

# Show Claws Slide

*"Tip tap toe to the left, spin around.  
Toe tap tip to the right, stroke the ground.  
Wings flip-flapping as you glide.  
Forward and backward in a Show Claws Slide"*  
—Beautiful Blackbird

## What is the Show Claw Slide?

The Show Claw Slide is just one of the dances the birds in Ashley Bryan's **Beautiful Blackbird** picture book dance to honor Blackbird and his beautiful blackness. It is also the official dance of the **Beautiful Blackbird Children's Book Festival!**

## Dance the Show Claw Slide!

We would love to have you dance in honor of Blackbird and the beauty of blackness. Make up your own moves or go to the video section of **BeautifulBlackbird.com** to watch choreographer Veeva teach you her amazing version of the Show Claw Slide. We know you can shake a tail feather and tap those toes!

## Show Us Your Moves & Win!

Your dance will be "beautiful, uh-huh!" You can make it *more* beautiful with a homemade costume. **Record your dance and post it to TikTok or Instagram with the hashtag #showclawslide.** The best dancer will be given a complete set of Ashley Bryan's books and whole box of art supplies. The winner will be announced by Indigo Arts Alliance on Instagram at **@indigo\_people.me** on 8/21/20. Good luck!



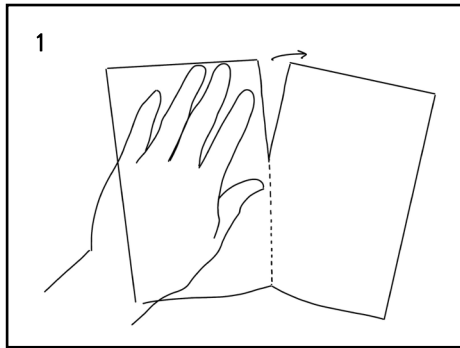
## Making & Showing Your Claws

*How will you show us your beak, wings, or claws? How will you show us your colors?* You have all summer to make a costume that says, "black is beautiful." One thing you can make is claws out of pieces of paper. Follow the folding instructions on the next few pages to make some claws worthy of showing. There is also a video on how to make them at **BeautifulBlackbird.com**.

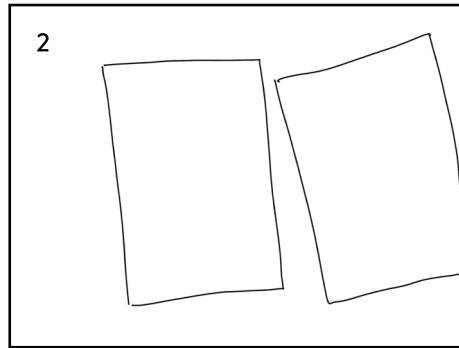
## Meet Ashley Bryan

Want to meet the artist behind this book? Visit **BeautifulBlackbird.com** to see an interview with Ashley Bryan and hear a read-aloud by his friends!

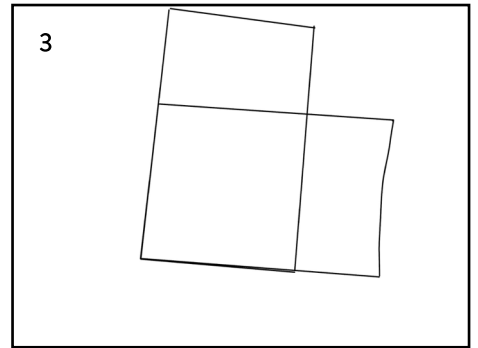
# Making & Showing Your Claws



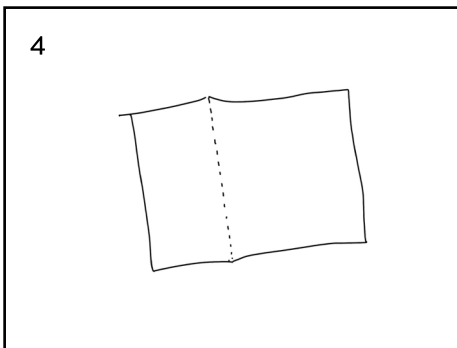
1 Fold an 8 1/2 " x 11" paper in half. Run your fingernail along the fold to make it sharper. Carefully tear on the fold.



