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Unit: Japan

Level:

This lesson is intended for second grade students of mixed ability levels in a Social Studies unit.

Lesson:

Introduction to Japan

Goal:

The student will gain a better understanding of Asian culture as we study the country of Japan.

Instructional Objectives:

1. The student will be encouraged to discuss previous knowledge of Japan.
2. The student will "partner read" a chapter from the book Japan by Ann Heinrichs.
3. The student will be asked to identify new facts about Japan using this book.
4. The student will be asked to join a small group in creating a poster, a layered look book, a paper doll, a map or a mobile using these facts.

Time:

This lesson will take about thirty minutes. Group project will take another thirty to forty-five minutes.

Strategies:

1. The teacher will introduce the book, Japan by Ann Heinrichs.
2. The teacher will identify Asian countries, including Japan on a world map.
3. The teacher will lead a discussion allowing the students to demonstrate their previous knowledge of Japan.

4. The teacher will allow time for "partner reading."
5. The teacher will explain the small group project.
6. The teacher will observe as each group works on their project.

Closure:

The teacher will have each group share their facts about Japan and show and discuss their project.

Practice:

- Reviewing past knowledge
- Discovering new vocabulary
- Examining text to find facts
- Developing map skills
- Enhancing reading comprehension

Evaluation:

Teacher observation

Materials:

- Book: Japan by Ann Heinrichs (Children's Press, a Division of Grolier Publishing Company, Inc. 1997.)
- Poster board
- Construction paper
- Scissors
- Yarn
- Crayons
- Clothes hangers
- World Map
- Markers
- Note cards
- Hole punch
- Stapler

References:

http://coreknowledge.org/CK/resrcs/lessons/02_2_japan.pdf (pages 19, 21)

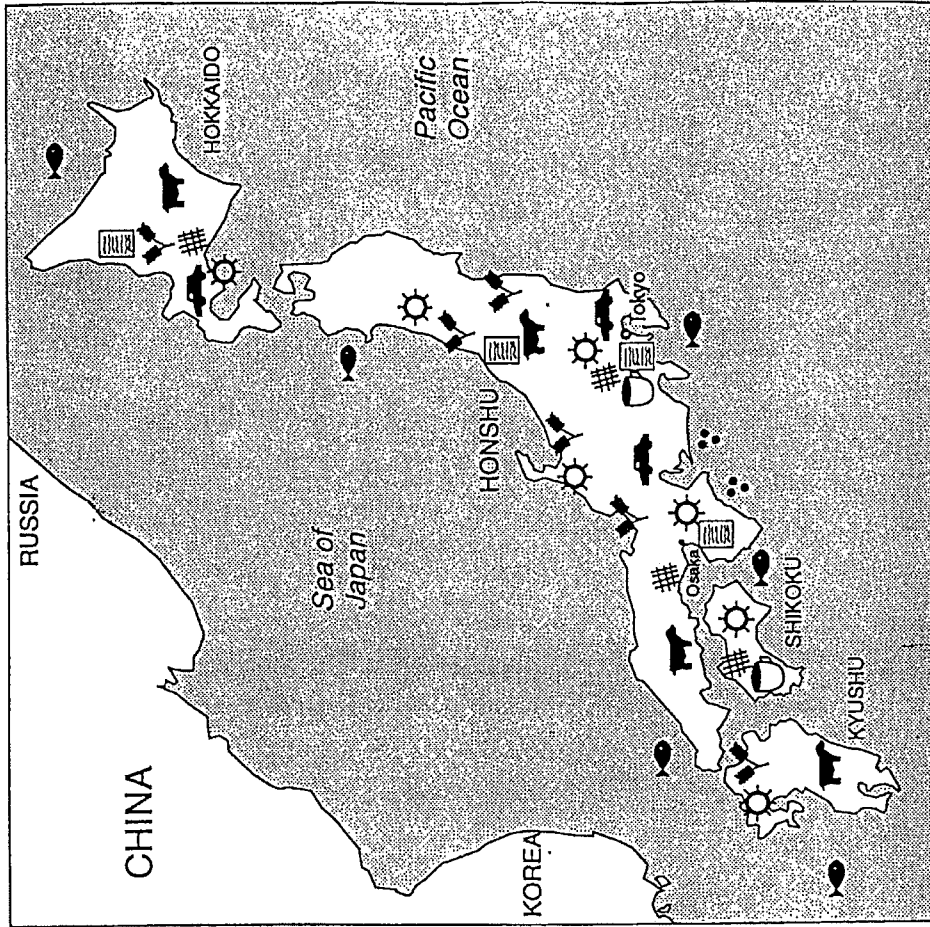
http://fga.freac.fsu.edu/resources/academy/pdf/legend_symbol_japan_map.pdf (page 1)

