

## Fun with Japanese – Activity Plan

Adapted from RSN ©The Japan Society & Japan Foundation, KD&TN

### Learning Objectives:

- Become familiar with some simple greetings in Japanese
- Learn numbers 1-10 in Japanese
- Try writing in Japanese and the popular exercise routine, Radio Taiso

### Resources:

Videos: Japanese Greetings; Numbers 1-10 ; Radio Taiso (see webpage:

<https://www.japansociety.org.uk/language-festival> )

Flashcards: Greetings

Worksheet: Writing Practice Template (Kanji Numbers)

### Additional Resources:

- Ready Steady NihonGo! <https://www.japansociety.org.uk/rsn/>
- Felt tips, fude pens or paint brushes and paint (for practising writing numbers in Japanese)
- Worksheets: Bingo Boards, Radio Taiso Movements Card, Achievement Card
- Video: Radio Taiso moves in a seated position <https://youtu.be/XMOBmeESO4A>

## Task 1 – Greetings

- Ask the children if any of them know how to say hello/good morning/goodbye in a foreign language? Have them demonstrate. Now tell them they will learn Japanese greetings.
- Using the video introduce the following greetings:

Good Morning	ohayo gozaimasu	おはようございます
Hello	konnichiwa	こんにちは
Goodbye	sayonara	さようなら

- Hold up the flashcards or use props – are children able to give the accurate greeting in response to the stimulus?

**Estimated Time: 10 minutes**

## Task 2 – Numbers

- Ask the children if any of them know how to count to 10 in a foreign language? Have them demonstrate, if time. Does anyone know how to count to 10 in Japanese? (Possible if some do martial arts).
- Using the number video, count to 10 and have the children repeat, doing actions where appropriate (for number one for example, you could pretend you're itchy (ichi) and scratch yourself. For number two (ni), you could point to your knee and so on).
- Can you do the gesture and the children respond with the corresponding number in Japanese/English?
- Have children demonstrate. Can they count from 1-10 without using the props? If you show/write a number, can pupils give the appropriate Japanese response?

1	ichi	いち
2	ni	に
3	san	さん
4	yon*	よん
5	go	ご
6	roku	ろく
7	nana*	なな
8	hachi	はち
9	kyu	きゅう
10	ju	じゅう

**Estimated Time: 15 minutes**

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## Task 3 - Try writing

- Tell the children that Japanese has its own way of writing numbers. In Japan they use kanji characters which came from China, as well as numerals like we use in the UK.
- Hand out the worksheets and materials so children can try writing numbers in Japanese. This can be done with a pen, or calligraphy brushes/paint brushes if you have more time.

**Estimated Time: 10 minutes**

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*\*There are two ways of saying this number in Japanese, which is not included here for simplicity.*

## Task 4 - Try Radio Taiso

- Tell the children to listen out for numbers during the next activity.
- Introduce Radio Taiso as a short exercise routine – in Japan it's often done as a group warm-up and anyone can do it. It can be done in place, but make sure all the children have enough space to move without hitting anything.
- Ask the children what numbers they heard? Confirm that the video counts from 1-8 and ask if they can still remember how to say 9 and 10.
- Quickly refresh all numbers in various different styles (loud, soft, high pitched, low pitched etc).
- Wrap up by saying 'sayonara'.

**Estimated Time: 5 minutes**

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## Extension Activities

1. Roll 1 or 2 large dice. Can children accurately call out the number (ignore 11 and 12)?
2. Play bingo in Japanese. Children have to pick 9 numbers between one and ten and complete the grid (see accompanying worksheet). Put number cards in a bag. Children, in turns, come out to the front of the class to greet you (konnichiwa etc.) and then pick a number from the bag. They should then announce the number in Japanese to the rest of the class and children mark off any matches accordingly. Children call 'bingo' when they have a line of three going in any direction.
3. Print out the Achievement Cards and give each student their own. Try some of the other suggested activities together (see webpage). They can colour in or mark off the activities as they are completed.