

## ELJ102: Elementary Japanese 2 Assignment for the New Year Celebration Event

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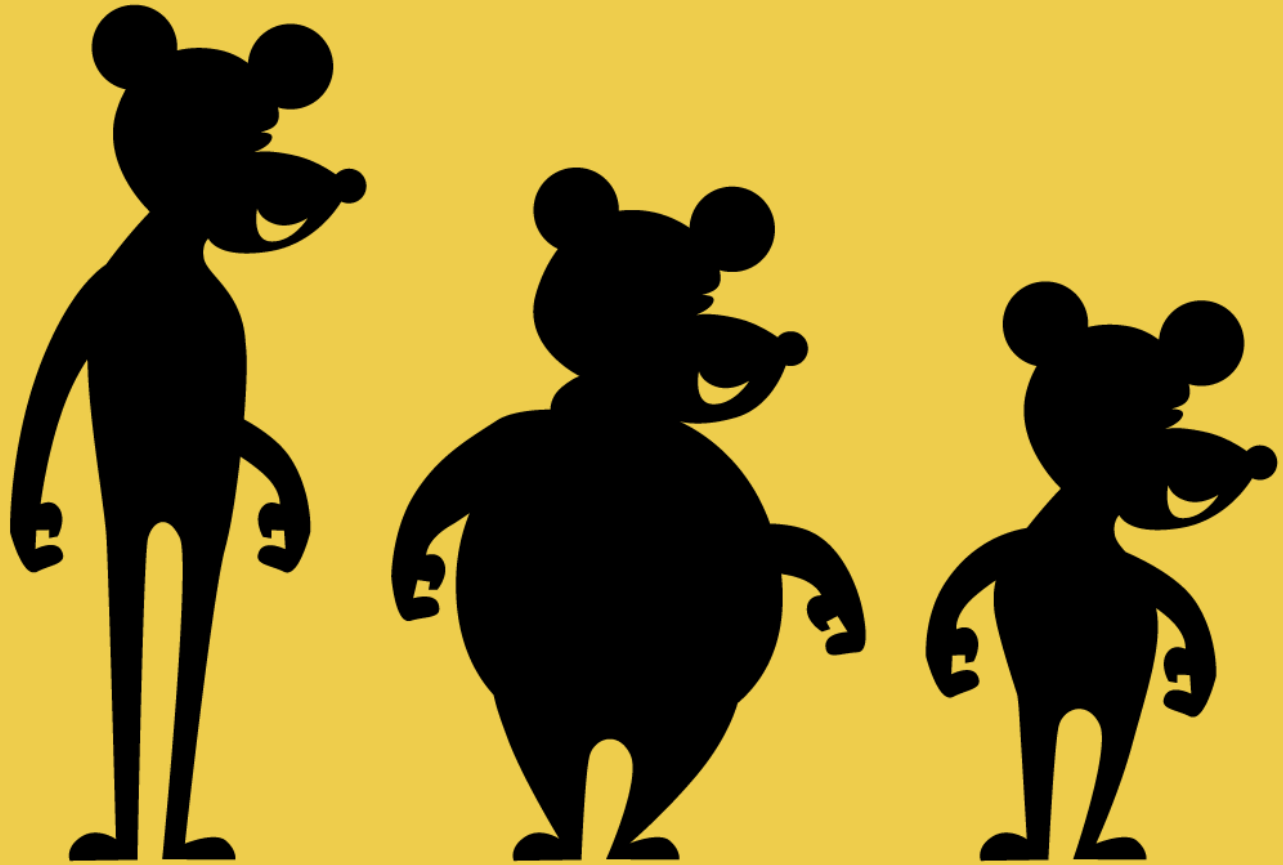
Fall 2019 Session II

For this lab assignment, you will write a short report about the New Year traditions in Japan. The report should be based on your interview with Japanese students who host the Japanese New Year event on the Wednesday, January 15, 2020. The report will be written in English and should be at least 2 pages (500 words or more). Please note that your answer should be based on the responses from the Japanese students rather than through researching on written information about the Japanese New Year. The purpose of this assignment is to develop your intercultural communication skill, especially with those from the Japanese background.

- (1) Do brief research about the Japanese New Year traditions. Start with the attached document or the following websites.
  - Introduction videos for the traditions on Japanese New Year:
    - <https://youtu.be/8-GSw2e40p0>
    - <https://youtu.be/6jQd8cuPcJc>
    - <https://youtu.be/yy7vk6TZKm4>
  - <https://japantoday.com/category/features/lifestyle/new-year-traditions-in-japan>
  - <https://asiasociety.org/education/japanese-new-year>
  - <https://www.tokyoweekender.com/2018/12/celebrating-oshogatsu-introduction-japanese-new-year-traditions/>
  - <http://www.discovernikkei.org/en/journal/2007/11/21/oshogatsu-traditions/>
  - <https://www.maikaisogawa.com/the-ultimate-guide-to-japanese-new-years/>
- (2) Pick two Japanese New Year's traditions and describe the activities in detail. The following activities are scheduled during the event.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Mochi-pounding</li><li>• Japanese happi clothes</li><li>• Japanese calligraphy</li><li>• Japanese new year greeting cards</li><li>• Votive tablets</li><li>• Karuta (Japanese traditional card game)</li><li>• Sushi tasting &amp; osechi food</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Otedama (Japanese juggling balls)</li><li>• Origami</li><li>• Tako (kite)</li><li>• Kami-fusen (paper balloon)</li><li>• Any other activity you saw or found through your own research</li></ul>
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- (3) Find students of Japanese origin (e.g., international students from Japan) during the event. Interview her/him for a few minutes. Write down who you spoke with. Write her/his name and which part of Japan she/he is from.
- (4) Your questions should be based on the following prompts for your report assignment.
  - Do you think the new year celebration in Japan (e.g., mochi pounding) is based on any specific religious belief?
  - In what respects has the Japanese New Year's celebration changed past few decades? What remained the same?
  - Are any aspects of the Japanese celebration similar to an American holiday celebration? Different?

