

JAPAN

Our project this week is all about Japan! To start, try and find the answers to the following questions:

1. What is the Japanese name for Japan?
2. How many main islands does Japan have?
3. The capital city of Japan is located on which island?
4. Which continent does Japan belong to?
5. What is the name of the mountain that is also the highest point in Japan?
6. What is Japan's currency called?
7. Which countries are located closest to Japan?

You can use these websites to help you!

<https://www.natgeokids.com/uk/>

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

<https://www.kids-world-travel-guide.com/japan-facts.html>

<https://www.theschoolrun.com/homework-help/japan>

Geography

Use the websites on this page or any other resources you may have (books, knowledgeable adults) to compare our country to Japan. These topic areas could help you to organise your comparison:

- Capital City
- Leader
- Population
- Area
- Language
- Climate
- National Sports
- Food and Drink
- Famous Citizens

History

Explore the current online Leeds museum exhibit on Japan:

<https://museumsandgalleries.leeds.gov.uk/virtual-visit/making-japan-online-exhibition/>

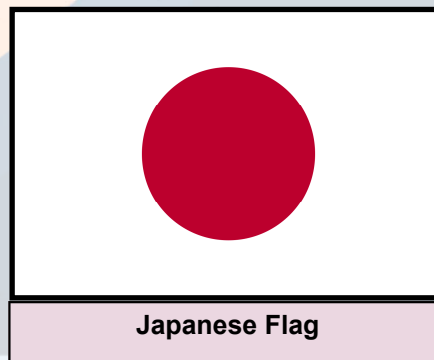


What is your favourite object on display? Why? Which one do you find most interesting? What questions do these objects leave you asking? Are these objects good sources for finding out about the past? Why?

Use <https://kids.britannica.com/> to find out more about an area of Japanese history or culture, such as the Shinto religion or about the history of Samurai warriors. You could present your findings as a report or through art, videos, PowerPoints or an audio recordings.



Where is the capital city of Japan?
What about other major cities?



Japanese Flag

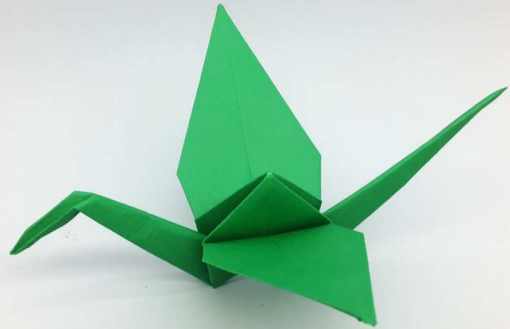


Creative Challenges

Origami

Origami is the art of paper-folding. Its name derives from Japanese words *ori* ("folding") and *kami* ("paper"). Traditional origami consists of folding a single sheet of square paper into a sculpture without cutting, gluing, taping, or even marking it. Have a go at creating this beautiful crane:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KfnyopxdJXQ>



Japanese Writing

Here are some Japanese symbols. Japanese writing is calligraphy, which means it is drawn with a brush and ink. Choose one of these symbols and copy it then write about why you have chosen that symbol.



Kimono Design

The kimono is a traditional Japanese garment, and the national dress of Japan—worn by men and women. It is a T-shaped, wrapped-front garment usually worn with an obi belt. Kimonos have a variety of different pictures and patterns on them. Can you create a design for a kimono that you would enjoy wearing?

