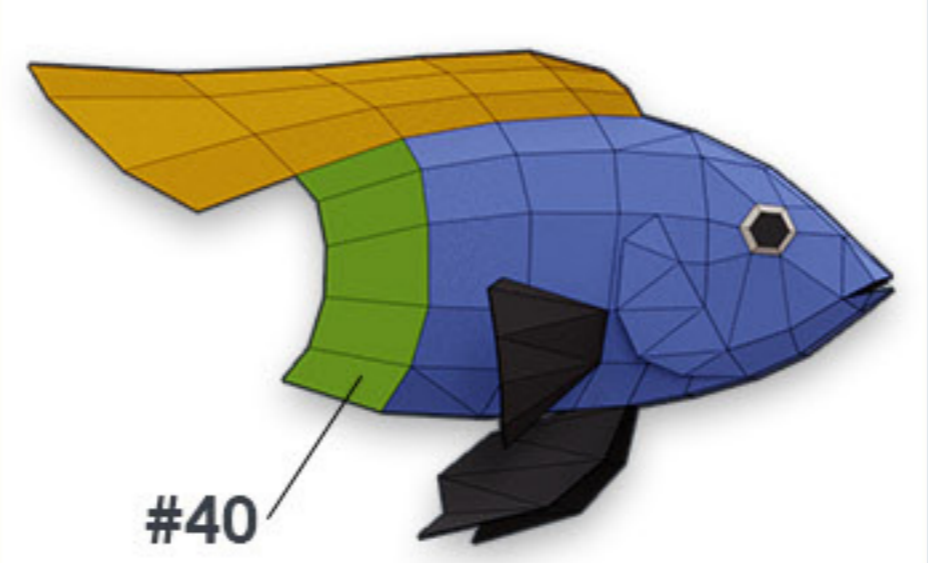
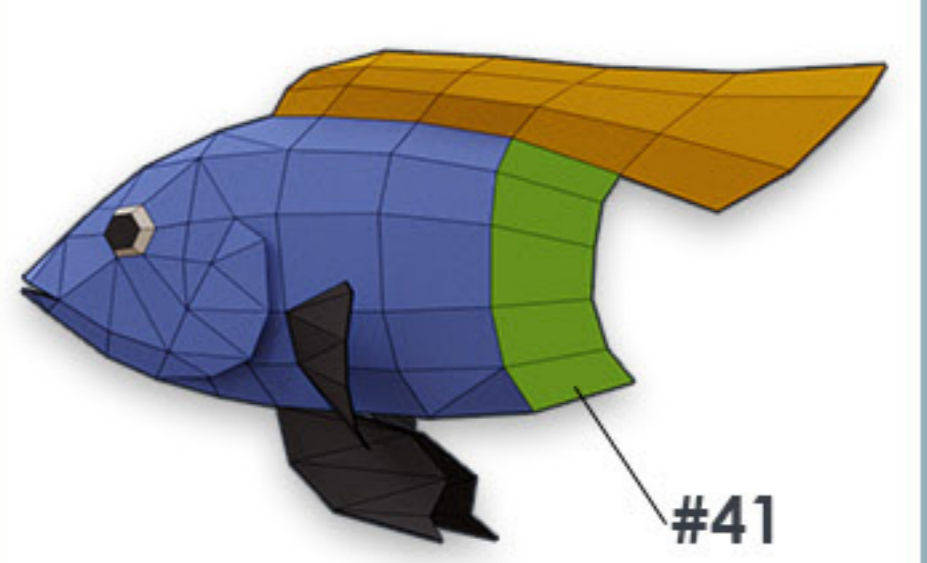
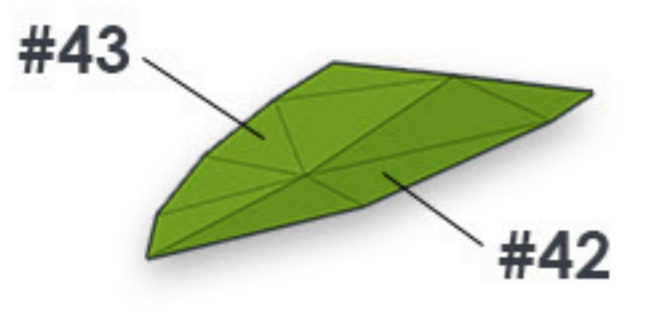
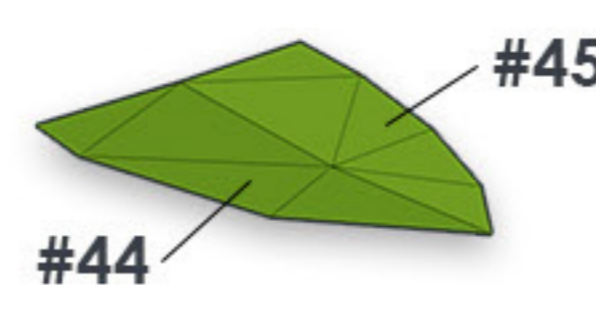
