

Kids Web Japan

Culture based program for
Japanese



Part 2

Frankston High School

<https://web-japan.org/kidsweb/>

Tonia Hast

Essential Question:

What can we learn about our own language and culture from studying another?

Answer the questions as you work through each section of the Kids Web Website:

Explore Japan

- Map
- Calendar
- Basic Info

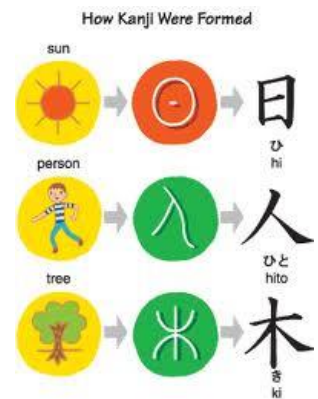
Learn

- Explore
- Manga
- Hi-tech
- Language
- Local Specialities

Try

- Travel
- Meet the kids
- Cookbook
- Kids TV

Spooky Japan



Explore Japan

➤ Map

<https://web-japan.org/kidsweb/explore/map/>

- Name the four main islands that make up Japan:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.

- What is the name of the capital city of Japan?



Nature and Climate

- [What is the highest mountain in Japan?](#)

Mt. Everest

Mt. Etna

Mt. Fuji

Mt. Eliza

- [Why is Japan prone to earthquakes?](#)

Japan is located on three tectonic plates

Godzilla jumps up and down a lot

- [What sort of animals live in the wild?](#)

_____mammals

_____birds

_____insects

- [Japanese people like to grow trees and flowers -can you name three?](#)

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____



- [What are the coldest and hottest temperatures ever recorded in Japan?](#)

Asahikawa 1902_____ Tajimu 2010_____

- [Why do the Japanese like cherry blossoms so much?](#)

- A. Spring is near
- B. It symbolizes New Beginnings
- C. Party time!
- D. All of the above



Tokyo

<https://web-japan.org/kidsweb/explore/regions/index.html>

- [Please tell me three facts about Tokyo.](#)



1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

- [Why does Tokyo have such a big population?](#)

- A. It is the capital city of Japan.
- B. Many people work in Tokyo.
- C. The head office of many big companies is in Tokyo.
- D. All of the above

Housing, Food and Clothes

<https://web-japan.org/kidsweb/explore/housing/index.html>

- [Why do the Japanese take off their shoes when entering the house?](#)
- [How do people take a bath in Japan?](#)



- [What are the most popular food among Japanese children?](#)
- [When do people wear kimonos?](#)
- [What's a traditional Japanese room like?](#)



Schools

<https://web-japan.org/kidsweb/explore/schools/index.html>

- [What are school lunches like?](#)
- [What kinds of homework do the students do, and how long do they study each day?](#)
- [When are school holidays?](#)
- [How do kids get to and from school?](#)
- [What if there's an earthquake at school?](#)
- [What do Japanese kids do on sports day?](#)
- [At what time does school begin and end?](#)



Language

<https://web-japan.org/kidsweb/explore/language/index.html>

- [Who wrote the first novel in the world, what is it called and when was it written?](#)

The _____ of _____ is considered to be the world's first full-length novel. It was written by a noblewoman named _____ in the early _____ century.

- [How do you write a poem called a *haiku*?](#)

- [Kanji, hiragana, and katakana are script the Japanese use for writing –can you label them?](#)

_____ あ _____ ア _____ 亜

- [What do you use to write Japanese calligraphy with?](#)

History

<https://web-japan.org/kidsweb/explore/history/index.html>

Look at the Timeline.

- [What were people doing in Japan when the pyramids were being built in Egypt?](#)

Building cities Hunting and gathering for food Using metal tools

- [What does Toyotomi Hideyoshi do in 1590?](#)

Unite all of Japan together Divide Japan in two Introduce Christianity

- [Who was Tokugawa Ieyasu?](#)

Emperor Prime Minister Shogun (Warlord)

- [When did *ninja* exist?](#)

12th-16th century 8th -12th century 16th -20th century

- [Where were the atomic bombs dropped?](#)

August 6th 1945 _____ August 9th 1945 _____

- [How was rice-growing introduced into Japan?](#)

People believe that the Japanese first learned to grow rice around the _____ century B.C. in the Yayoi period. This type of agriculture probably came to Japan from _____ and _____.

- [Who were the shoguns?](#)

Military leaders

Weapons

Soldiers

Culture

<https://web-japan.org/kidsweb/explore/culture/index.html>

Explain the following terms in English:

- [What is the tea ceremony?](#)



- [What are *ukiyo-e* ?](#)

- [What kinds of traditional musical instruments are there in Japan? Name three.](#)

1. _____ 2. _____ 3. _____

- [What is *ikebana* ?](#)



- [What religions do Japanese people practice?](#)

S _____ .

B _____ .

