

# **Domain-Based Unit Overview**

Title of Domain: The Culture of Japan, Grade 2

Learning Time: 9 days

## Big Idea

Modern Japan is a major industrial country that is also firmly rooted in tradition.

## **What Students Need to Learn**

- Geography
  - The location of Japan relative to continental Asia, including its position in relation to the Pacific Ocean and the Sea of Japan (or East Sea)
  - o Japan: "land of the rising sun"
  - O Japan as an island nation that includes four main islands
  - The locations of Mount Fuji and Tokyo
  - Modern cities as sites of industry and business
- Culture
  - Japanese flag
  - Example of a traditional craft: origami
  - o Example of traditional clothing: kimono
  - Japanese literature ("The Tongue-Cut Sparrow"), art (*The Great Wave off Kanagawa*), and architecture (Himeji Castle) as reflections of Japanese beliefs and practices

#### **MN Academic Standards**

2.4.2.4.2 Describe how the culture of a community reflects the history, daily life, or beliefs of its people.

2.4.1.2.1 Use historical records and artifacts to describe how people's lives have changed over time.

## **Pre-Assessment**

We will complete a KWL on what students already know about Japan. Throughout the unit we can add to what they learned and would still like to learn about Japan.



Domain Lesson 1	A Nation of Islands
MN Academic	2.4.2.4.2
Standards	
<b>Objectives</b>	Locate Japan on a map.
	Identify Japan as a country made up of four main islands.
Vocabulary	Culture, mainland, capital, population, national flag, peak, active
	volcano, cranes, symbol, currents, catches, graze, and paddy fields.
Procedure	-Locate Japan on a map or globe.
	-Give each student a copy of the Student Book.
	-Read "Chapter 1: A Nation of Islands" aloud to the class and have
	students follow along using the student books. Pause often for discussion
	or to ask comprehension questions.
	-Ask inferential questions following the chapter and think-pair-share
	with students about what they learned regarding the geography of Japan.
Poetry	If Applicable
Fiction	If Applicable
Saying and Phrases	If Applicable
Writing	If Applicable

Domain Lesson 2	Modern Japan
MN Academic	2.4.2.4.2
Standards	
Objectives	Recognize modern Japanese cities as sites of industry and business.
	Identify popular pastimes in Japan.
Vocabulary	Currency, skyscrapers, subway system, robots, branches of government,
	prime minister, elected, emperor, and earthquakes
Procedure	-Review what students learned in chapter 1 of the Student Book.
	-Give each student a copy of the Student Book.
	-Read "Chapter 2: Modern Japan" aloud to the class and have students
	follow along using the student books. Pause often for discussion or to ask
	comprehension questions.
	-Ask literal questions following the chapter and think-pair-share with
	students about what they learned regarding what it is like to live in
	modern Japan.
Poetry	If Applicable
Fiction	If Applicable
Saying and Phrases	If Applicable
Writing	If Applicable

Domain Lesson 3	Japanese Art and Traditions
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MN Academic	2.4.2.4.2
Standards	
Objectives	Identify origami as a traditional Japanese craft.
	Understand the importance of nature in Japanese art and culture.
Vocabulary	Ancient culture, scripts, characters, traditional, tradition, temple, origami, religious ceremonies, syllables, and woodblocks
Procedure	-Review with students what they learned in chapter 1 and 2 in the Student BookGive each student a copy of the Student BookRead "Chapter 3: Japanese Art and Traditions" aloud to the class and have students follow along using the student books. Pause often for discussion or to ask comprehension questionsAsk literal questions following the chapter and think-pair-share with students about what they learned regarding Japanese traditions that are still practiced in modern Japan.
Poetry	If Applicable
Fiction	If Applicable
Saying and Phrases	If Applicable
Writing	If Applicable

<b>Domain Lesson 4</b>	My Book About Japan Day 1
MN Academic	2.4.2.4.2
Standards	
Objectives	Understand why Japan is called "the land of the rising sun".
Vocabulary	Capital, peak, sushi, cherry blossom
Procedure	Students will get to create their own book about Japan
	- Pass out books to complete with vocabulary as a class
	- Work through pages 1 - 5 in the book, filling in the blanks with
	vocabulary words and discussing the answers
	- Exit slip to determine what students took away from the lesson
Poetry	If Applicable
Fiction	If Applicable
Saying and Phrases	If Applicable
Writing	If Applicable