# Japan Club's New Year Celebration 2020



## HAPPY NEW YEAR 2020

© dak

2020 is the year of Rat in the Chinese zodiac

- Date:** Wednesday, January 15, 2019  
**Time:** 10:00am-12:00noon  
**Place:** Room E-111, LaGuardia Community College  
**Event:** This event is to introduce Japanese old traditions and customs on *shogatsu* (Japanese New Year Day) such as もちつき (mochi-pounding), おせち料理 (Japanese traditional cuisine for New Year Day), こままわし (Japanese top spinning game), かるた (Japanese traditional card game), 絵馬づくり (making Japanese votive tablets), 着物 (Japanese traditional clothes), かきぞめ (Japanese calligraphy), and 年賀状 (Japanese new year greeting cards). All events are hands-on and we will have a lot of giveaways (free samples of Japanese toys etc). Sushi will be served. This event is open to both LaGuardia students and LIC local communities, especially those with Japanese heritage and learners of Japanese language and culture. Children are welcome.
- URL:** <https://www.facebook.com/events/345653885989626/>  
<http://faculty.lagcc.cuny.edu/tnagano/japanclub/>
- Inquiry:** [LaGuardiaJapanClub@gmail.com](mailto:LaGuardiaJapanClub@gmail.com)

# ANNUAL EVENTS

## 年中行事

There are some special traditional events which take place in local areas during the year. Celebrations and rituals differ from area to area, and in some areas they take place in accordance with the lunar calendar. 一年を通じて各地で行われる日本独特の行事がある。地方により祝いの方法が異なったり、旧暦で祝う場合もある。

### THE NEW YEAR

正月

The New Year is one of the most important occasions for all Japanese. Relatives living far away gather together to celebrate the New Year, wishing for the future health of every family member.

日本人にとっては、最も大切な行事の一つで、遠くに住む家族も集まり、皆で新しい年を祝い、一年間の家族の健康を願う。

#### New Year's Day • 元旦

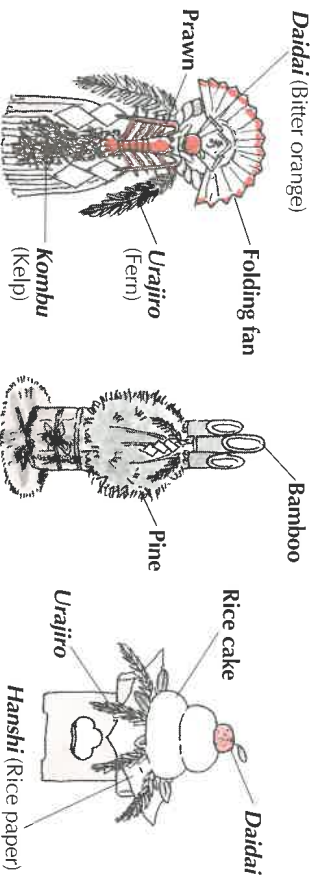
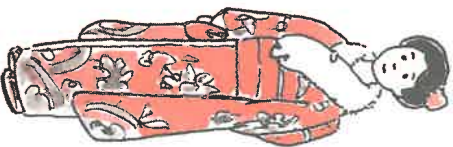
People pay the first visit of the year to shrines and temples with their families, or visit their relatives to deliver New Year's greetings. Quite a few people wear kimono on this special day. (January 1)

家族で神社や寺に初詣に出かけたり、親類の家に年始の挨拶に行き、着物を着て出かける人も多く見かけられる。(1月1日)

#### New Year's Decorations • お正月飾り

New Year's decorations are made to welcome in the gods at the beginning of the year. They consist of propitious decorations.

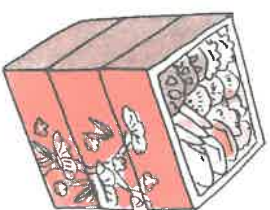
お正月の飾りは神様を迎えるためのもので、あしうちものは縁起のよいものである。



**Shimekazari**  
(to be put at the sides of entranceways)

**Kadomatsu**  
(to be put at both sides of gates)

**Kagamimochi**  
(to be displayed at the alcove or in the kitchen, etc.)



#### Osechi ryōri • お節料理

Specially prepared New Year's food, beautifully arranged in lacquer boxes. Many of the delicacies inside are named in hopes for the family's health and prosperity.

漆塗りの重箱に盛りつけられたお正月用の保存料理。家族の健康や繁栄を願った名前が由来が多い。

#### Zoni • 雑煮

A special New Year's soup with rice cakes, vegetables, etc. In the Kantō (Eastern) district, people prefer clear soup; in the Kansai (Western) district, people prefer white miso soup.

