



# 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

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

### 2. What do you know about Japan?

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



### 3. Where and what is Japan?

- Discuss the geography of Japan

### 4. Elementary School Life in Japan

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

### 5. Elementary School Studies

- 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.
- Teach the students 1-10 in Japanese using song and dance.

### 6. Clothing

- 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)

- Play Japanese children's games

### 8. Conclusion

- Q&A with the students