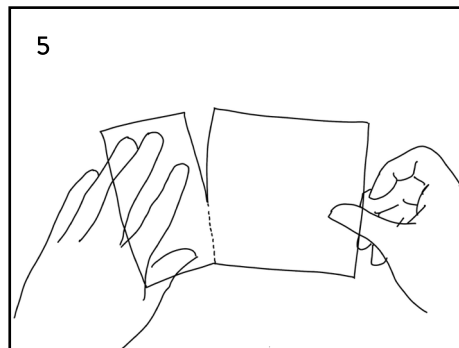
2 You now have 2 sheets of paper.



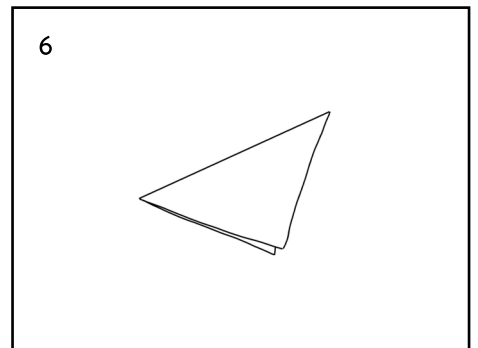
3 Cross the papers to make a perfect square. Take one section that is not a part of the square and fold it under.



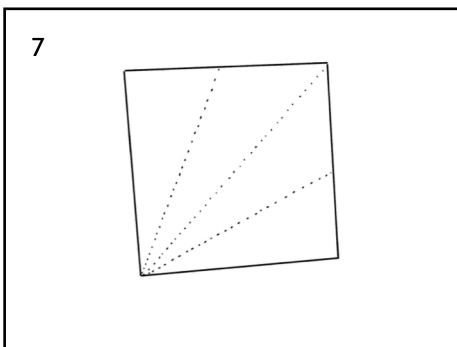
4 Run your fingernail along the fold to make it sharper.



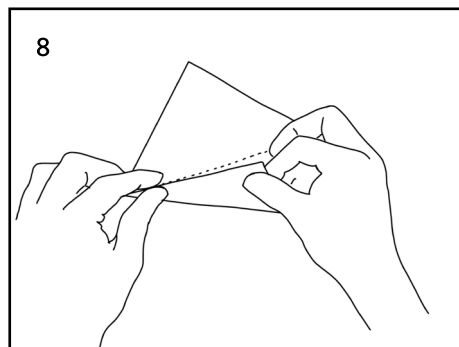
5 Carefully tear on the fold and start working with the square piece.



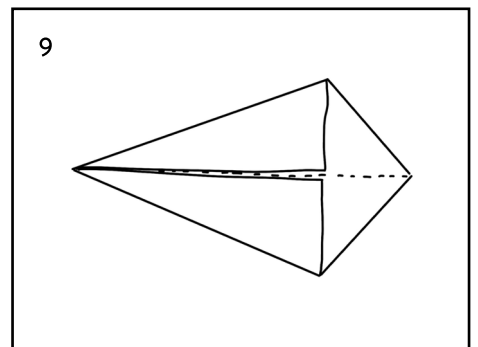
6 Fold the square corner to corner until you have made a perfect triangle.



