Japan-in-a-Suitcase Curriculum
Grades 1-5 • Assembly Lesson Plan

Note: The lesson will be slightly simplified or made more challenging based on grade level.

1. Introduction
   a. Greet students in Japanese
   b. Start like a Japanese class by having everyone stand up and bow.

2. What do you know about Japan?
   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?
   a. Discuss the geography of Japan

4. Elementary School Life in Japan
   a. Introduce with PowerPoint (or by displaying items if PowerPoint is not available) 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.
      *The chopstick game is for classroom visits only.

5. Elementary School Studies
   a. Study like a Japanese student by practicing kanji pictograph characters.
      * For classroom visits, students can get personal attention from volunteers and
        trying writing with a pen or pencil. During assemblies they will practice writing the
        characters with an "imaginary paintbrush" in the air.
   b. Teach the students 1-10 in Japanese using song and dance.

6. Clothing
   a. Have students try on traditional Japanese clothing.
      * During a classroom visit everyone can get a turn to try on something. During
        assemblies 5-10 volunteers will be called up to the front as models.

7. Recess (OPTIONAL - if time allows)
   a. Play Japanese children’s games

8. Conclusion
   a. Q&A with the students