

Japanese Culture Report

Japanese culture is fascinating and diverse. The Japanese are known around the world for their interesting foods, entertainment, traditions, and so much more! This project allows you to take a look at an aspect of Japanese culture that you are interested in learning more about. You will choose a topic to look up information on and complete a project to help share what you found with the class.

There are topics you can choose in many different categories.



Life & Culture

Food, Customs, Religion, Calendar, Holidays, Family Life, School, Life as a Japanese teenager, Japanese Houses, etc.



Art & Entertainment

Traditional Performing Arts, Sports, Anime and Manga, Video Games, Mythical Creatures, Ghosts, What's Popular with Japanese Teens Now, Japanese Folktales, Origami, Wood Block Prints, Calligraphy, etc.



Travel & History

Japan Travelogue, Sightseeing, Heritage Cities, Emperor, Shogun, Kamikaze, Ninja, etc.



Nature & Geography

Animals, Land, Natural Phenomena, (earthquakes, tsunami, volcanos, etc.) Mt. Fuji, etc.



Science & Technology

Energy, High Tech (Vending Machines, Cell Phones, Transportation, Robots), Industry, Ecology, etc.



Government & Economy

If you know of another topic you would like to research, let us know and we may allow that as well.

To present these topics to the class, you have three choices. Choose ONE of the choices and follow the directions for that choice closely.

Choice #1 - Essay

This can be hand-written or typed. It can be printed or shared on Google Docs. The essay should include the following three paragraphs.

Paragraph 1- Introduction

- What is your topic?
- Summarize the main ideas of your paper
- Include why you originally chose this topic and what you knew about it before beginning

Paragraph 2- Description and interesting facts

- What additional information did you find out about the topic?
- What did you find interesting?
- If possible, can you see similarities/differences to something here in the United States?

Paragraph 3- Conclusion

- Were you glad you chose this topic? Why or why not?
- If this applies, is there something we can learn from this? Is this something more Americans should know about?

*Include a LIST OF RESOURCES you used for your project.

Choice # 2- Electronic Presentation

You will have a slide for each of the paragraphs listed for the essay choice, but put it in bullet point format and keep your answers short and clear on the slides. You can explain it in more detail to us when you present, but the slides should not have lots of words on them. You do need to include a picture on each slide as well. You need to create a slide that lists your resources as well. You can use Google Presentations, Power Point, Prezi, or other presentation tools. Make sure you share your presentation on Google Docs, bring it in on a flash drive, show it on your own personal device, or email it.

Choice # 3- Video

You need to include the same information that is listed for each of the paragraphs in the essay choice, but you will present it as a speech. You can set it up as a news report, a short documentary, or an infomercial. The video should be about four to five minutes. You need to make sure you have a way to record your video and submit it, whether by showing it on a personal device, emailing it, or putting it on a flash drive. Videos in mp4 format work best for the school computers. Be creative and catch our attention!

Rubric

Part 1- Introduction - 5 pts.

Part 2- Description - 5 pts.

Part 3- Conclusion - 5 pts.

Logical presentation / no overgeneralizations - 3 pts.

Organized, neat, and presented in a clear fashion- 3 pts.

Efficient use of class time - 2 pts.

Include a list of sources - 2 pts.

Total- 25 points



Possible Sources for Japanese Culture

*These are also linked to Mrs. Sheybani's junior high orientation website.

<http://pwworldlanguage.weebly.com/>

Kids Web Japan – tons of stuff of all categories, written for a younger audience

<http://web-japan.org/kidsweb/>

Nipponia Magazine Online

<http://web-japan.org/nipponia/archives/en/index.html>

Trends in Japan

<http://web-japan.org/trends/index.html>



National Geographic

<http://kids.nationalgeographic.com/explore/countries/japan.html>

Culture Grams: Username: 5250pvjh password: mbaea9

Kid version

http://online.culturegrams.com/kids/kids_country.php?contid=3&wmn=Asia&cid=26&cn=Japan

Adult Version

http://online.culturegrams.com/world/world_country.php?contid=3&wmn=Asia&cid=82&cn=Japan

Tofugu – this website has a tremendous number of interesting articles on sooooo many topics. It is written more for people who are familiar with Japan or have some experience in Japan. Some of the articles might be of interest to an older crowd, but I have found some really interesting things here that could work for this project.

<http://www.tofugu.com/>

Very neat travel videos about different parts of Japan and ideas that are important in Japanese culture.

<http://www.visitjapan.jp/en/area/>

