

## ◆ What is "Amabie"

Amabie is a "Yokai", a Japanese monster, who allegedly emerges from the sea and prophesies either an abundant harvest or an epidemic.

It is a mermaid-like creature with a beak, rhombus eyes with black and white colors, and things resembling ears. It has scaly body and three legs.

According to the legend, Amabie appeared in Higo Province (now Kumamoto Prefecture, southwestern Japan) in the Edo period. As recorded in the literature,

a government official was investigating a mysterious light in the sea on a nightly basis.

When he arrived at the spot of the light, Amabie emerged from the sea.

 $\label{thm:linear_equation} A \text{mabie introduced itself to the government official, "I am Amabie who lives in the sea"}.$ 

"If an epidemic occurs, draw a picture of me and show it to everyone."

(Source: Digital Archive of Valuable Documents of Kyoto University)

## ♦ Isahaya-Jinja Shrine

A shrine located in Nagasaki prefecture. As the master guardian shrine of Kyushu, it used to be called "Shimenguu". Also, we enshrine a god who is known to bring good health and to heal the sick. The luck from the god has often been introduced in many books and magazines.

"Amabie" is a "Yokai" character in Japan which is believed to have the power to ward off pestilence appeared in Kyusyu area. Besides, we Isahaya-Jinja Shrine is the master guardian shrine of Kyushu, and a god enshrined here is considered to be able to bring health to us. For the reasons above, we decided to hand out this paper craft with a wish for good health.

In Isahaya-Jinja shrine, we conduct shrine rituals to pray for good health.

## Amabie Paper Craft

Please make this craft painting by yourself, and bring Amabie to life.

We pray that the pandemic will end as soon as possible and
hope to spread the prayer for good health all over the world.