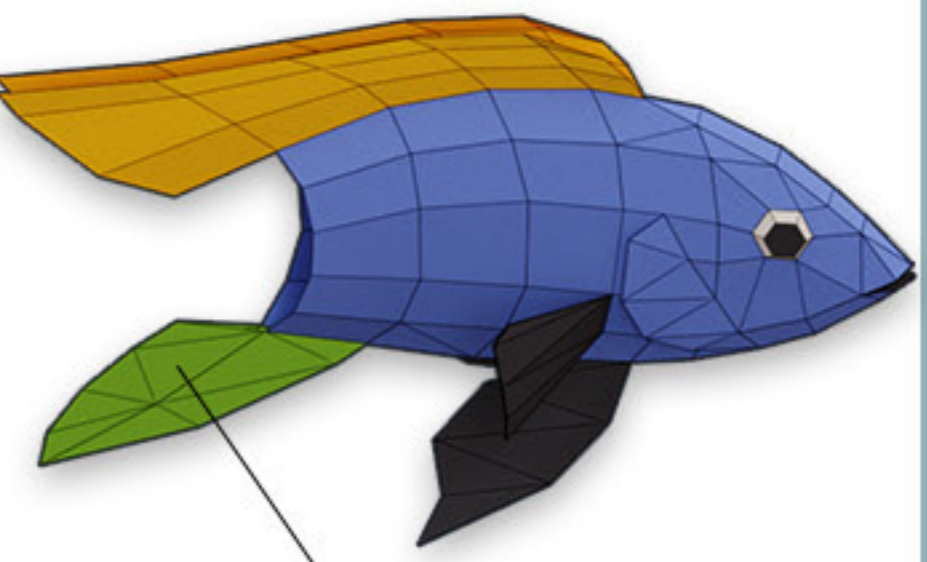
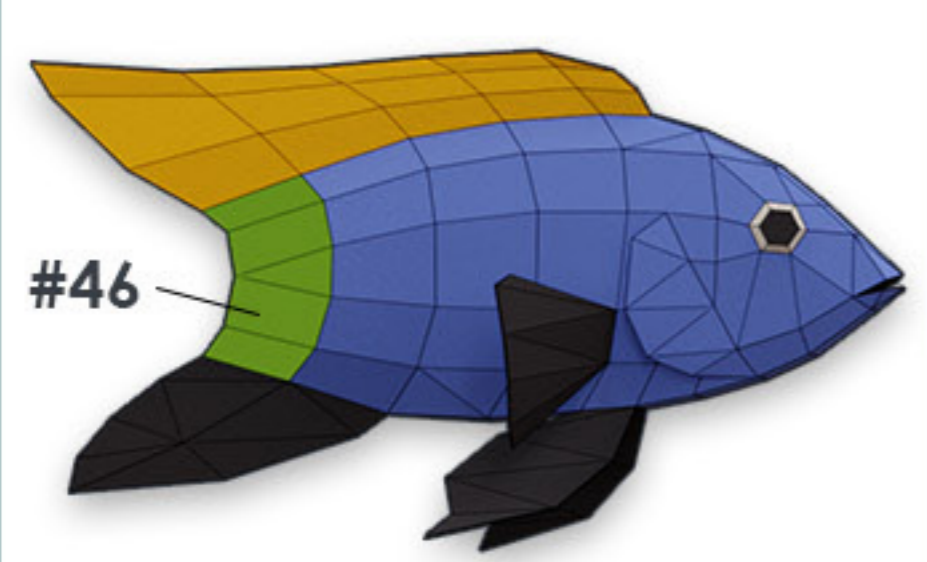
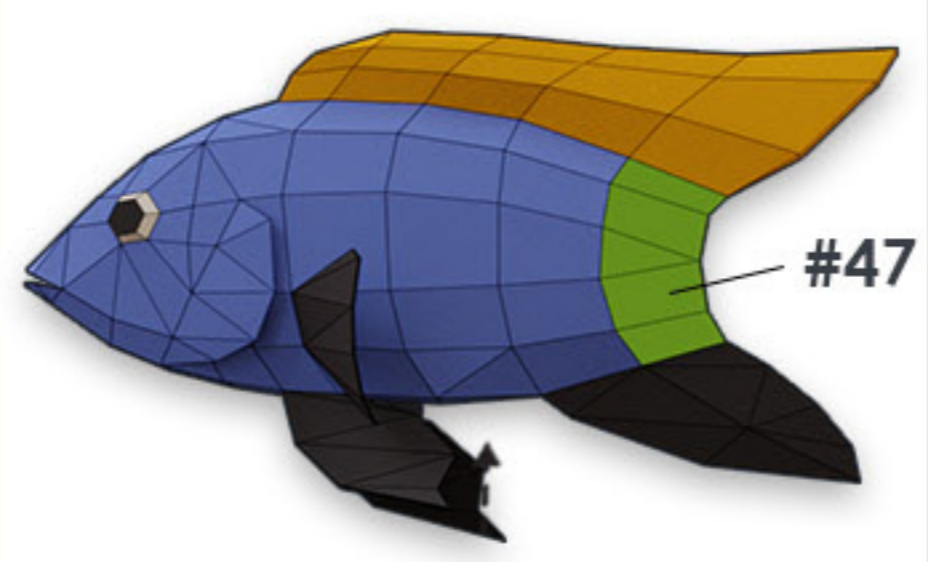
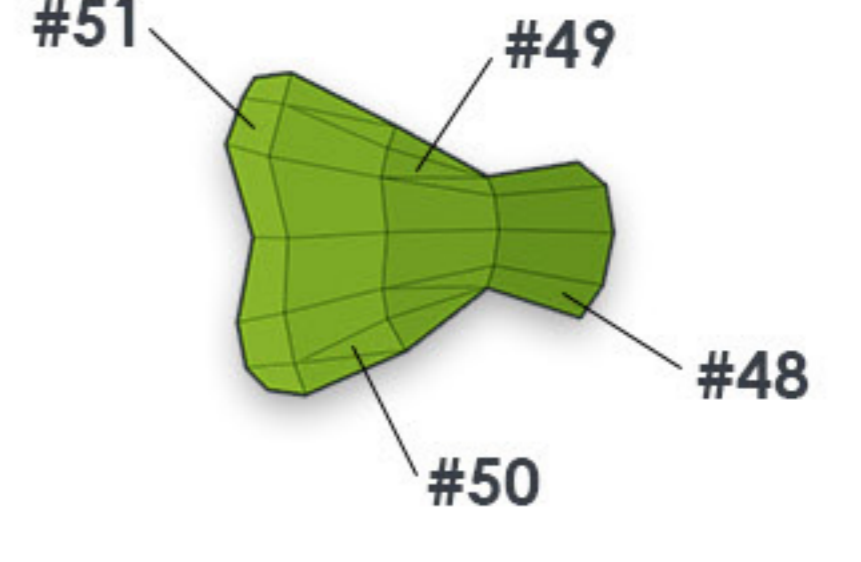
# VISUAL ASSEMBLY GUIDE

