

Suggested levels for Guided Reading, DRA™, Lexile®, and Reading Recovery™ are provided in the Pearson Scott Foresman Leveling Guide.

Social Studies

Social Studies

East Meets West: Japan and America



by Patricia West

Genre	Comprehension Skills and Strategy	Text Features
Expository nonfiction	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Compare and Contrast• Generalize• Predict	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Captions

Scott Foresman Reading Street 3.5.1



scottforesman.com





East Meets West: Japan and America



by Patricia West



Editorial Offices: Glenview, Illinois • Parsippany, New Jersey • New York, New York
Sales Offices: Needham, Massachusetts • Duluth, Georgia • Glenview, Illinois
Coppell, Texas • Ontario, California • Mesa, Arizona





Azami and Taro were born in Japan. They now live in the United States. They enjoy their Japanese customs and the American customs they are learning. Their favorite American holidays are the Fourth of July and Thanksgiving. Here are some of their favorite Japanese traditions.

Every effort has been made to secure permission and provide appropriate credit for photographic material. The publisher deeply regrets any omission and pledges to correct errors called to its attention in subsequent editions.

Unless otherwise acknowledged, all photographs are the property of Scott Foresman, a division of Pearson Education.

Photo locators denoted as follows: Top (T), Center (C), Bottom (B), Left (L), Right (R), Background (Bkgd)

Opener: ©DK Images; 1 PhotoEdit, Inc.; 3 Thinkstock, Bananastock; 4 The Image Works; 5 The Image Works; 6 Robert Harding Photography; 7 ©DK Images; 8 Getty Images; 9 PhotoEdit, Inc.; 10 Corbis; 11 The Image Works; 12 Bananastock

ISBN: 0-328-13382-5

Copyright © Pearson Education, Inc.

All Rights Reserved. Printed in the United States of America. This publication is protected by Copyright, and permission should be obtained from the publisher prior to any prohibited reproduction, storage in a retrieval system, or transmission in any form by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording, or likewise. For information regarding permission(s), write to: Permissions Department, Scott Foresman, 1900 East Lake Avenue, Glenview, Illinois 60025.

4 5 6 7 8 9 10 V0G1 14 13 12 11 10 09 08 07 06





Japanese New Year is from January 1 to January 3. It is Japan's biggest holiday. Families visit and exchange good wishes. Some people celebrate by wearing costumes and masks.



A Japanese family celebrates the beginning of a new year.



March 3 is *Hina Matsuri* (the Doll Festival, or Girls' Day). Girls display dolls that are dressed like royal people of long ago. Families wish for the health and happiness of daughters on *Hina Matsuri*.



Fifteen dolls are displayed on a stand covered with red cloth on Girls' Day.





In Japan people gather for the Flower Festival in April. Some families picnic under the pale pink blossoms of the cherry trees.

The Cherry Blossom Festival is celebrated each spring in Washington, D.C. The cherry trees there were given to the United States by Japan!