http://www2.scholastic.com/content/collateral_resources/pdf/d/dec05_unit_kwl.pdf

Appendix A

Geography Academy: JAPAN

Country of Japan

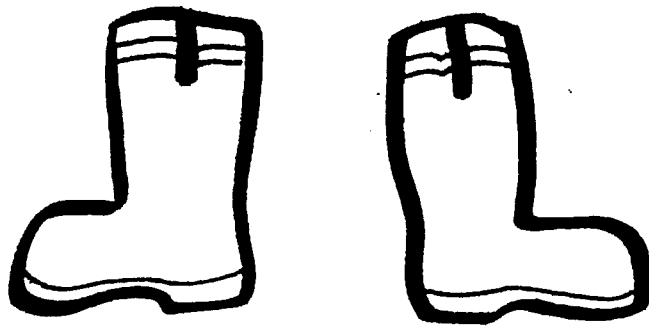


Legend

- automobiles
- fishing
- livestock
- manufacturing
- paper
- pearls
- rice
- tea
- textiles

Appendix B

Geography Academy: JAPAN



Appendix C

Layered Look Book

(Adapted from Big Book of Books and Activities by Dinah Zike, page 70.)

1. Stack 3 sheets of 12 in. x 18 in. construction paper. Space the narrow edges of the three papers 1 inch apart.
2. Bring the bottom of the three papers upward and space the edges so that all the layers are the same distance apart.
3. When all the sheets are an equal distance apart, fold the papers and crease well.
4. Staple the papers together at the crease.
5. Label the layers as follows:

Top: Japan, Land of the Rising Sun

2nd Layer: Facts

3rd Layer: Map of Japan

4th Layer: Map of Asia

5th Layer: Map of the World

6th Layer: Continents and Oceans

(Geography and Contemporary Culture of Japan, Grade 2 2002 Core Knowledge® Conference 19)

Appendix D

Japanese Flag Mobile

Materials Needed:

1. Clothes hanger
2. Yarn
3. 2 sheets of white construction paper or poster board for each student (9 in. x 12 in. or 12 in. x 18 in.)
4. 5 in. x 7 in. note cards (Five cards for each student)
5. Crayons or markers
6. Red construction paper – students will use a large round object to trace 2 circles for the center of the flag.

Instructions:

1. Cut out 2 red round circles for the center of the flag.
2. Glue these 2 circles onto the 2 white sheets of construction paper.
3. Glue the top edge of the two white papers together, being sure that the red circles are facing out. If you are using a coat hanger, do not glue the center 2 inches of the papers.
4. Using the note cards, write the following facts (one on each card):
 - *The red circle represents the sun.
 - *Nippon means source of the sun.
 - *The nickname for Japan is Land of the Rising Sun.
 - *The red symbolizes sincerity, brightness, and warmth.
 - *The white symbolizes purity and justice.
5. Slip the double-sided flag over the clothes hanger.
6. Cut yarn long enough to attach to the hanger and hang down 4 to 5 inches from the bottom of the flag. String the yarn evenly on the hanger.
7. Using a hole punch, punch a hole in the center top of each card. String a card on each piece of yarn and tie it.
8. Display the mobiles around the room or in the halls.

(Geography and Contemporary Culture of Japan, Grade 2 2002 Core Knowledge® Conference 21)

Appendix E

KWL Research Chart

Topic: _____

What do I know?

What do I want to find out?

What did I learn?

What was my resource?