Sports

<https://web-japan.org/kidsweb/explore/sports/index.html>

- [Name 5 traditional Japanese sports:](#)

1.

3.

5.

2.

4.

- [Which sports are played professionally in Japan?](#)

S _ _ _ _

B _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _

S _ _ _ _ _ _ _

- [What are the characteristics of *karate*?](#)

Karate uses no _____ but instead relies on three basic movements of the _____ and _____: thrusts, kicks, and _____ strikes.

- [Is soccer popular in Japan?](#)
- [What were the Nagano Olympics like?](#)

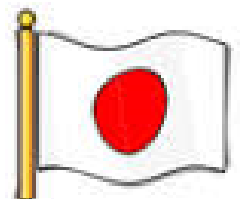
The Imperial Family

<https://web-japan.org/kidsweb/explore/imperial/index.html>

Under the Japanese Constitution, the Emperor is the symbol of the state and of the unity of the people. He has no powers related to government. Emperor _____ took the throne as the _____ Emperor of Japan in _____.

National Flag and National Anthem

- [What is the name of Japan's National Anthem?](#)
- [What is the name of the Japanese flag?](#)



Government

<https://web-japan.org/kidsweb/explore/government/index.html>

Fill in the gaps:

- [What does the Japanese Constitution emphasize?](#)

Japan's Constitution, which came into force in 1947, is based on three principles: sovereignty of the _____, respect for fundamental human rights, and renunciation of _____.

Japan has a parliamentary system of government like Britain and Australia.

- [Does Japan have a President or a Prime Minister?](#)

President

Prime Minister

Queen

- [Is his/her term of office limited?](#)

Economy and Industry

<https://web-japan.org/kidsweb/explore/economy/index.html>

Fill in the gaps:

Economically, Japan is one of the most highly developed nations in the world. Manufacturing is one of Japan's strengths, but the country has few natural resources. One of the most promising fields for future economic growth is _____, in which Japanese technology leads the world. Japan's main agricultural product is _____, and most _____ eaten in Japan is home-grown.

- [Name three famous Japanese brands-](#)

1. _____ 2. _____ 3. _____

- [How fast do Shinkansen trains go?](#)

- [What are maglev trains like?](#)



Learn

➤ Manga

There is always something happening in the Sato family. What are Sakura and Ichiro up to each month? Write a sentence or two to explain what they are doing in each *manga* (cartoon).

January-

February-

March-

April-

May-

June-

July-

August-

September-

October-

November-

December-



Bean Throwing



Moon Watching



Summer Festival



Fun in the Snow



Graduation



Sports Day



Class Trip



Sushi-Go-Round



The Walking School Bags



New Year's Rice Cakes



➤ Hi-tech

<https://web-japan.org/kidsweb/hitech/>

In this section we will introduce things that were created in Japan and are now known around the world. We will also introduce to you how science and technology are used in everyday life in Japan. There will be lots of new discoveries for everyone!

[Choose your top five and rank them in order from 1-5](#)

1.

4.

2.

5.

3.



➤ Language

What kind of language is Japanese? In this section you can take Japanese lessons and try speaking the language. You can also learn the characters used to write Japanese. Give each section a big tick after you have read it online and tried the activities. Write down one thing you learned from each section.

[Learn basic phrases that people use every day. You can practice them yourself after hearing how they're pronounced.](#)

Lesson 1:

Japanese Greetings and Writing System

•

☐

Lesson 2:

Meeting New Friends

•

☐

Lesson 3:

What Language Do You Understand?

•

☐

Lesson 4: Where Did You Come from?

•

☐

Lesson 5: When Is Your Birthday?

•

☐

Lesson 6: What Do You Like?

•

☐

Lesson 7: Is This an Interesting Book?

•

☐

Lesson 8: Introducing My Family

•

☐

Animated Japanese

•

☐

Quick Japanese Learn simple phrases that you can use right away.

•

☐

Quick Kanji See how kanji characters were formed from pictures of real things.

•

☐

Hiragana Chart and Sounds

•

☐

Katakana Chart and Sounds

•

☐

Numbers Learn how to read and write Japanese hiragana and katakana. Japanese use hiragana, katakana, and kanji for writing.

•

☐

➤ Local Specialities

<https://web-japan.org/kidsweb/local/>

Fill in the gaps:



Nagasaki and its Castella sponge cake



Probably one of the most well-known specialties of Nagasaki is the _____ Castella sponge cake. The fluffy and moist _____ made with thick malty syrup, and its golden brown surface with its sweet aroma, give a contrast and texture loved by children and adults alike; it also makes a popular _____ to take home or give to friends and relatives.

Osaka: Okonomiyaki and Takoyaki



Okonomiyaki is made from _____, _____, _____, pork or seafood and other ingredients, all mixed into a batter then grilled on an iron plate. The fact it tastes good and can be eaten anytime, has made it a well-loved food not just in _____ but throughout Japan.