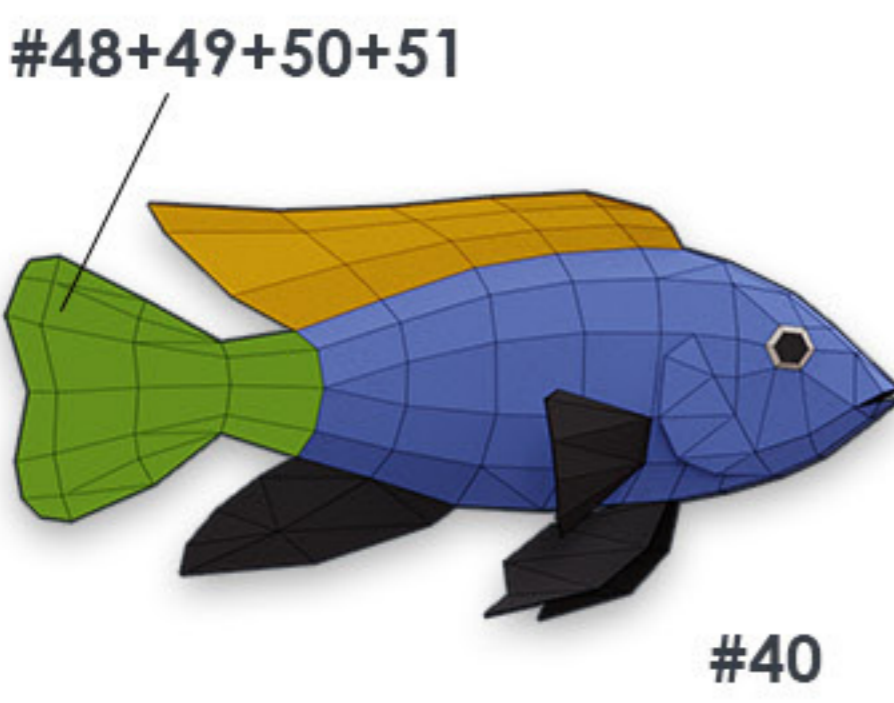
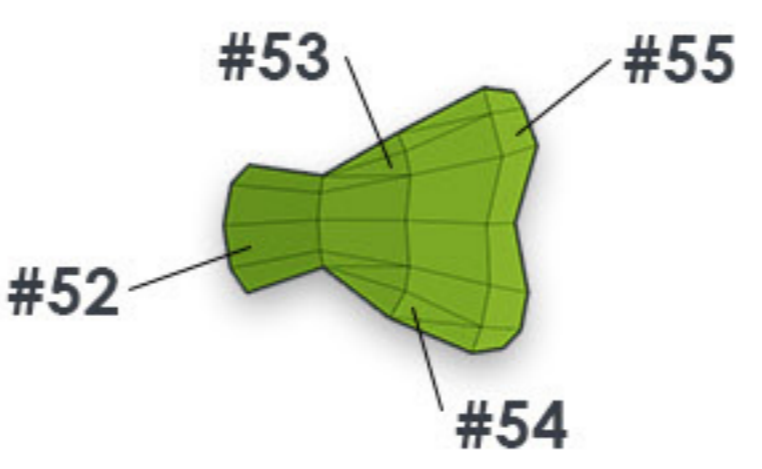
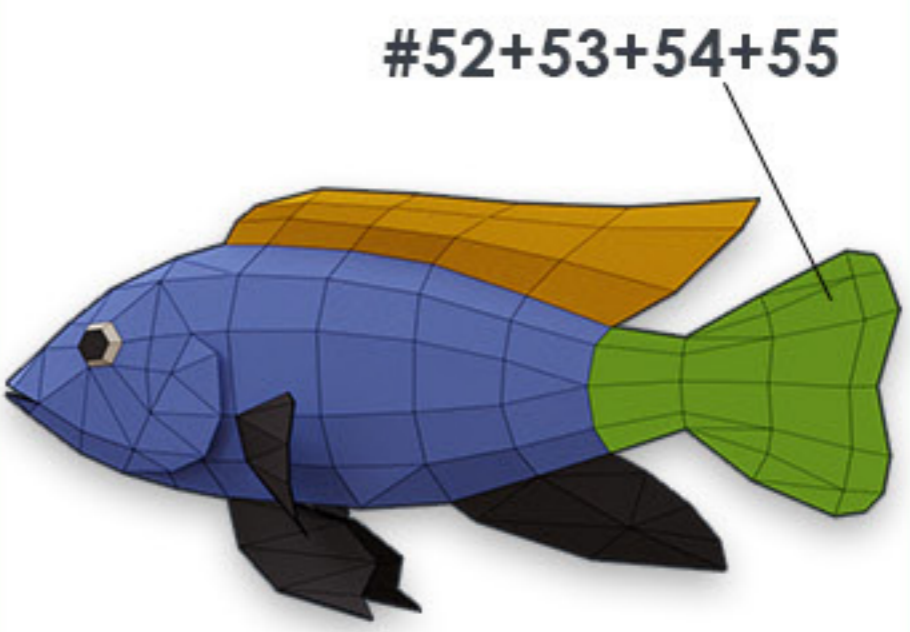
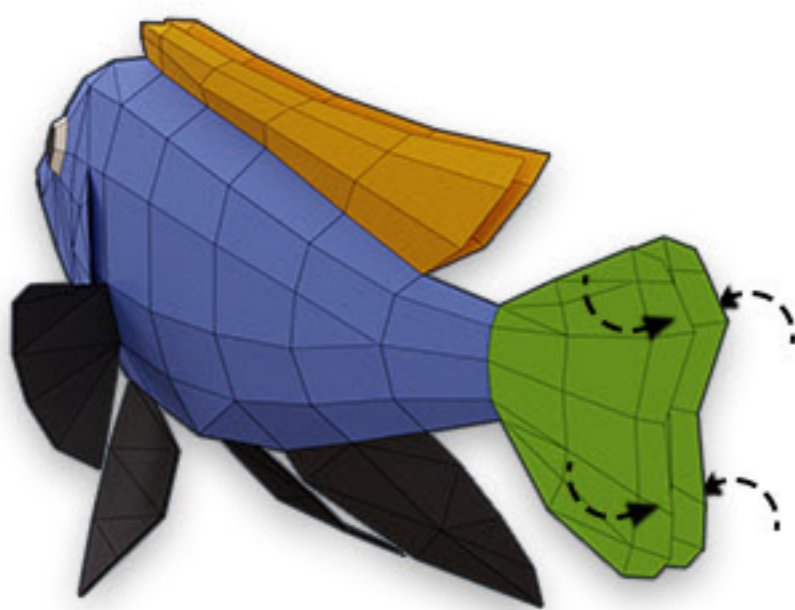
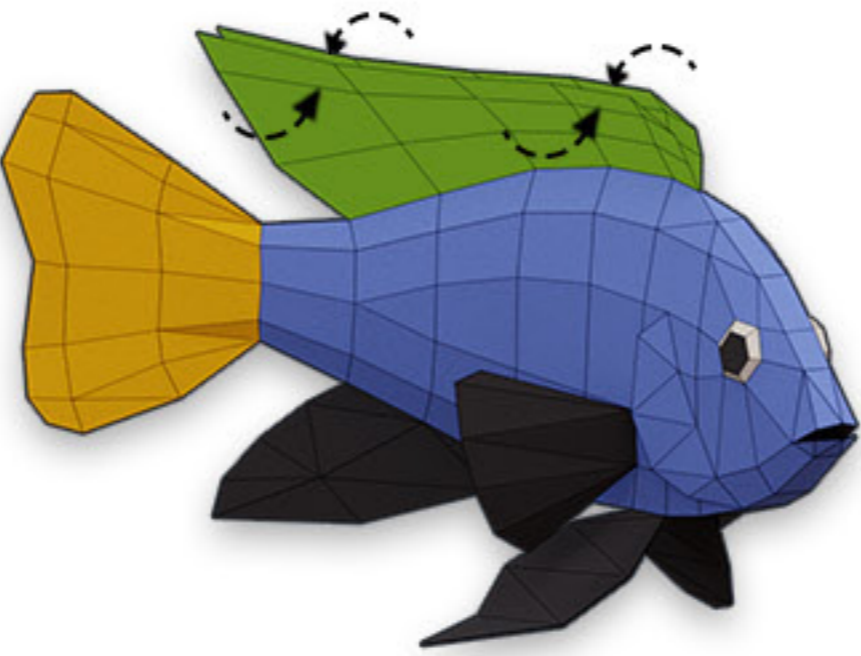
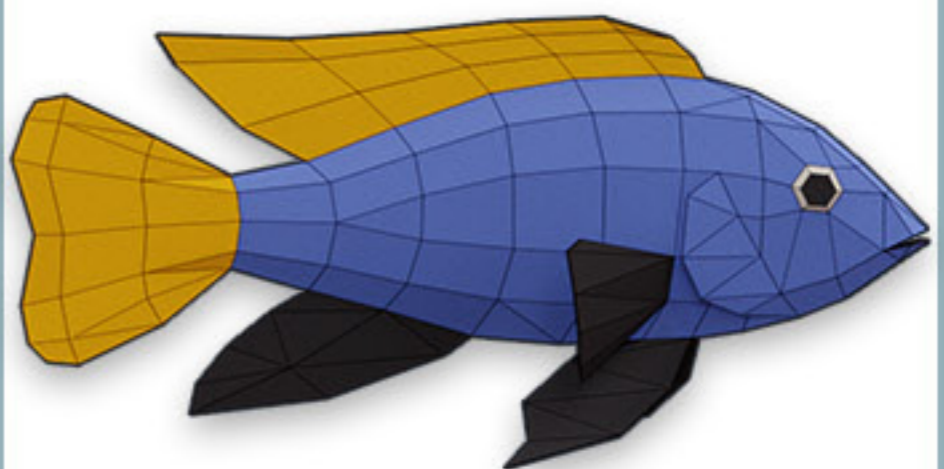
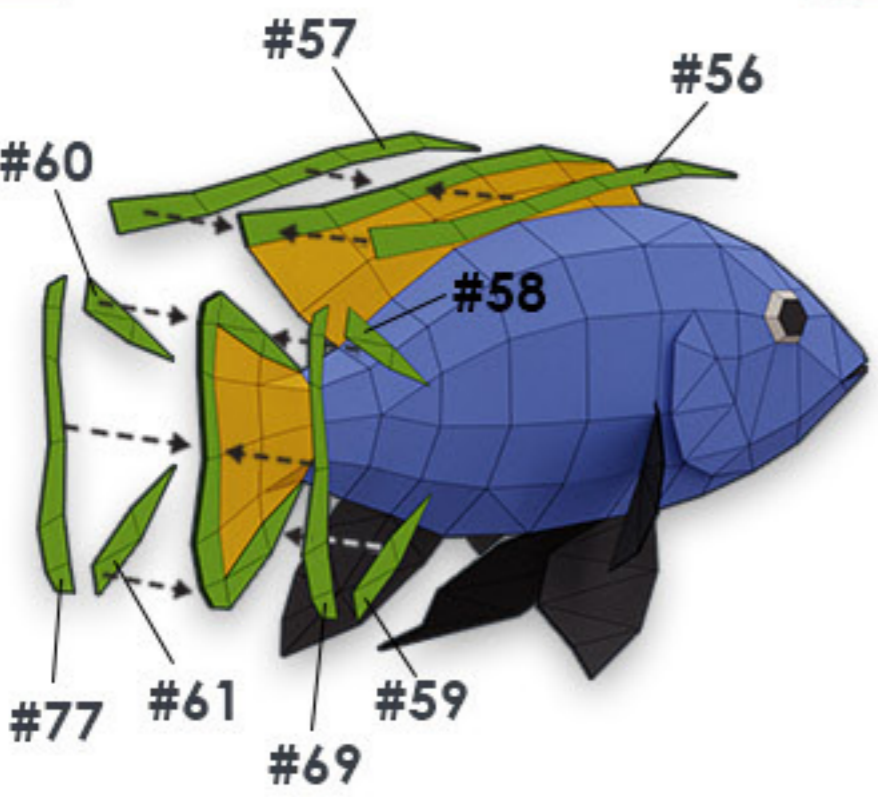
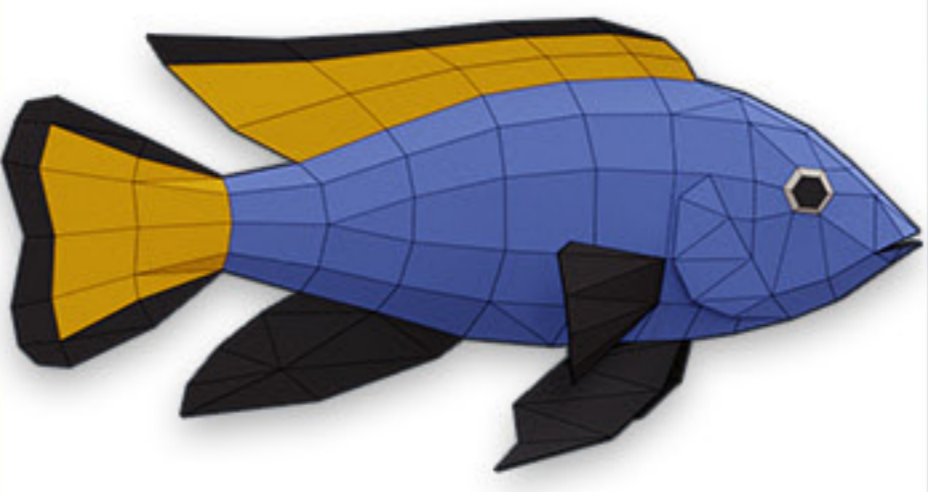
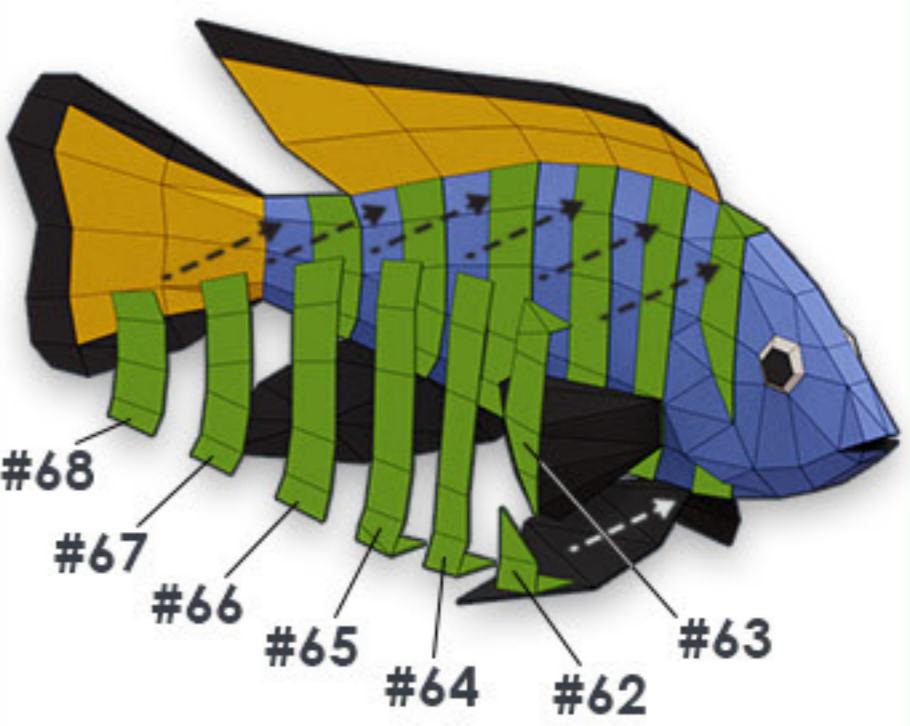
<p>01.</p> <p>Assembly step number.</p> <p>Template part to be assembled in the step.</p>  <p>#1</p> <p>Begin assembly with template part #1.</p>	<p>02.</p>  <p>#2</p> <p>#1</p> <p>Template part assembled in the previous step.</p> <p>Glue template part #2 to the previously assembled template part #1.</p>	<p>03.</p>  <p>#3</p> <p>#4</p> <p>Assemble template parts #3 and #4 separately.</p>
<p>04.</p>  <p>#2</p> <p>#1</p> <p>#3+4</p> <p>Attach template parts #3+4 to the previously assembled parts.</p>	<p>05.</p>  <p>#5</p> <p>#6</p> <p>Assemble template parts #5 and #6 separately.</p>	<p>06.</p>  <p>#7</p> <p>#8</p> <p>Assemble template part #7 separately then attach #8 - iris.</p>
<p>07.</p>  <p>#7+8</p> <p>#5+6</p> <p>Attach the eye #7+8 to the previously assembled #5+6 part and attach them to the mouth parts.</p>	<p>08.</p>  <p>#10</p> <p>#9</p> <p>Assemble template parts #9 and #10 separately.</p>	<p>09.</p>  <p>#11</p> <p>#12</p> <p>Assemble template part #11 separately then attach #12 - iris.</p>