汁にもちや野菜などを入れたお正月料理。関東地方ではすまし仕立て、関西地方では白みそ仕立てが多い。

#### Toso • 屠蘇

Sake steeped in toso herbs. Drinking toso on New Year's Day was traditionally thought to prevent illness.

屠蘇散(とそさん)をひたした酒。元旦にこれを飲んで一年の邪気を払うといわれる。

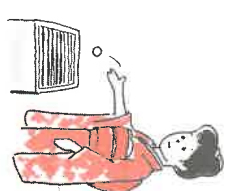
#### Hatsumōde • 初詣

People visit shrines and temples to pray for health and happiness for the coming year.

新しい年が健康で幸せに満ちた一年になるよう、寺や神社へ参拝する。

#### ● THE WAY TO WORSHIP AT A SHRINE

- ①
- ②
- ③
- ④
- ⑤



Throw coins into the wooden box.  
さい銭を投げ入れる



Ring the bell.  
鈴を鳴らす



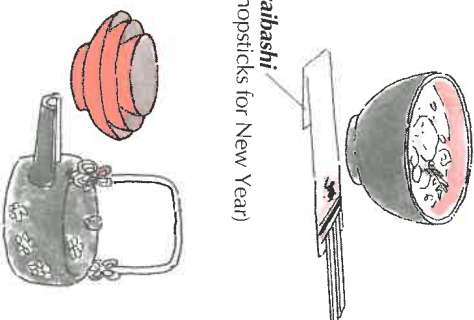
Bow twice.  
2礼



Clap hands twice.  
2拍手



Bow again.  
1礼

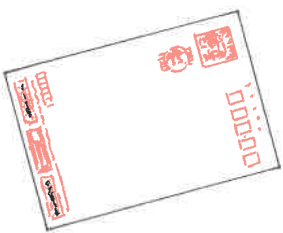


**Iwabashi**  
(Chopsticks for New Year)

## New Year's Cards • 年賀状

People send New Year's postcards to their friends, relatives and colleagues to express their New Year's resolutions as well as to give updates on their lives. Usually special New Year's lottery postal cards are issued for this purpose.

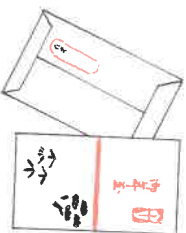
新しい年の決意や近況を、友達や親戚、仕事仲間へ伝えるもので、お年玉付き年賀葉書が一般的に使われる。



## Otoshidama (New Year's Gift) • お年玉

Originally *otoshidama* referred to the giving and receiving of gifts among adults on New Year's Day, but the custom has changed to that of parents, grandparents or relatives giving money to children.

お正月の贈答品のやり取りが次第に子供達へのお年玉と変わってきた。親や祖父母、親戚の人などが子供達に現金をあたる習慣。



## Kakizome (The First Calligraphy of the Year) • 書き初め

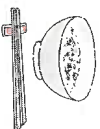
The first calligraphy of the year is conducted on January 2. People write their resolutions for the coming year, facing a lucky direction.

1月2日に、その年の吉の方向に向かって毛筆で1年間の目標を書く。

## Nanakusagayu (Rice Porridge with Seven Grasses) • 七草がゆ

Rice porridge prepared with the seven grasses of spring is eaten for breakfast on January 7 as a way of wishing for good health throughout the year.

1月7日の朝に食べる春の七草の入ったがゆで、一年の無病息災を願う。



## Kagamibiraki (Division of New Year's Rice Cakes) • 鏡開き

On January 11 the round "mirror-shaped" rice cakes used in New Year's displays are taken down, divided up, and then cooked in a traditional dish of sweet adzuki bean soup.

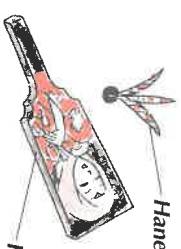
お正月に飾っていた鏡もちをおろして、割って汁粉などに入れて食べる。1月11日に行われる。

## Traditional New Year's Day Games • 伝統的正月遊び

### Hanetsuki • 羽根つき

A game like badminton for two people, where the shuttlecock is hit with the wooden racket. The person who loses has an "X" mark drawn on their face with India ink.

羽子板で羽根を打つゲーム。負けた顔に墨で印をつけられる。

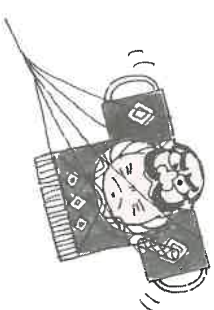


Hagoita

### Takoage (Kite-flying) • たこあげ

A traditional children's pastime of flying kites.

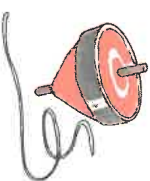
子供の伝統的な遊びとして受け継がれている。



### Koma (Top) • こま

Wind a long string around the top and pull it. The top will start rolling.

長いひもをこまに巻きつけ、そのひもを引くと同時にこまが回る。



### Karuta • カルタ

A traditional game in which people compete to pick up picture cards that match opening lines read out aloud by a referee from proverbs and ancient Japanese poems.

ことわざの「いろはカルタ」などで、読み手の読んだカードの絵柄を探すゲーム。



### Fukuwarai • 福笑い

Players are blindfolded, and place ears, eyes, nose, mouth, eyebrows on the outline of the face of Otafuku (a chubby-cheeked woman), and enjoy comparing the results.

