Japan

Digital Resources and Children’s Books

Updated 3/2021

Kid-Friendly YouTube Clips:

Introducing Japan: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UmSEUeTw5GA

Geography Now, Japan: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=j3XpfBChLyk

50 Facts about Japan: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=URDXZSJZ2ME

Ainu, Indigenous People of Japan: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fKZOmRNarj8

Japanese Traditional Clothes: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vCRjSLNHr44

Old & New Koto Music: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yr3f5FCIFMI

Sensational Young Taiko Drummers: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CsKqBy2uJ34

Kabuki Theater: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=67-bqSFJiKc

Kyoto Kitano Odori Dance: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=K4Dcy69QFWk

What is a Daruma Doll? https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dCn4a84Y5QA

Crafting a Traditional Kokeshi Doll: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8UQL_hGakYk

Inside a Traditional Modern Home: https://www.youtu_be.com/watch?v=Or68V1u3rUg

School Lunch in Japan….more than eating: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hL5mKE4e4uU

25 Must try Dishes in Japan: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UF4jVfU4PkA

The Ancient Shinto Religion: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LoQqxdAbRS0

Let’s visit the Japanese Garden: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S5nK_8nK5qQ
Websites:
Japan Overview: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Japan
Mt. Fuji: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mount_Fuji
The Imperial Family of Japan: https://www.japantimes.co.jp/tag/imperial-family/
Japan’s Best Festivals: https://boutiquejapan.com/best-japanese-festivals/
Japan’s Lucky Cat: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Maneki-neko
Animals of Japan: https://www.3dgeography.co.uk/japan-animals
Ikebana, Japanese Art of Flower Arranging: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WuB4x6pFCgw

Lesson Plans:
Explore Japan-Interactive: http://web-japan.org/kidsweb/explore/
The Story of Sadako: https://www.wagingpeace.org/the-story-of-sadako/
Make an Origami Paper Crane: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KfnypoxdJXQ
Kendama Ball & Cup Game Ninjas: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iFiiXkonsXY
10 Beginner Kendama Tricks: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nRvTMfCq3tM
### Children’s Books:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Author</th>
<th>Age Range</th>
<th>Grade Level</th>
<th>Publisher</th>
<th>ISBN-10</th>
<th>Summary</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>All About Japan: Stories, Songs, Crafts and More</td>
<td>Willa Marie Moore</td>
<td>5 and up</td>
<td>Preschool - 4</td>
<td>Tuttle Publishing</td>
<td>4805310774</td>
<td>This book is a cultural adventure for kids. “All About Japan” offers a journey to a new place and ways to bring it to life! Dive into stories, play some games from Japan, learn some Japanese songs.</td>
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<tr>
<td>The Way We Do It In Japan</td>
<td>Geneva Cobb Iijjima</td>
<td>5 - 9 years</td>
<td>Kindergarten - 4</td>
<td>Albert Whitman &amp; Company</td>
<td>0807578223</td>
<td>Gregory and his family are moving to Japan for his dad's job. After the long flight, they arrive at their new apartment. Gregory is surprised to find lots of things that are different: but that's the way they do it in Japan.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Japanese Celebrations: Cherry Blossoms, Lanterns and Stars!</td>
<td>Betty Reynolds</td>
<td>2 - 6</td>
<td></td>
<td>Tuttle Publishing</td>
<td>0804836582</td>
<td>The people of Japan love to celebrate. In fact, they love it so much they have a day of celebration, whether it's a change in season, a religious observance, or just a special moment in life, every month of the year. Brimming with ancient traditions, exotic decorations, and delicious, seasonal foods, <em>Japanese Celebrations</em> will take you on a month-by-month tour of some of Japan's best-loved festivals.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Title: I Live in Tokyo</td>
<td>Title: Japan the Land</td>
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<tr>
<td>Author: Mari Takabayashi</td>
<td>Author: Bobbie Kalman</td>
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<tr>
<td>Age Range: 4 - 8 years</td>
<td>Age Range: 9 and up</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grade Level: Kindergarten - 3</td>
<td>Grade Level: 4 and up</td>
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<tr>
<td>Publisher: HMH Books for Young Readers</td>
<td>Series: Lands, Peoples, &amp; Cultures</td>
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<tr>
<td>ISBN-10: 0618494847</td>
<td>Publisher: Crabtree Publishing Company;</td>
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<td>Summary: Have you ever been to Tokyo, Japan? Far away, in the Pacific Ocean, Tokyo is a busy city of color, activity, celebrations, gigantic buildings, and much more. Seven-year-old Mimiko lives in Tokyo, and here you can follow a year's worth of fun, food and festivities in Mimiko's life, month by month. Learn the right way to put on a kimono and see Mimiko's top ten favorite meals—just try not to eat the pages featuring delicious wagashi!</td>
<td>ISBN-10: 0778796647</td>
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<td>Summary: Describes the events and people that have shaped Japan's long history.</td>
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Title: Halfway Home: Drawing My Way Through Japan  
Author: Christine Mari Inzer  
Age Range: 12 and up  
Grade Level: 7 and up  
Publisher: Naruhodo Press  
ISBN-10: 0990701409  
Summary: The summer before she turned sixteen, author/illustrator Christine Inzer traveled solo to Tokyo to get reacquainted with her birthplace. Through charming illustrations, photos, and musings, Christine takes us on a journey through modern Japan: she explores the fashion hub of Harajuku; she hunts down geisha in Kyoto; she eats the best sushi of her life in Tsukiji; and she meets many interesting characters along the way. Halfway Home is an engaging—and often hilarious—look at a fascinating country and a girl rediscovering her roots.