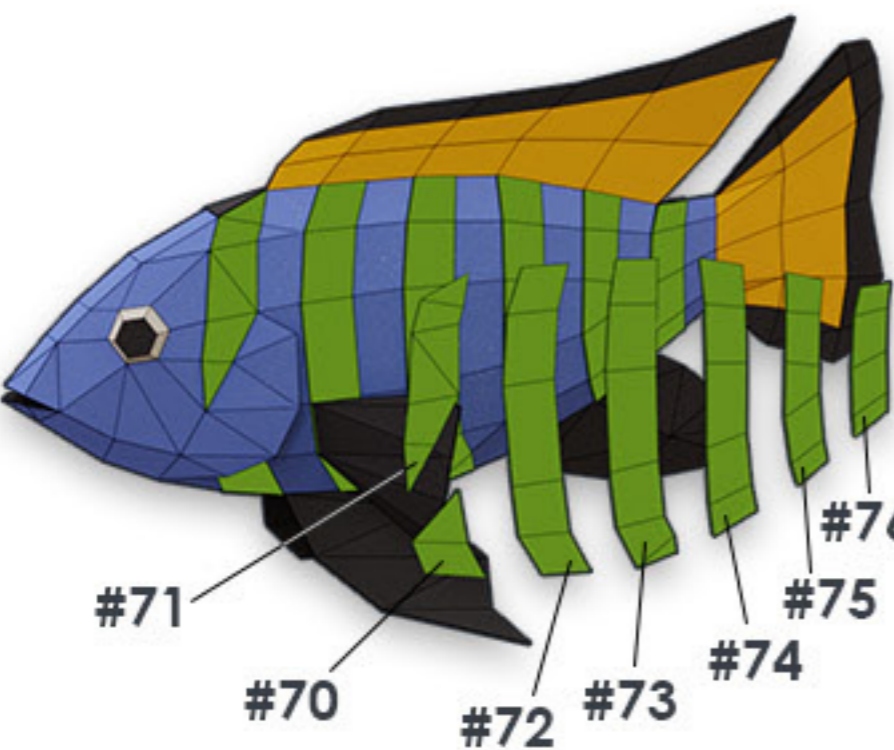

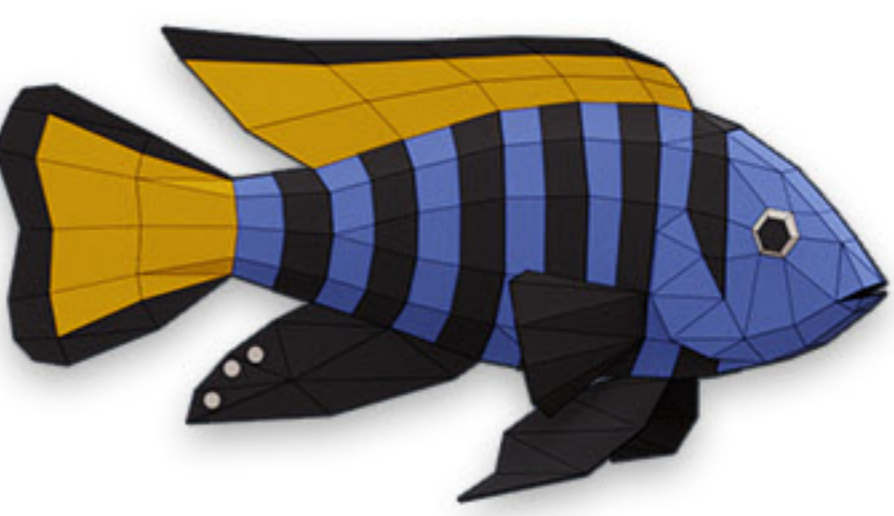
<p>10.</p>  <p>#13</p> <p>Attach template part #13.</p>	<p>11.</p>  <p>#14</p> <p>Attach template part #14.</p>	<p>12.</p>  <p>#15</p> <p>Attach template part #15.</p>
<p>13.</p>  <p>#16</p> <p>Attach template part #16.</p>	<p>14.</p>  <p>#17 #18 #19</p> <p>Assemble template parts #17, #18 and #19 separately.</p>	<p>15.</p>  <p>#17+18+19</p> <p>Attach template parts #17+18+19 to the previously assembled parts.</p>
<p>16.</p>  <p>#21 #20</p> <p>Assemble template parts #20 and #21 separately.</p>	<p>17.</p>  <p>#20+21</p> <p>Attach template parts #20+21 to the previously assembled parts.</p>	<p>18.</p>  <p>#21 #18</p> <p>Glue the back sides of the fin parts #18 and #21 together.</p>

<p>19.</p>  <p>Assemble template parts <b>#22</b> and <b>#23</b> separately.</p>	<p>20.</p>  <p>Attach template parts <b>#22+23</b> to the previously assembled parts.</p>	<p>21.</p>  <p>Glue the back sides of the fin parts <b>#19</b> and <b>#23</b> together.</p>
<p>22.</p>  <p>Attach gill template part <b>#24</b>.</p>	<p>23.</p>  <p>Attach gill template part <b>#25</b>.</p>	<p>24.</p>  <p>Attach fin template part <b>#26</b>.</p>
<p>25.</p>  <p>Attach fin template part <b>#27</b>.</p>	<p>26.</p>  <p>Assemble template parts <b>#28</b> and <b>#29</b> separately.</p>	<p>27.</p>  <p>Attach template parts <b>#28+29</b> to the assembled head.</p>