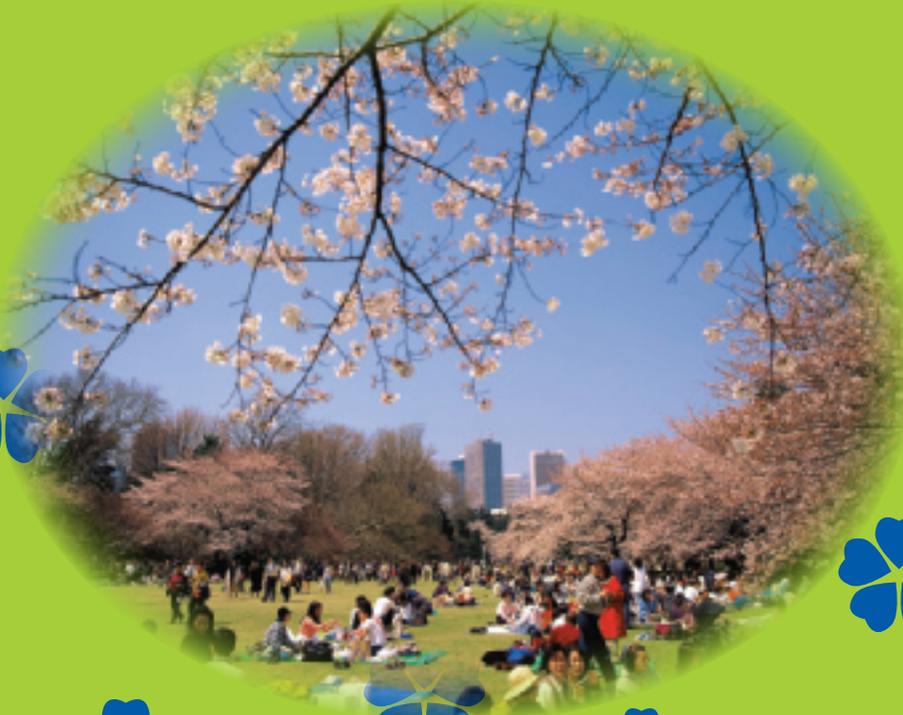
A large crowd celebrates the Flower Festival under the cherry trees in Japan.



May 5 is *Kodomo no Hi* (Children's Day, or Boys' Day). Families in Japan give thanks for the health and happiness of their children. Banners in the shapes of fish are flown. Parents wish for boys to grow strong.



It is Boys' Day. A banner shaped like a fish is flown for each boy in the family.





November 15 is 7-5-3 Day in Japan. Children who are seven, five, or three wear a kimono on that day. A kimono is a colorful robe of silk or cotton. Boys and girls tie the sash, or *obi*, for a snug fit. A handkerchief is tucked inside. Children walk in a graceful way when wearing a kimono!



A Japanese girl wears her bright red kimono.



Most children in Japan come running at a fast pace when they hear the beat of the *taiko*, or drum. *Taiko* come in many sizes. The exciting rhythm of the *taiko* gets children marching and dancing to its beat.



Japanese children play *taiko* on a stage during a festival.





In Japan, people read *manga*, which means “comics” or “cartoons.” One difference between Japanese *manga* and American comics is that *manga* are read from right to left!



The second Monday in October is Sports Day in Japan. A game called *Tamaire* is played with two teams. Each team tries to throw fifty balls into a basket on a pole. The team that gets the most balls inside the basket wins!



Manga were once more like American comics. Now they have their own style.



It is Sports Day in Japan. These boys are on the red team.



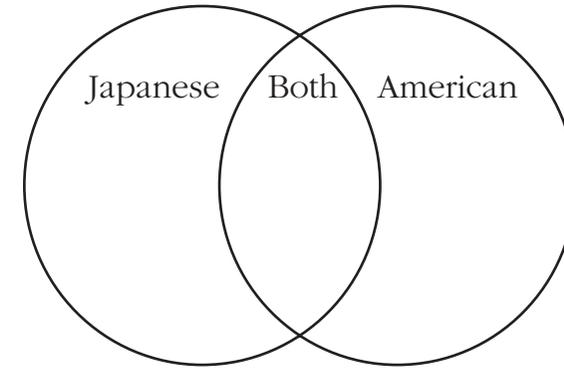


Azami and Taro have learned to play American games, such as basketball and dodgeball. They have also taught their classmates to play *Tamairé*. Playing new games and celebrating new holidays are fun ways to meet new friends!



Reader Response

1. Use a Venn diagram to compare and contrast one Japanese custom or holiday described in the book and one American custom or holiday that you know about.



2. Azami and Taro teach their classmates a game from Japan. Predict what would happen if children from other cultures introduced new games at your school.
3. You can pound out a *rhythm* on a *taiko*. What does *rhythm* mean in this sentence?
4. Look at the picture of a kimono on page 8. How is this kimono different from what you wear to school?