目隠しをして、お多福の顔に耳、目、鼻、口、眉を置いて、出来ばえを楽しむ。

### Sugoroku (Parcheesi) • すごろく

A player moves forward according to the number he/she throws on the dice. The first one who completes the steps wins.

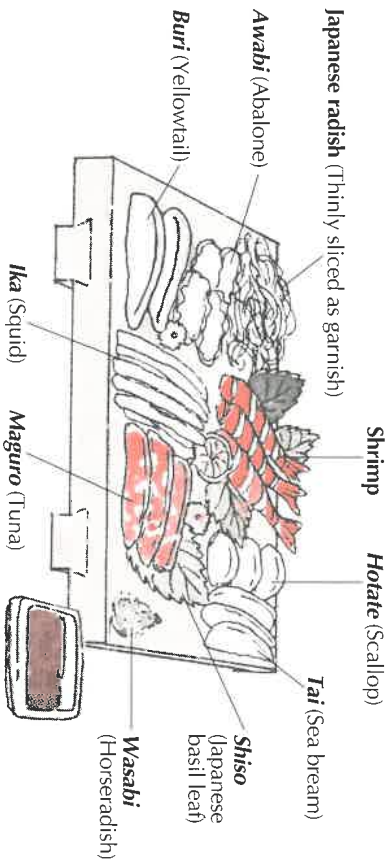
さいころの出た目の数だけ進むゲーム。先に行くと勝ち。



## SASHIMI 刺身

The Japanese eat a lot of fish. One favorite is sashimi—thinly sliced, fresh raw fish served with soy sauce and wasabi. Sashimi is loved as a typical Japanese dish, but fish is also eaten cooked or broiled.

日本人は魚を食べることが多い。特に新鮮な魚を生のまま薄く細く切り、しょうゆとわさびをつけて食べる刺身は典型的な和食として好まれている。ほかには魚は煮つけや焼き魚として食べる方法もある。

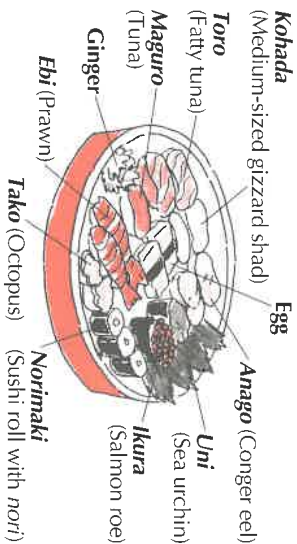


Dip sashimi in soy sauce that has been mixed with a little wasabi, and eat. 少量のわさびをしょうゆに溶かし、身をのたして食べる。

## SUSHI 寿司

### Nigirizushi • 握り寿司

A kind of sushi in which wasabi paste and raw fish are placed on top of a rice ball and served with soy sauce. すし飯を握り、わさびをつけて魚介類のネタをのせたもので、しょうゆをつけて食べる。



### Inarizushi • いなり寿司

Aburage cooked in soy sauce, sugar, and sake becomes the outer wrapping for sushi rice. しょうゆと砂糖、酒などで味つけした油揚げにすし飯をつめて形を整えたもの。



### Oshizushi • 押し寿司

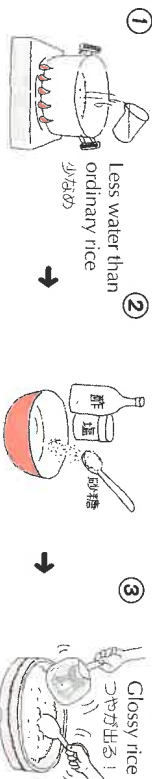
Square-shaped sushi made in a wooden box. Sushi rice is laid on the bottom of the box and fish such as broiled conger or marinated mackerel is placed on top of the rice. 長方形の木箱にすし飯をつめ、その上には、あなごやしめざばなどの具をのせて、ふたで押し込む。



## You Too Can Be a Sushi Chef 今日からあなたも寿司職人!

### ● Prepare the sushi rice • すし飯をつくる

(tsp=teaspoon)



1 Cook the rice so that it is a little hard. (3C uncooked rice, 3C water, 1C=180ml)  
2 Less water than ordinary rice (少なめ)

Vinegar mix  
4Tbsp vinegar  
2Tbsp sugar  
3/4tsp salt  
酢一大きじ4  
砂糖一大きじ2  
塩一小さじ3/4

3 While the rice is still hot, add vinegar mix. Stir rice well with a wooden scoop in a slicing motion, cooling the rice off by doing so. ご飯が熱いうちに合わせ酢を入れ、さましながら切るように混ぜる。

### ● Norimaki • のり巻き



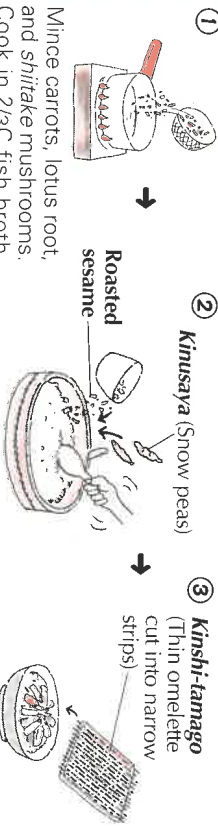
1 Spread *nori* on a bamboo rolling mat, then spread the sushi rice over it. Place filling in the center. まきずの上ののりを広げ、すし飯を広げる。その中央に具をのせる。