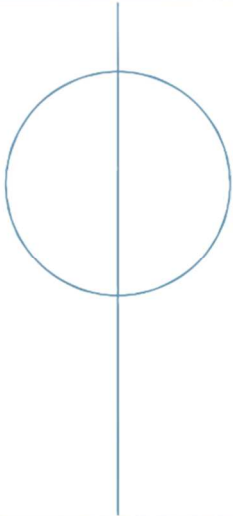


Art Challenge: Draw a Manga Character

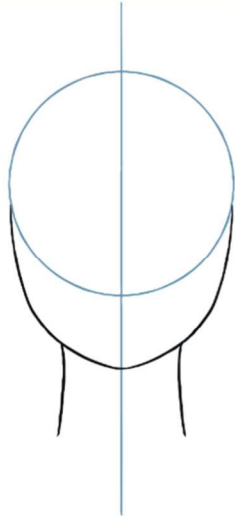
Manga is an art form, a type of Japanese comic book or graphic novel. First published in Japan in the early nineteenth century, it has become more popular and widespread in recent years. Manga is the form of telling a story through illustration. These stories often involve adventure or humour. Unlike traditional comic books, manga is not just read by children. There are many different types of manga, written to appeal to a wide audience. Manga has a specific style. It is drawn by hand in pencil, or pen and ink. Characters are depicted with large eyes, small mouths and often unnatural hair colour. Much manga is still printed in black and white. Manga can include some text but the focus is on the illustrations. Artists and writers of manga in Japan are as admired and well-respected for their talent as a famous writer is in the UK. Traditional manga is read from the back of the book to the front and each page is read from right to left.

Draw a manga style character using the following illustrations to help

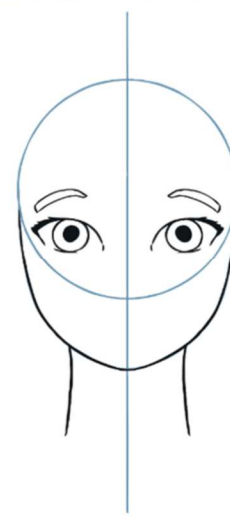
1.



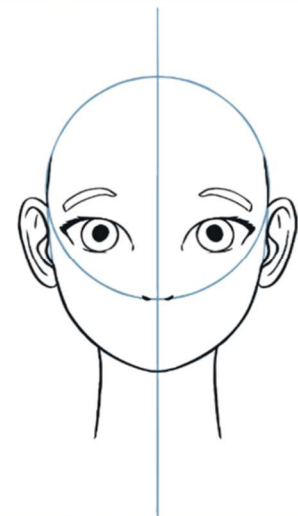
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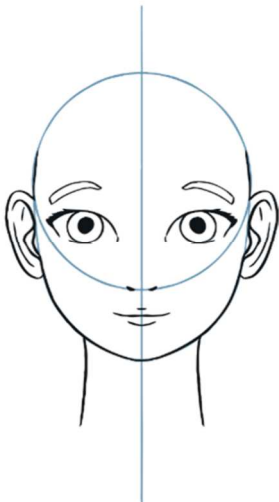
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4.



5.



6.



Top Tips

- Decide if your character is male or female.
- Draw choppy, chin length hair for males and a simple line to depict the nose.
- For females, add eyelashes, nostrils, colour to the lips and longer hair for females.
- Add an unnatural colour, such as blue or purple to the hair.
- Add a jagged eyebrow if your character is a villain.
- Show how your character is feeling.
- Rosy cheeks and steam for anger, a wide smile and closed eyes for happiness, tears pouring down the face for sadness. To depict negative emotions, keep the pupils small; large pupils depict positive emotions.

Writing Task –Write a Haiku Poem

Haiku poems are a traditional Japanese form of poetry. They are only 3 lines long and made up of 17 syllables. They don't rhyme and they are usually about nature in some way– animals, weather, plants etc. Find out more then write your own!