<p>28.</p>  <p>#26 #29</p> <p>Glue the back sides of the fin parts #26 and #29 together.</p>	<p>29.</p>  <p>#30 #31</p> <p>Assemble template parts #30 and #31 separately.</p>	<p>30.</p>  <p>#30+31</p> <p>Attach template parts #30+31 to the previously assembled parts.</p>
<p>31.</p>  <p>#27 #31</p> <p>Glue the back sides of the fin parts #27 and #31 together.</p>	<p>32.</p>  <p>#32</p> <p>Attach template part #32.</p>	<p>33.</p>  <p>#33</p> <p>Attach template part #33.</p>
<p>34.</p>  <p>#36 #35 #34</p> <p>Assemble dorsal fin parts #34, #35 and #36 separately.</p>	<p>35.</p>  <p>#34+35+36</p> <p>Attach dorsal fin #34+35+36 to the previously assembled parts.</p>	<p>36.</p>  <p>#39 #38 #37</p> <p>Assemble dorsal fin parts #37, #38 and #39 separately.</p>

<p>37.</p>  <p>#37+38+39</p> <p>Attach dorsal fin #37+38+39 to the previously assembled parts. Do not glue the fins to each other!</p>	<p>38.</p>  <p>#40</p> <p>Attach template part #40.</p>	<p>39.</p>  <p>#41</p> <p>Attach template part #41.</p>
<p>40.</p>  <p>#43</p> <p>#42</p> <p>Assemble anal fin parts #42 and #43 separately.</p>	<p>41.</p>  <p>#45</p> <p>#44</p> <p>Assemble anal fin parts #44, #45 separately and attach them to #42+43 template parts.</p>	<p>42.</p>  <p>#42+43+44+45</p> <p>Attach anal fin #42+43+44+45 to the fish body.</p>
<p>43.</p>  <p>#46</p> <p>Attach template part #46.</p>	<p>44.</p>  <p>#47</p> <p>Attach template part #47.</p>	<p>45.</p>  <p>#51</p> <p>#49</p> <p>#48</p> <p>#50</p> <p>Assemble tail fin parts #48, #49, #50 and #51 separately.</p>