2 Roll so that the front end of the *nori* will align evenly with the back end when touching. 手前ののりの端を向こう側のすし飯を向こう側にそろえていく。

3 Slice the rolled *norimaki* with a knife. Wet the knife after each cut using a vinegar-moistened cloth. 酢水でぬらしたふきんで包丁をふきながら切る。

### ● Chirashizushi • ちらし寿司

(Tbsp=tablespoon)



1 Mince carrots, lotus root, and *shitake* mushrooms. Cook in 2/3C fish broth, 3Tbsp soy sauce, 1Tbsp *mirin*, 1Tbsp sake and 2Tbsp sugar, then drain. (1C=200ml)  
2 Roasted sesame

Mix ingredients, thinly cut boiled snow peas, and roasted sesame into the sushi rice and stir well. ①の具、ゆでて細かく切ったピーマン、ゆでておろした雪菜、炒りごまをすし飯と混ぜ合わせる。

Put the sushi rice in a dish and arrange raw tuna, salmon, prawns and *kinshi-tamago* over the rice. 器に②のご飯を盛り、上に乗せる。サーモン、えびなどの刺身と金糸卵をちらして飾る。

# TRADITIONAL GAMES

## 伝承遊び

Even now, there are many regions where the traditional games harking back to olden days have been retained. In some areas, old-style games are adopted in kindergarten or pre-school classes in order to ensure that they are handed down to future generations.

昔から受け継がれている「伝承遊び」が、今なお残る地方が多い。また、それらを伝えるために、教育や保育の場で実践しているところもある。

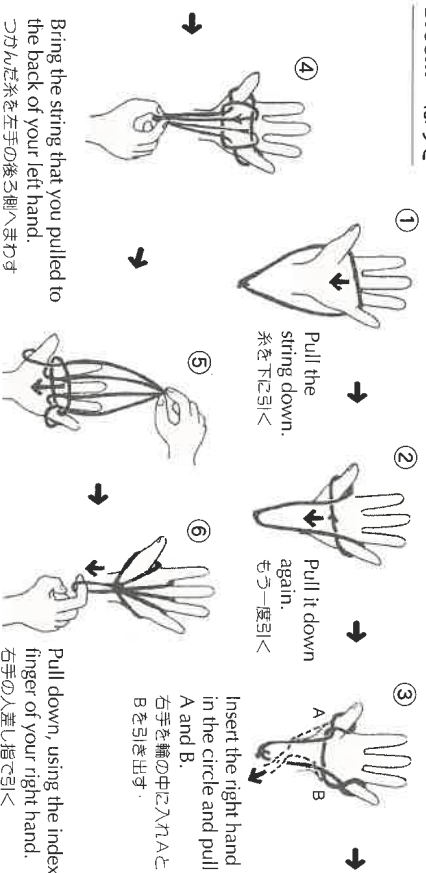
### AVATORI (CAT'S CRADLE)

#### あやとり

You can make many figures by inserting the wrist or fingers into a piece of string that encircles the hand. Usually, the game is played by yourself or two people who pass the string back and forth between themselves.

輪にした糸を両手首や指にかけて、いろいろな形を作りだして遊ぶ。1人で遊んだり、2人で受け渡しをして遊ぶ。

#### Broom • ほうき



### OTEDAMA (JUGGLING)

#### お手玉

Toss up the "mother" bean bag, while picking up one of the bean bags on the floor, then catch the "mother" bean bag in the same hand. Continue this action until you can pick up two, three or all five bean bags simultaneously with the "mother."

親玉を投げている間に、床においたお手玉を一つ取り、その手でさらに落ちてきた親玉も取る。それを2個、3個と、5個全部取れるまで続ける。



### DARUMA-OTOSHI

#### だるまおとし

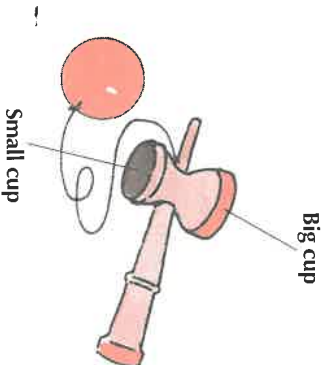
Pile up the cylindrical wooden pieces and put the Bodhidharma doll on top of the pile. Hit each piece with the wooden hammer so as not to make the doll fall down.

数個の円筒形の木片を重ね、その上にあたるまの人形をおいて、人形を落とさないように木づちで木片をはずす。

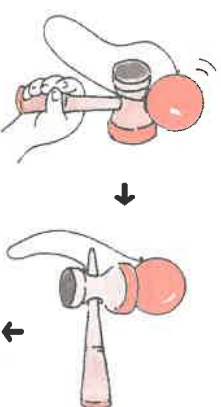


### KENDAMA

#### けん玉

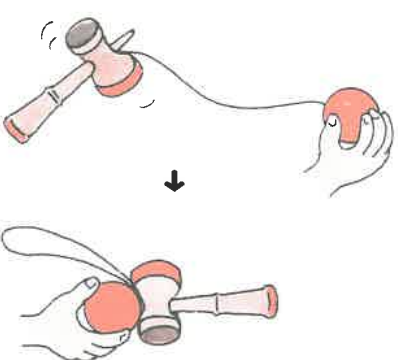


#### Trip around the World • 世界一周

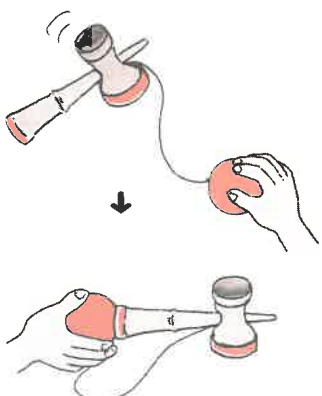


Toss the ball up and try to catch it in the big or small cup.  
玉を振り上げた大皿や小皿にのせる。

