



Japan-in-a-Suitcase Curriculum

Grades 1-5 • Assembly Lesson Plan

Note: The lesson will be slightly simplified or made more challenging based on grade level.

1. Introduction

- a. Greet students in Japanese
- b. Start like a Japanese class by having everyone stand up and bow.

2. What do you know about Japan?

- a. Have the students brainstorm on things they already know about Japan
- b. Introduce things they may know (Hello Kitty, Pokémon, sushi, etc)



3. Where and what is Japan?

- a. Discuss the geography of Japan

4. Elementary School Life in Japan

- a. Introduce with PowerPoint (or by displaying items if PowerPoint is not available) various Japanese school items.
- b. Let students pass around school items and try on backpacks or uniform caps themselves.
- c. Talk about Japanese school lunch time and play the chopstick game.
*The chopstick game is for classroom visits only.

5. Elementary School Studies

- a. Study like a Japanese student by practicing *kanji* pictograph characters.
* For classroom visits, students can get personal attention from volunteers and trying writing with a pen or pencil. During assemblies they will practice writing the characters with an "imaginary paintbrush" in the air.
- b. Teach the students 1-10 in Japanese using song and dance.

6. Clothing

- a. Have students try on traditional Japanese clothing.
* During a classroom visit everyone can get a turn to try on something. During assemblies 5-10 volunteers will be called up to the front as models.

7. Recess (OPTIONAL - if time allows)

- a. Play Japanese children's games

8. Conclusion

- a. Q&A with the students

