

## 起き上がり小法師

### *Okiagari kobōshi*

福島  
FUKUSHIMA



#### About *okiagari kobōshi*

*Okiagari kobōshi* (lit. 'getting up little monk') are small folk toys originating from the Aizu region of Fukushima Prefecture in north eastern Japan. Hollow with a weighted bottom, if knocked over, they always return to an upright position. This roly-poly design makes *okiagari kobōshi* a symbol of resilience and perseverance.

Typically, only 3 cm in height, *okiagari kobōshi* are made from *washi* (Japanese paper) using the technique of *Aizu hariko* (Aizu papier-mâché). The torso is often coloured red or blue, with black painted hair on the top of the pointed head, and simple black, thin lines for the eyes, eyebrows and mouth.

#### Design your own *okiagari kobōshi*

Be inspired by Fukushima tradition and use your imagination to create your own *okiagari kobōshi*. Colour in or draw your own design using the selection of templates provided on this worksheet.