#### Furiken • ふりけん



#### Lighthouse • 灯台



**PAPER DOLL SUMO**  
紙相撲

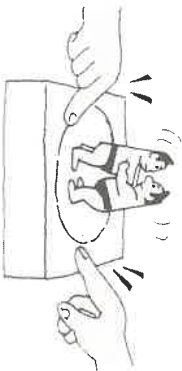
Paper doll *sumō* is a simple game which has been much beloved by children since days gone by.

手作りの紙相撲は手軽な遊びとして昔から親しまれてきた。

**Let's Make Strong Wrestlers**  
強い力士を育てよう!

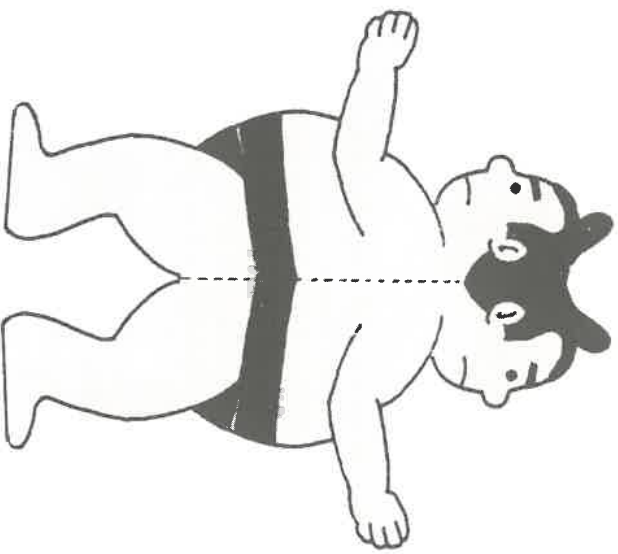
① Copy the *sumō* wrestler's picture from this page. Make it the same size (or 1.5 times bigger). Paste the copy onto thick paper and trim the edges. Fold the picture along the dotted line.

下の力士を原寸または1.5倍にコピーし、裏に厚紙を貼ってまわりを切り取る。中心線でつに折る。



② Draw a circle on a good size box for use as the *sumō* wrestling ring. 適当な大きさの空き箱に円を描いて力士を作ろ。

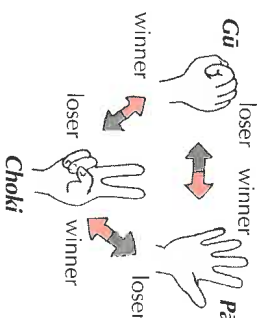
③ Put your and your friend's wrestlers in the center of the circle and fold their arms over each other's. Then, tap the edge of the box lightly with your fingers. The person whose *sumō* wrestler makes the other fall down or get pushed out of the ring wins. 土俵に力士を立てせ、組ませる。2人が土俵をたいて、相手の力士を倒すか、土俵の外に押し出したほうが勝ちとなる。



**JANKEN**  
じゃんけん

Saying "Jankenpon," each person makes a one-handed gesture representing paper (*pā*), scissors (*choki*) or stone (*gū*). Stone wins against scissors, scissors win against paper, and paper wins against stone. *Janken* is used to decide who goes first or who will be "it" in a game of tag, for example.

「じゃんけんぽん」と言いながら、紙(パ)、はさみ(チョキ)、石(グー)のどれかを片手で示して見せる。石ははさみに、はさみは紙に、紙は石に勝つ。子供の遊びの中で、順番を決めたり、鬼を決めたりする時にじゃんけんをする。



**Let's Make Friends by Playing Janken Game**  
じゃんけん遊びで友達をつくらう!

● Atchi Muite Hoi • あっちむいてホイ!

One against one  
1対1人

① Do *janken*.  
じゃんけんをする。

"Turn that way!"  
(Atchi muite!)



② Point your forefinger in each direction—left, right, up, down—while saying, "Atchi muite hoi!" (Turn that way, hey!).

勝者は「あっちむいてホイ!」と言いながら、人差し指で、上下左右いずれかを指す。

③ At the same time as "Hoi!" is said, the *janken* loser should be facing a different direction than where the *janken* winner is pointing.

敗者は、ホイと同時に、指とは異なる方向に顔を向ける。

④ If the *janken* loser faces the same way as the winner directs, he/she loses again. The faster the action is, the more exciting this game becomes. 指された方向に顔を向けたら負けになる。速くするとおもしろい。

● Jumbo Janken • ジャンボじゃんけん

One against many  
1対多

① Everybody stands up and does *janken* against the leader, who stands in front of them.

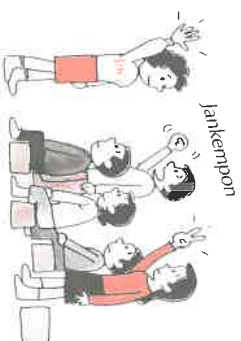
全員立って、前に出たリーダーとじゃんけんをする。

② Any person defeated by the leader must sit down.