Takoyaki translates as " _____ ", and as the name implies, every ball contains a small piece of _____ as its main ingredient; besides its delicious taste, the contrast in texture between the chewy octopus and melt-in-the-mouth batter holds the secret to Takoyaki's popularity.

Toyama: Firefly Squid



Toyama is famous for being the only fishing ground in Japan with firefly squid. Firefly squid (of typical length _____ cm) are in season around _____. The tentacles of freshly caught firefly squid are a delicacy served raw, offering a natural sweetness and unique soft texture that can only be enjoyed locally. In addition, in Toyama you can enjoy firefly squid served in many other ways: salted innards, _____ or _____, just to name a few.

Try

➤ Travel

Although it is not a very big country, Japan has many different attractions to see. Every region of Japan has its own unique sights and features.

[Go to each of these attractions and rank them in order of 1 – 11 that you would like to visit.](#)



[Tropical Cycling Tour](#)



[Island Hopping](#)



[Tokyo Bicycle Adventure](#)



[Exploring Kyoto on Two Wheels](#)



[Exploring "Cool Japan" in Tokyo](#)



[Something Different: Hokkaido for Kids](#)



[Discovering Japan by Train](#)



[Dancing at Japanese Festivals](#)



[Time Traveling with *Dagashi* Candies](#)



[A Tour of Japanese Castles](#)



[Touring Famous *Ninja* Villa](#)

➤ Meet the kids

[What do kids do after school? Some Japanese children practice traditional Japanese culture and arts, and here you can get a close-up look at their training and their daily lives.](#)



Answer the following questions:

1. What is Yumika's hobby?_____
2. What does Tatsuki like to do after school?_____
3. Who likes to learn Kendo?_____ and _____.
4. Kageyaki likes to play computer games but he also gets paid to perform in traditional Japanese _____.
5. What traditional activity do Nozomi and Yuka like to do?
6. Two boys liked Japanese cakes so much, they are learning how to make tea for the tea ceremony. What are their names? _____and _____.
7. Hirotugu's family makes traditional Japanese _____.
8. Takuma plays the 'shamisen' in his spare time. What is a 'shamisen'? _____
9. What kind of performance is presented each year by the children of Ogano?

<https://web-japan.org/kidsweb/meet/>

➤ Cookbook

<https://web-japan.org/kidsweb/cook/>

An Introduction to Japanese Food

Before getting into how to cook Japanese dishes, let's take a look at some basic information about the foods Japanese people eat and how they eat them.



Fill in the gaps:

- The Japanese Dining Table, Eating a Meal

Before eating, Japanese people say "_____, " a polite phrase meaning "I receive this food." This expresses thanks to whoever worked to prepare the food in the meal.

Many people eat by taking a bite of the main or side dish, then eating a little rice, and then having a sip of soup straight from the bowl (soup isn't usually eaten with a spoon). A little rice is saved until the end of the meal, when it is eaten with the pickled vegetables.

After eating, people once again express their thanks for the meal by saying "_____", which literally means "it was quite a feast."

- [How to Hold the Chopsticks](#)

First, hold the upper chopstick like a _____, about one-third of the way from its top.

Next, place the second chopstick against your ring finger, holding it with the base of the thumb. It should be pointing the _____ way as the first chopstick.

Move the upper chopstick with your thumb, index, and middle fingers. Grab _____ between the lower and upper chopsticks.



- [How to Hold the Dishes When Eating](#)

1. Rice bowl: Hold the rice bowl in your _____ to eat from it.

2. Soup bowl: Hold the soup bowl just like the _____ bowl, and sip the soup directly from it.

3. Other dishes: Flat plates used to hold meat or fish _____ usually lifted from the table. Grab a good-sized bite of food from the plate with the chopsticks and then eat it.

- [Have you ever tried any of the food on this webpage?](#) Did you like it?

- Have you tried to cook Japanese food at home?

- Have you been to a Japanese restaurant?



Self-Assessment

My Report Card

Listening/Speaking

- ☐ I listen well when the teacher or class members are speaking.
- ☐ I answer the teacher when she ask me questions.

Reading

- ☐ I can read some / most / all hiragana.

Writing

- ☐ I sometimes / always complete 'kids-web' activities in class.

Culture

- ☐ I handed in my activity book to the teacher
- ☐ I participated well in all cultural activities in class.

Lifelong Learning Skills

1	2	3	4	I use time wisely
1	2	3	4	I follow directions
1	2	3	4	I bring my books and diary to class
1	2	3	4	I respect others
1	2	3	4	I participate appropriately
1	2	3	4	I use organizational skills
1	2	3	4	I work independently
1	2	3	4	I listen well in class
1	2	3	4	I hand in work on time
1	2	3	4	I show self-discipline



1 Always 2 Usually 3 Sometimes 4 Not very often

I can **improve** my performance in this subject by setting the following goals:

- 1.
- 2.