<p>46.</p>  <p>#48+49+50+51</p> <p>#40</p> <p>Attach tail fin #48+49+50+51 to the fish body.</p>	<p>47.</p>  <p>#53 #55</p> <p>#52 #54</p> <p>Assemble tail fin parts #52, #53, #54 and #55 separately.</p>	<p>48.</p>  <p>#52+53+54+55</p> <p>Attach tail fin #52+53+54+55 to the fish body.</p>
<p>49.</p>  <p>Glue the back sides of the tail fins together.</p>	<p>50.</p>  <p>Glue the back sides of the dorsal fins together.</p>	<p>51.</p>  <p>Fish body and fins assembly is completed. Continue with gluing stripes onto the fish.</p>
<p>52.</p>  <p>#57 #56</p> <p>#60 #58</p> <p>#77 #61 #59 #69</p> <p>Glue fin stripes onto the dorsal and tail fins.</p>	<p>53.</p>  <p>The fish with fin stripes is completed.</p>	<p>54.</p>  <p>#68 #67 #66 #65 #64 #62 #63</p> <p>Glue body stripes onto the fish body.</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">55.</p>  <p>Glue body stripes onto the fish body.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">56.</p>  <p>Glue egg spots - #78 onto the anal fin.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">57.</p>  <p>Congratulations! Your <b>AFRICAN CICHLID FISH</b> 3D papercraft model is assembled!</p>
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**Display Option:**


**AFRICAN CICHLID FISH  
Free-standing**



Place the finished fish on a table or self.

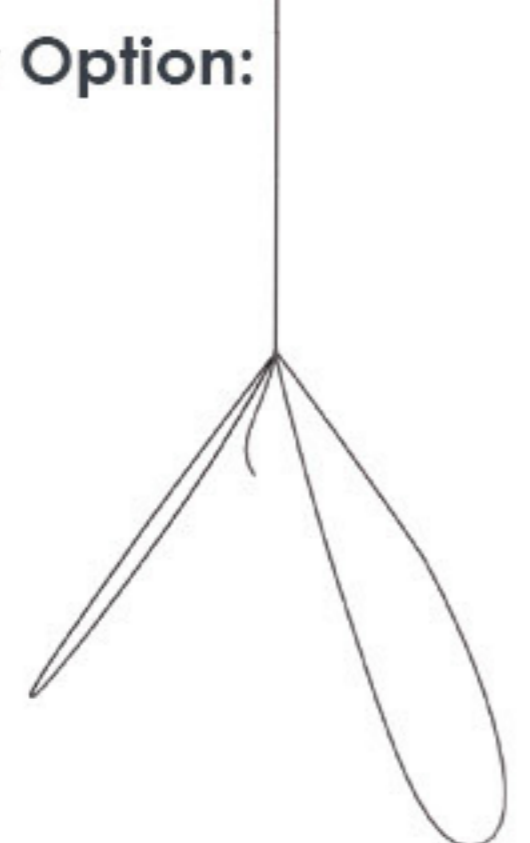

**Display Option:**

**AFRICAN CICHLID FISH  
Skewered on the skewer**



Stick **(1)** the skewer into the pot to create support for the fish.

Skewer the skewer into the fish and slide **(2)** it on so it holds firmly on the skewer.

<p><b>Display Option:</b></p>  <p>Tie a string with two hanging loops.</p>	<p><b>AFRICAN CICHLID FISH Hanging on the string</b></p>  <p>Slide the fish onto the hanging string and balance it as needed.</p>
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## 06. FINISH

□ Unleash your creativity and personalize your assembled 3D papercraft model! Whether you prefer to keep its natural look or add your artistic touch, the possibilities are endless. Achieve stunning finishes using a brush and acrylic paints, colorful sprays, or your favorite markers. Remember, creativity has no limits, just like your one-of-a-kind **lowPolysm** 3D papercraft creation!

### Finishing tips & tricks:

Excess glue or glue fingerprints can be disguised with a coat of clear finishing spray. Apply a thin, even layer of transparent, water-based lacquer to your entire papercraft model. This will not only hide minor flaws but also enhance the look by giving it a clean, glossy finish and increased durability.



## ENJOY

We believe you've had a lot of fun on the journey of assembling your **lowPolysm AFRICAN CICHLID FISH** 3D papercraft model. Now it's time to enjoy the fruits of your paper crafting and creativity. Strike a selfie pose with your **LOST SHEEP** and share the joy of crafting with the rest of the world.

We'd love to see your finished paper model with any creative touches you added. Share it with us on social media using the hashtag **#lowPolysm** and follow us on:



Explore more **lowPolysm** 3D papercraft models and spark new inspiration on [lowPolysm.com](https://www.lowPolysm.com)!



GET INSPIRED  
[www.lowPolysm.com](https://www.lowPolysm.com)

We appreciate your trust and support! It fuels our passion for creating lowpoly 3D papercraft models for you. If you enjoyed this project, you will be happy to receive a coupon code for a **10% discount off** your next **lowPolysm** 3D papercraft adventure!

**COUPON CODE: LOWPOLYSMLOVE10**

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