リーダーに負けた人は座っていく。

③ The last person still standing does a final *janken* game with the leader.

最後に残った人とリーダーで決勝戦。

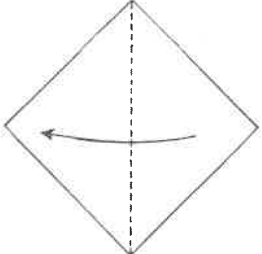


Origami is one of Japan's traditional paper-craft arts. You can make many shapes simply by folding a small square of paper. Children are taught how to make *origami* by their parents or grandparents. Sometimes they learn in kindergarten or preschool.

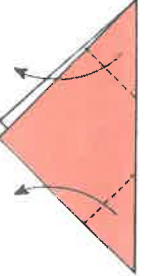
折り紙は日本の伝統的芸術の一つで、正方形の小さな紙を折るだけで、いろいろな形を作りだしていく。子供達は親や祖父母から折り方を教わったり、時には幼稚園や保育所で習うこともある。

### STEP 1 DOG AND CAT

① Valley fold (Fold over)

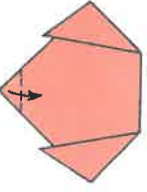


② Turn over

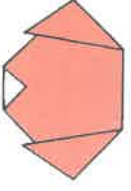


Fold the paper in half.  
半分に折る

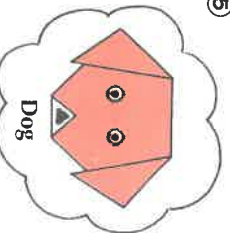
③



④



⑤

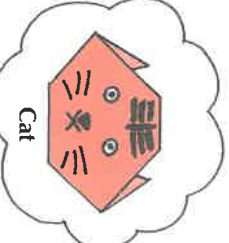
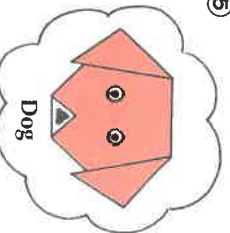


Fold the two pointed ends down.  
両角を下に折る

Fold the tips of the bottom up.  
下の部分を折り上げる

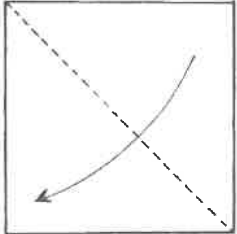
⑤ Draw eyes and a nose.  
目と鼻を描く

Turn over.  
裏返す

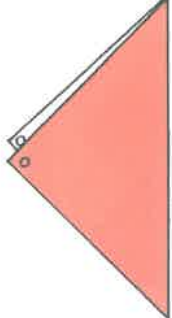



### STEP 2 SAMURAI HELMET

①



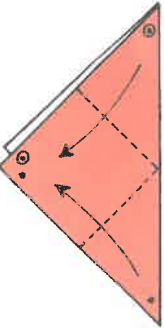
②



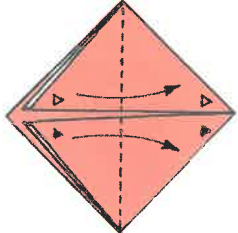
Prepare a piece of square paper.  
Newspaper is suitable.  
新聞紙を正方形にして使う

Fold to make a triangle.  
角を合わせて三角に折る

③



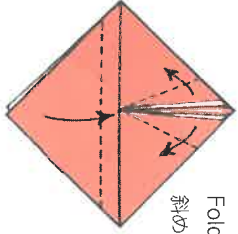
④



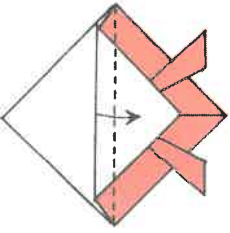
Fold on the dotted lines.  
折り目に沿って折る

Fold up so as to connect each symbol.  
印どうしを合わせて折り上げる

⑤



⑥

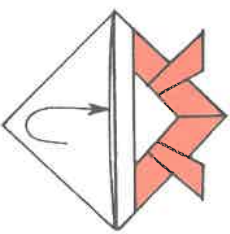


Fold back.  
斜めに折り返す

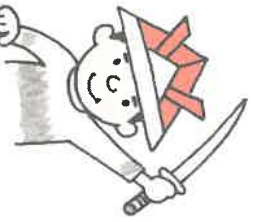
Fold up the facing bottom flap.  
上の1枚を折り上げる

Fold up again.  
もう1回折り上げる

⑦



Fold the other bottom flap inside.  
中に折り込む







# STEP 3 TRICK BOAT だまし舟

----- Valley fold (Fold over)  
----- Mountain fold (Fold under)



- ①
- ②
- ③
- ④
- ⑤
- ⑥

Make creases.

三角に折り、折り目をつける

Bring the corners to the center point. 中央に折り合わせる

Bring the corners to the center point again, then unfold. もう一度中央に折り合わせ、広げる

Bring each symbol to match the same one. 折り目まで合わせて折る

Bring the top and bottom sides to the center line. 中央に折り合わせる

Open. 引き出す

- ⑦
- ⑧
- ⑨

Open.