7 Open the paper back up.

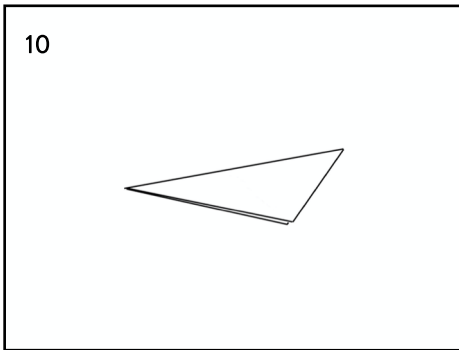


8 Take a corner (that is not connected to your crease) and fold it towards the crease.

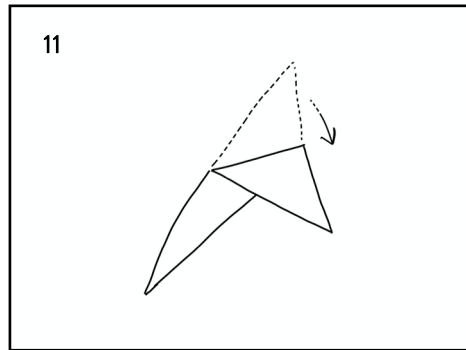


9 Take the opposite corner and do the same.

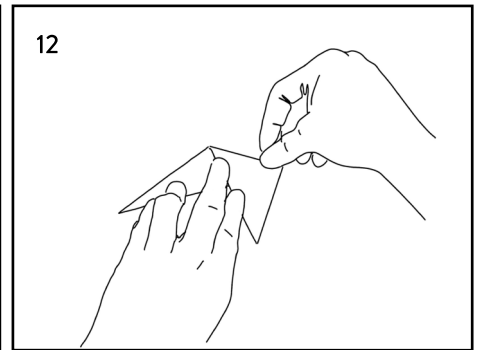
# Making & Showing Your Claws



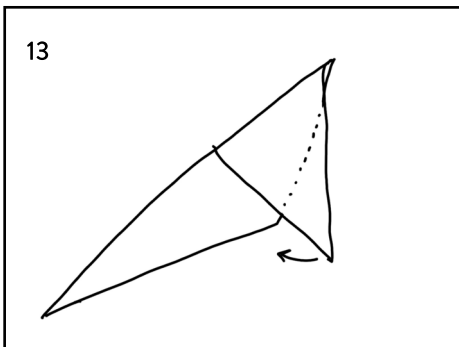
Fold the kite-shape in half, tucking your other folds inside.



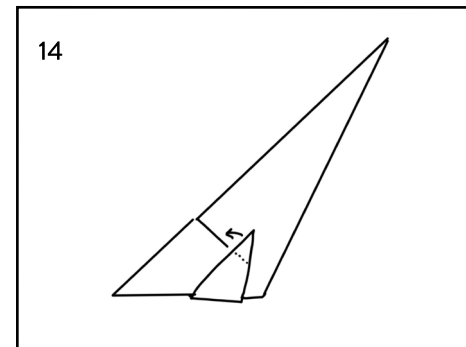
Fold the bottom up to bisect the obtuse angle.



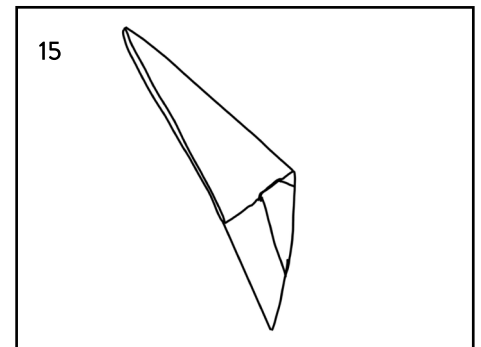
The distance does not need to be exact but generally about half way up the length of the paper.



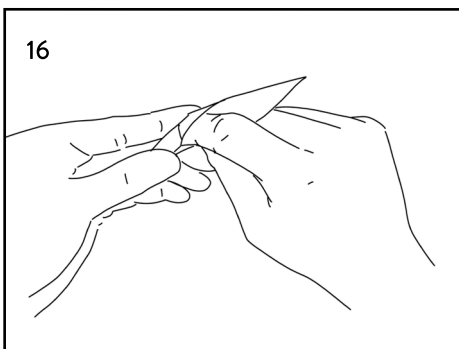
Fold the protruding section of the paper around and behind.



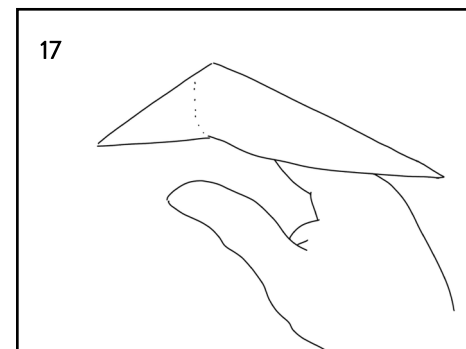
Fold the protruding section one more time around.



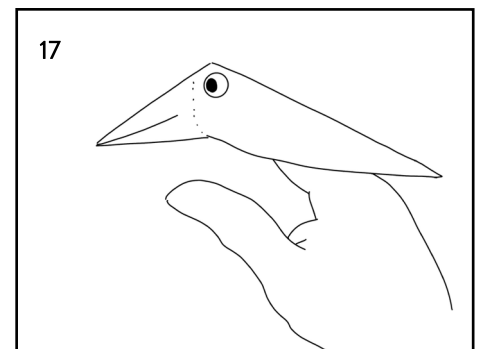
Tuck the tip of the paper under the layer.



Pry open the paper layers and insert your finger.



You now hve a claw to show.



If you want to transform the claw into a bird puppet, add a beak and eyes.