Week 1 – Life of a Kid in Japan: greetings, school life, chopsticks
1. Introduction (5 minutes)
   a. Start the class like a Japanese class by having everyone stand up and bow.

2. What do you know about Japan? (10 minutes)
   a. Have the students brainstorm on things they already know about Japan
   b. Introduce things they may know (Hello Kitty, Pokémon, sushi, etc)

3. Where and what is Japan? (5 minutes)
   a. Discuss general geography of Japan

4. Elementary School Life in Japan (20 minutes)
   a. Introduce with PowerPoint (or by display/poster) various Japanese school items.
   b. Let students pass around school items and try on backpacks or uniform caps themselves.
   c. Talk about Japanese school lunch time and play the chopstick game.

5. Let’s learn Japanese! (15 minutes)
   a. Teach how to introduce yourself in Japanese (including a bow).
   b. Have the students make two lines and practice introducing themselves in pairs.

6. Conclusion (5 minutes)
   a. Q&A with the students

Week 2 – Japanese Language: numbers, months, hiragana
1. Introduction (5 minutes)
   a. Greet students in Japanese and review the previous week.

2. Learning Numbers - Easy as 1, 2, 3! (15 minutes)
   a. Teach numbers 1-10 in Japanese using song and dance.

3. When’s your birthday? (15 minutes)
   a. Birthday Search - Students interview each other to ask birthday month in Japanese

4. Hiragana - Writing real Japanese! (20 minutes)
   a. Discuss and demonstrate the different writing systems in Japanese.
   b. Hand out a hiragana writing worksheet and guide the students in writing 5 characters.

5. Conclusion (5 minutes)
   a. Q&A with the students
Week 3 – A Year in Japan: holidays, seasons, nature/animal vocabulary

1. Introduction (5 minutes)
   a. Greet students in Japanese and review the previous week.

2. Japanese Holidays (10 minutes)
   a. Introduce Japanese holidays (using posters or PowerPoint)

3. Seasonal Craft - 'Tis the season.... (20 minutes)
   a. Do a craft/game with the students related to an upcoming holiday.

4. Nature/Animal Vocabulary (20 minutes)
   a. Talk about seasons in Japan and teach nature/animal words.
   b. Play BINGO to practice and review.

5. Conclusion (5 minutes)
   a. Q&A with the students

Week 4 – Historic Japan: wearing kimono & yukata, traditional games

1. Introduction (5 minutes)
   a. Greet students in Japanese and review the previous week.

2. Brief look at Edo Japan (1600–1856) (10 minutes)
   a. Discuss samurai, ninja, artisans and what they really did. Also introduce Japanese historic architecture (including castles).

3. Traditional Clothing - Fashion Show! (20 minutes)
   a. Assist students in trying on various traditional Japanese clothes.

4. Traditional Games (20 minutes)
   a. Play with kendama.

5. Haiku - Simple Poetry (OPTIONAL - if time allows)
   a. Teach about haiku and how to write them in English. Allow students time to try.

6. Conclusion (5 minutes)
   a. Q&A with the students
Week 5 – Modern “cool” Japan: pop culture, kanji, origami

1. Introduction (5 minutes)
   a. Greet students in Japanese and review the previous week.

2. Pop Japan (15 minutes)
   a. Show a brief video on modern Japan. Discuss video.

3. Cool Kanji - Writing Practice (20 minutes)
   a. Teach students to write several pictograph kanji characters.

4. Origami - The Art of Folding Paper (15 minutes)
   a. Pass out origami paper and lead the students in making several origami items (as much as time allows)

5. End of Program Discussion (5 minutes)
   a. Briefly go over the topics learned over the past five weeks to see if the students remember them. Ask the students what was most interesting, most fun, most difficult, etc.