*The dry leaves whisper
Telling stories to themselves
In a gust of wind*

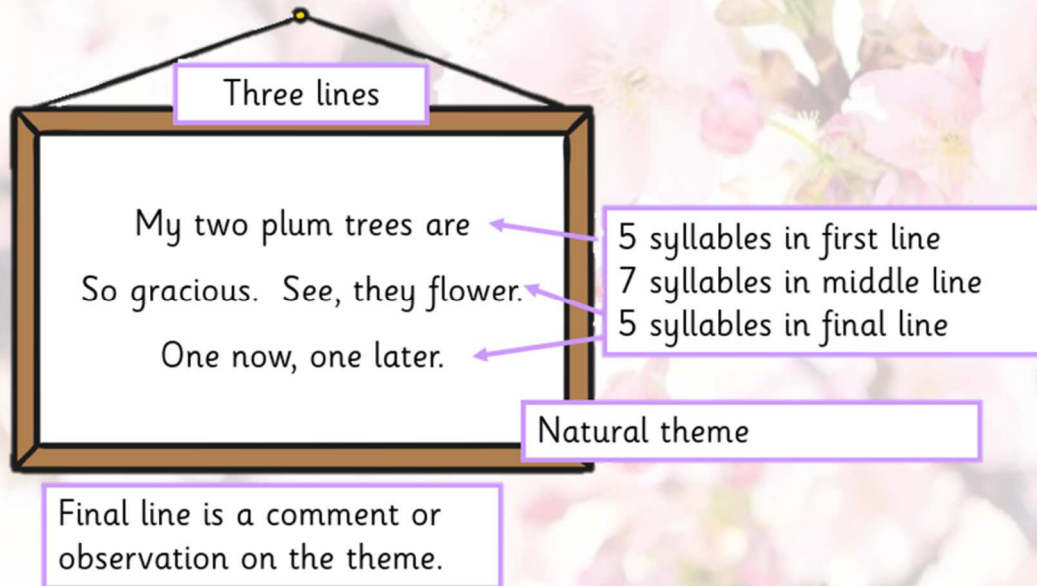
-John Gentry

*the puddle's surface
each raindrop falls from one sky
into another*

-Stephen Colgan

*In the morning light
Sits a damp, lonely flower,
Thankful for the dawn.*

-Hunter Coch



cel e bra tion
1 2 3 4 syllables

hum ming bird
1 2 3 syllables

Think of an idea for your own haiku. Gather words about that idea and then try and form the words into a haiku. You may have to change and swap words around to get the right number of syllables whilst ensuring your writing still makes sense.

1 2 3 4 5
In the wide garden,
1 2 3 4 5 6 7
I am dizzy with flowers.
1 2 3 4 5
I choose a small vase.

6 ~~n~~ old
6 A ~~lonely~~ silent pond...
6 A frog jumps into it, ~~the~~ the pond
6 Splash! ~~Then~~ silence again.

5 An old silent pond...
7 A frog jumps into the pond,
5 splash! Silence again.

OTHER SUGGESTED IDEAS

Use cotton buds to create a painting of a classical Japanese blossom tree.



Watch a Japanese cartoon (anime). How does this compare to Western style cartoons, such as Disney? Compare the two or write a review:

Prime Video:

Ronja the Robber's Daughter

Netflix:

Studio Ghibli films e.g. My Neighbour Totoro, Spirited Away, Howl's Moving Castle



Try Japanese cooking:

Wagamama, a Japanese restaurant chain, have shared some of their recipes: online:

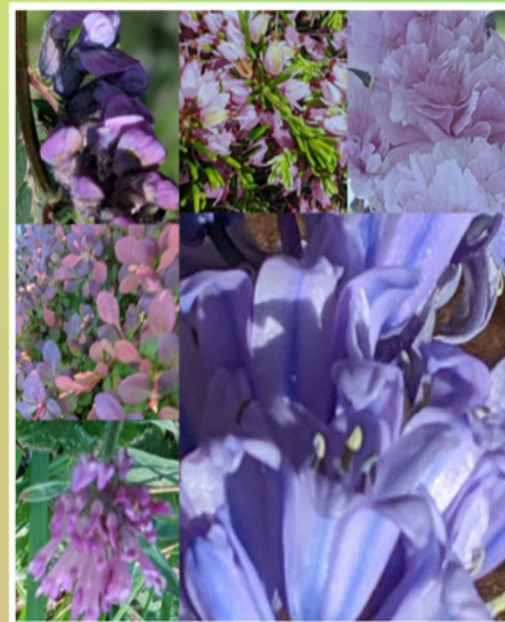
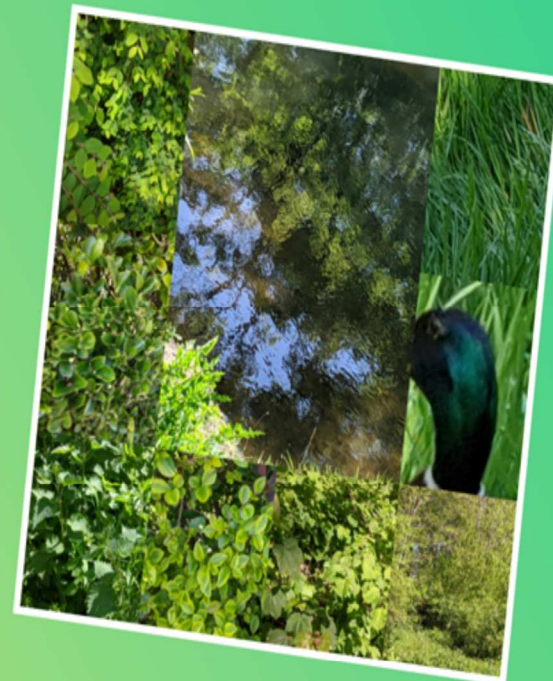
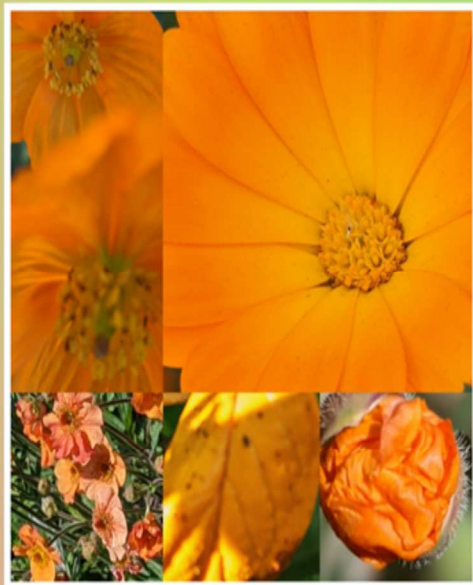
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCLpPSkPtzCwRwy5zDVH7u1g>

You could also try making your own sushi!



Use the duolingo app to learn some Japanese!





BONUS CHALLENGE: A RAINBOW WALK!

Mrs Lang took all the pictures on this page on a walk with her children. Can you find something of every colour of the rainbow on a walk from your house? You could use cars, front doors, flowers, trees– anything! You don't need to take photos, you could just keep track and even see if you can find more than one thing. Green was definitely the easiest and blue and violet were more challenging...

A WRITE LAUGH!



A NEW WRITING COMPETITION FOR CHILDREN...

In association with children's author, Guy Bass, his publisher, Little Tiger, and children's magazine, The Week Junior, Authorfy are delighted to announce a brand new writing competition for children aged 5-13. It's called A WRITE LAUGH, and the aim is simple - to write something that makes you (and us) laugh!

WHAT YOU CAN WIN:

1st prize winners will have their story published in an eBook that will be free to read and download online, a year's subscription to The Week Junior and £100 worth of books from Little Tiger. 2nd and 3rd prize winners will also have their stories published in an eBook and will win bundles of books worth £75 and £50.

HOW TO ENTER:

- Just write a story in **no more than 500 words** that **makes you laugh**.
- It can be about anyone or anything, anywhere, in any time or any place.
- If you're stuck, **watch some videos at authorfy.com/masterclasses/awritelaugh** where Guy and his author friends share their tips for writing funny stories.
- Once you've written your story (it can be handwritten or typed), send it in an email to awritelaugh@littletiger.co.uk.
- Your entry will only qualify if you include your name and your parent's name, your age, your address, and a parent email address and phone number.
- Entries must be written in English and you have until 31st May to send them in. More T's & C's can be found at littletiger.co.uk.

IN ASSOCIATION WITH:



THE WEEK
Junior



You may also want to have a go at this writing competition! Fantastic prizes!