引き出してつむす

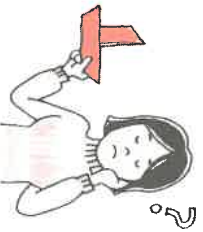
Turn over. 裏返す

Fold so the two points match. 斜めに折り上げる

- ⑩
- ⑪

Fold so the two points match. 斜めに折り上げる

By folding down the stern part, the sail changes into the bow. 折り下げると帆がへさきに変わる



# STEP 4 CANDY BOX 菓子入れ

① Fold twice to make a triangle, then open the top layer and flatten into a square. 三角折りを2回し、上の1枚を開いて四角につむす

- ②
- ③
- ④
- ⑤

Fold to the center. 中央に折り合わせる

Flatten to a triangle. 開いてつむす

- ⑥
- ⑦
- ⑧

Turn over. Do the same on the other side. 裏返して同じように折る

Do the same as ②, ③, ④. ②③④を繰り返す

Fold so the two points match. 折り合わせる

- ⑨
- ⑩
- ⑪
- ⑫

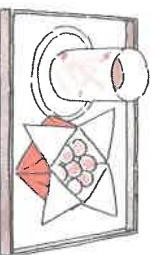
Turn over, then do the same on this side. 裏返して同じように折る

Fold up the flap. 上の1枚を折り上げる

- ⑩
- ⑪
- ⑫

Fold the other flaps in the same way. 残りも折り上げる

Open and give final shape. 開いて箱にする

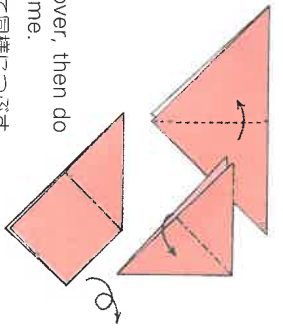




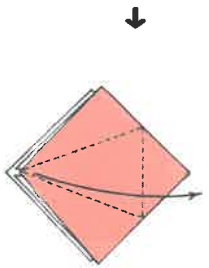
## STEP 5 CRANE 鶴

① Fold twice to make a triangle, then open the top layer and flatten to make a square.

三角折りを2回し、上の1枚を開いて四角につぶす

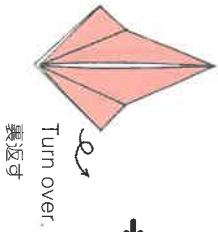


② Make creases. 三角形の折り目をつける



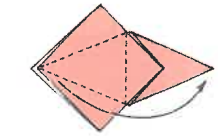
Turn over, then do the same. 裏返して同様につぶす

③



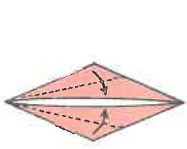
Open top layer and flatten as in ③. 上の1枚を開き、折り線に沿って折り、ひし形につぶす

④



Make creases again. Do the same thing. 同じように折り目をつけて開き、ひし形につぶす

⑤



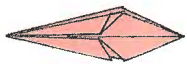
Fold the top layer edges to the center. 上の1枚を中央に折り合わせる

⑥



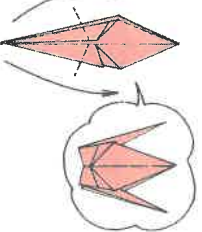
Turn over. 裏返す

⑦



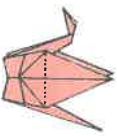
Do the same thing on the other side. 裏側も同じように折り合わせる

⑧



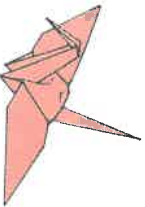
Fold up right and left bottom tips. 左と右を中わり折りし、首と尾を作る

⑨



Fold down head. 中わり折りして頭を作る

⑩

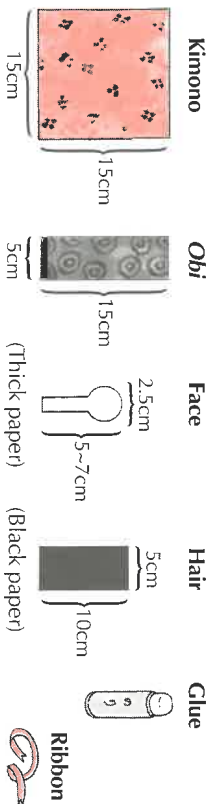


Spread wings and blow into the hole in the under-side. 羽を広げ、穴から息を吹きこむ

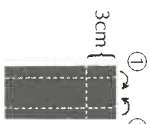


## STEP 6 BOOKMARK しおり

● Prepare : 準備



① Make a head : 頭部を作る

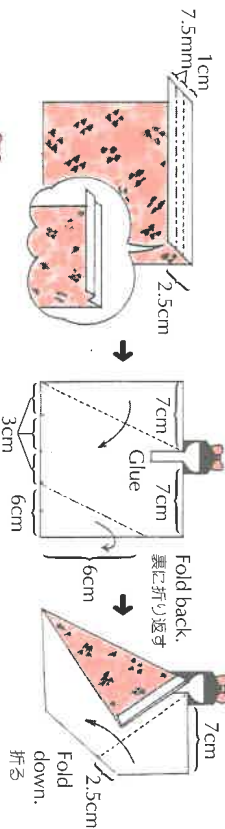


Fold along the lines. 折り目によって折る

Glue rolled cylinders of paper (for hair) on forehead and to hang on shoulders. 筒状の髪を顔にかぶせる

Decorate with ribbon. リボンをしぼる

② Make a kimono and doll : 着物を作って着せる



③ Make an obi : 帯を作る

