

# Spike's Object Activity

#SpikeDinosAdventures

Theme; Japanese Pottery



## Theme; Japanese Pottery - Kintsugi

Spike is fascinated by the Japanese collection so he talked to Sam, our Collections Manager, to ask her more about the gold decoration on some of the pieces. He learned it is called Kintsugi (金継ぎ), literally golden ("kin") and repair ("tsugi") and is thought to date to the 15th century.

This traditional Japanese art uses a precious metal – liquid gold, liquid silver or lacquer dusted with powdered gold – to repair pieces of a broken pottery and at the same time highlight the breaks.

Every repair is unique, because of the randomness with which ceramics shatters and the irregular patterns formed that are enhanced with the use of metals. This means what was once a broken piece of pottery - a bowl, cup or vase - can be used again and the repair can be seen as part of the decoration

**Activity;** We didn't want you to break something just to try and repair it so instead we'd like you to decorate a paper plate or paper cup and pretend there is a crack you are repairing using the idea of kintsugi.

We have included a plate outline on the next page too in case you don't have a paper plate. (there are 2 to choose from)



Tea ceremony dish. (above and below)



# Create your own Kintsugi repaired plate.



Print and cut out this Japanese plate and colour it in. Then decide where a crack or break might have happened and use gold or silver pens, paint or crayons to enhance and 'repair' the break. Share your pictures with us. If you have a paper plate you could draw your own design. Or take a large circle of card to be the plate and decorate then 'repair' it.



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