Resources for Primary Japanese

The Japan Foundation has no proprietary interest in any of the publications mentioned and inclusion on the list does not constitute a recommendation, nor does the list claim to be comprehensive. Titles with a book mark are available for members of the Japan Foundation London Book Loan Service to loan. Last updated: March 2019

For more information and guidance about Japanese language resources, please contact:
Japan Foundation London 101-111 Kensington High Street, London. W8 5SA
Tel: 020 7492 6570  Web: www.jpf.org.uk/language
Email: info.language@jpf.org.uk  Facebook: JapanFoundationLondon Twitter: @jpflondon

Online Resources

Ready Steady NihonGO! www.japansociety.org.uk/rsn
An online scheme of work for teaching Japanese at Key Stage 2, produced by the Japan Society and the Japan Foundation London. The scheme comprises ten 45-minute lessons designed to be delivered by a Japanese native speaking teacher working with the class teacher. Each lesson is clearly structured, with comprehensive teachers’ notes, National Curriculum Links and a set of accompanying Culture Notes. Also available as a CD from the Japan Society.

JFL Japanese Scheme of Work for primary schools - JSOW www.jpf.org.uk/language/jsow.php
JSOW is based on The National Curriculum in England, 2013 and consists of tasks of A1 level, provided by JF Standard for Japanese-Language Education, which was developed by the Japan Foundation in 2010, based on the concept Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR). JSOW’s language tasks are based on tangible ‘Can-do’ activities rather than an analytical approach.

Classroom Resources - The Japan Foundation, Sydney http://jpfpsyd-classroomresources.com/
A collection of classroom resources and activities for Japanese classes which have been created by The Japan Foundation, Sydney. Choose the level ‘Primary’ and narrow the results using tags.

Textbooks and Activity Books

Primary Japanese workbook programme. Contains language lessons with extension material for fast learners, writing lessons with tracing, emphasis on correct stroke order, as well as revision and assessment of lessons. Levels 1 - 6 plus related materials including CD.

In each series there is an activities and colouring book. The text is in English and Romaji, with a gradual introduction of hiragana. Activity Books 1 & 2 plus related materials including cassettes.

Hello Japanese for Boys and Girls / International Internship Programs, Bonjinsha 凡人社. ISBN4-89358-282-8 4091
Text in Japanese, designed primarily for children overseas. With this book they can learn not only Japanese language but also Japanese culture.

An innovative text using familiar children’s songs to teach each unit of work. For example, using ‘Head, shoulders knees and toes’ for body parts. Includes workbook, teachers’ guide and CD.
Textbooks and Activity Books (cont.)

Obento Snack series / Sue Xouris, 2008, Nelson Cengage Learning
Snack 1 ISBN978-0170135436 10307
Snack 1 Teacher Resources ISBN978-0170135474 10308
Snack 2 ISBN978-0170135467 10309
Snack 1 Teacher Resources ISBN978-0170138110 10310

Ohisa series / Mary Taguchi, 2000, 2003, Mingei Australia.
Book 1 Core ISBN 0646407376 6819
Book 2 Sunbeams, part 1 ISBN 0-9579401-0-6 6818
Sunbeams for Children, part 1 ISBN 0-9579401-1-4
Book 3 Clouds, part 1 ISBN 0-9579401-3-0 6823
Clouds, part 2 ISBN 0-9579401-4-9 6822

Japanese language, directions and culture for teachers and children.

Other

Introduce children to Japanese language and cultures through songs. It comes with a CD. Also available to download as MP3 and streaming audio files from various music shops.

Introduce the Japanese language to pre-schoolers in a gentle, playful way. Its ABC rhyming structure provides a familiar framework that encourages fun and easy learning.

A life in Japan from a kid’s point of view! Adventures include: My First Week of School Visiting a Ninja Village Fun with Origami Practicing Aikido Making Mochi And much more.

My Japan / Etsuko Watanabe, Kane/Miller Book Publishers ISBN978-1933605999
These snapshots of Japan are informative and interesting, presenting the questions and answers about the topics kids are curious about.

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.

Kitty introduces children to Japanese language and cultures.

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With the lively illustrations this book helps make learning enjoyable. Text in Japanese and English to teach Japanese as a foreign language to young children. It includes some songs and many activities.

外国人の子どものための日本語 こどものにほんご ひょうご日本語教師連絡会議 こどもの日本語研究会
スリーエーネットワーク ISBN4-88319-218-0 6429
Text in Japanese and comes with a teacher’s manual.

Gomi Taro’s Picturebook selection Essence of Japanese / Gomi Taro, 1994, メタログ
8 Picture books
さるるる monkey-kee 905
もみのき その身をかざりなさい Christmas tree, Décor 906
バスがきた The bus came 907
ヒトニ ツイテ About Man 908
これはあたま This is a Head 909
仔牛の春 The calf’s Spring 910
みんながおしえてくれました Everyone Taught Me Something 911
ふゆ Winter

Created by leading educators, these colorful, large-size dictionaries introduce beginning language learners to more than 1,550 commonly taught basic words.

The Usborne First Thousand Words in Japanese: With Easy Pronunciation Guide / Heather Amery, Usborne ASIN B01K13NPRU
A bi-lingual Japanese/English word book that features a thousand everyday words illustrated with busy scenes and labelled pictures to help children learn key Japanese vocabulary.