Domain Lesson 5	My Book About Japan Day 2
MN Academic	2.4.2.4.2
Standards	
Objectives	Recognize the Japanese flag and understand its symbolism.
-	Identify the main geographical features and staple foods of Japan.
Vocabulary	Kimono, bonsai, origami, bullet train



Procedure	<ul> <li>Students will get to create their own book about Japan</li> <li>Review material discussed in previous lesson with the help of student-created books about Japan</li> <li>Work through pages 6 - 10 in the book, filling in the blanks with vocabulary words and discussing the answers</li> <li>Exit slip to determine what students took away from the lesson</li> </ul>
Poetry	If Applicable
Fiction	If Applicable
Saying and Phrases	If Applicable
Writing	If Applicable

Domain Lesson 6	Haiku Poem
MN Academic	2.4.2.4.2
Standards	
Objectives	Understand the importance of Japanese art and culture
Vocabulary	Haiku, poem, syllable, verse
Procedure	-Show students two different examples of Japanese Haiku. One from
	Matsuo Basho and the other from Yosa Buson.
	-Explain what a Haiku is and introduce vocabulary.
	-Create a Haiku as a class.
	-Instruct students to create his/her own Haiku. If time allows, students
	can share their Haikus with the class.
Poetry	Students will learn about Japanese Haikus.
Fiction	If Applicable
Saying and Phrases	If Applicable
Writing	Students will write their own Haiku.

Domain Lesson 7	Origami
MN Academic	2.4.2.4.2
Standards	
Objectives	Try the Japanese Art form of folding paper called Origami.
Vocabulary	Origami, fold, paper
Procedure	Students will get to create their own Origami work of art
	-Review vocabulary
	-Students will be given a piece of special Origami paper
	-Students will follow the step by step instructions along with the teacher
	as they create an origami fox. If time we can try another origami.
Poetry	If Applicable
Fiction	If Applicable
Saying and Phrases	If Applicable
Writing	If Applicable



<b>Domain Lesson 8</b>	Artifacts from Japan
MN Academic	2.4.2.4.2
Standards	2.4.1.2.1
Objectives	Students will explore current artifacts from Japan.
Vocabulary	Yen, Mount Fuji, Kimono, Buddha, Bonsai, bullet train, cherry blossoms
Procedure	-Students will get a chance to look at Money (current and from long
	ago), photographs, maps, and other artifacts brought back from my
	travels to Japan.
	-I will have each table in my classroom looking at different artifacts.
	Students will then rotate around the classroom to view all.
Poetry	If Applicable
Fiction	If Applicable
Saying and Phrases	I will teach them how to say some common phrases in Japanese- Hello,
	please, thank you.
Writing	Students will be given a writing prompt at the end of the exploration to
	share what their favorite part of the unit was and one thing they learned
	that they did know before learning about Japan.

Domain Lesson 9	Quiz
MN Academic	2.4.2.4.2
Standards	
Objectives	Students will be able to demonstrate knowledge of Japanese culture.
Vocabulary	Yen, Mount Fuji, Kimono, origami
Procedure	Students will be given a quiz.
Poetry	If Applicable
Fiction	If Applicable
Saying and Phrases	If Applicable
Writing	If Applicable

	Cross-Curricular Connections
Art	<ul> <li>Look and discuss The Great Wave at Kanagawa Nami-Urafrom Thirty-six Views of Mt. Fuji</li> <li>Recognize different different types of lines such as horizontal, vertical, or diagonal when imitating The Great Wave painting.</li> </ul>
Media	• Read and discuss "Sayonara, Mrs. Kackleman," "Rise and Shine, Mariko-Chan!," "Look What Came From Japan," "One Leaf Rides the Wind"



Music	<ul> <li>Sing a traditional Japanese song (ex. "Sakura," "Hotaru Koi.")</li> <li>Listening assignment/activity         <ul> <li>Performance of a traditional Japanese song</li> <li>Works by Japanese composers</li> </ul> </li> <li>Learn about Japanese instruments</li> </ul>
P.E.	• Paddle games, Janken (Rock, Paper, Scissors), Tag