



Parent and Educator Guide At-Home Adventures through Asia: Japan

Welcome to Japan! Konnichiwa! We are so excited your young learners are joining us for this Adventure!

In our At-Home Adventures through Asia, we'll be learning:

- **To make connections between our lives and ideas in various societies**
- **To create new understandings about cultures**
- **To identify the significance of various cultural celebrations**
- **To explain the relationships that exist between societies and their architecture, art, music, and literature**

Please use the notes below to help guide young learners through their introduction to Japan. Download the accompanying presentation and printable resources. Based on the needs of your child, take breaks between the content or spread it out over a few days. Older children can go through on their own, while younger children may need more support.

Introduction to Japan:

Tell your children how excited you are to travel to your next stop in Asia- Japan! In this time, a special tour guide will take you to Japan (through video). In each video, she will ask you some questions or to repeat words, please try to respond to it! Tour guide also prepared fun culture discovering sheet (work sheet). After watched the video, children and parents can go over the sheet. Most of the questions in the sheet are based on the presentation. Also questions are mainly made for letting your children think about similarities and differences between their own culture and Japanese culture. Try not to focus on right answer or not (answer sheet is not prepared). Knowing and seeing a new culture is the most fun part in this travel!

Basic lesson plan would be this below

1. Watch the video –Answer to her when she asks something!
2. Work on work sheet and try to think each question.
*During working on work sheet, looking though Power Point PDF would be helpful. There are some web links and activity steps.
3. Activity! (Coloring or Japanese money activity, Cherry Blossom craft activity, Radio Exercise, Writing Japanese Character and Origami)

Also we are looking forward to seeing your work with your children please share with us using #AsiaSocietyAtHome hashtag.

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Introduction to Japan:

Please be a partner with your children and introduce yourself in Japanese. Please don't forget body movement...bowing!

As an extension activity, you can download and print toy Japanese money from [here](#). Parents and children can be a store staff and customer. Let your children learn to use Japanese yen. If your children get used to using different currency, your travel will be perfect!

Cherry Blossom Activity:

Please show your children many cherry blossom pictures so they can know what cherry blossom look like. Children can draw cherry blossoms using crayons, colored pencils and water colors if pink tissue paper is not in your house. It is also good to compare to local flowers with your children.

School Life in Japan:

Japanese school systems are uniquely developed. Comparing your children's school and Japanese school is the key in this lesson. Additional video (links are in the PowerPoint) would be visually helpful to understand Japanese school life.

Writing System in Japan:

Using three different characters seems very difficult. But phonetics writing system actually help students to learn new words. First, let's see what your name in Japanese using the web [Japanese Name Converter](#). Practice your name in katakana characters with your children. (Sometimes the character might be different from actual sound in Japanese, but it must be close to your name pronunciation in Japanese.) And then using practice sheet, try to trace some Japanese characters. Adding to it, you can try many different characters referring to the template.

Origami

Any kind of paper can be origami as long as it is square. Newspaper could be big origami as well. Please help your children to fold as needed. If there are several steps, let children know how many steps there are at first. It would give them better idea how many steps as they have to be in concentrate.