

# Carp Kites

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Families with boys hang colourful carp kites, called Koinobori, outside their houses. The kites move in the wind and look beautiful, as you can see in the photo.

In Japanese culture, the carp (or koi) represents courage and perseverance, as the fish swims against the current upstream.



The Black Carp represents father because the colour represents the strength,

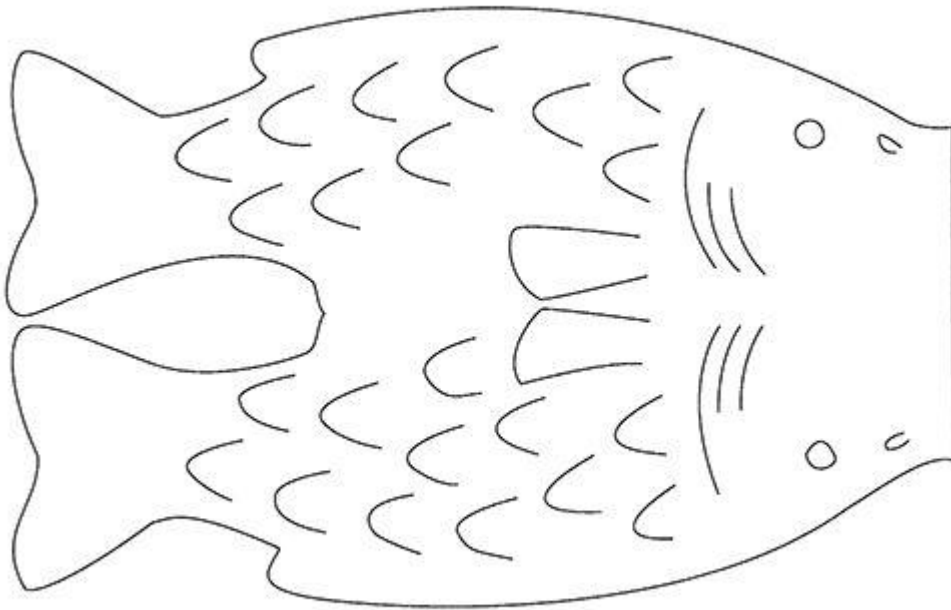
Red Carp represents mother meaning the birth.

Green or blue carp represents the boys.

Pink or orange represents girls in the family."

They put these kites outside houses on children's day.

# CHOOSE YOUR FISH KITE



**Fish Kite**

These gorgeous Fish Kites are fun to run with in the wind and make a beautiful bulletin board display.

Copy the fish pattern onto colored typing paper and have each student cut two patterns. (You may want to enlarge the pattern for larger fish kites.)

Students can staple or glue the edges of their two fish shapes together, leaving the tail and mouth open. Children will love decorating their kites with crayons, paints, glitter and markers. Crepe paper streamers can also be added.

Fold the mouth of the kite inward a few of times and shape it into a round opening. Attach kite string or yarn to the opening, as shown.