

Language of Stamps

Background

StampIT is the Association of Scottish Philatelic Societies youth programme where children can discover a world of stamps through interactive games and activities.

StampIT provides a number of ideas for teachers to use stamps across the curriculum. In particular, 'Language of Stamps' is a series of resources for studying language and culture.

Japanese resources

Sugoroku is a traditional Japanese board game appearing in thousands of variations. However StampIT's Sugoroku is unique using Japanese postage stamps to learn about Japan's culture and language.

Shinkei-suijaku is a game of memory and concentration. Also known as memory, pelmanism or pairs. StampIT's Shinkei-suijaku introduces you to some beautiful Japanese stamps.



Japanese Stamp Sugoroku

How to Play

The game is designed to be played by the whole class. Each stamp on the game board is associated with a challenge. The game could be played over a period of time such as a few days, week, etc as some of the challenges will take time to complete. Continue around the game board and complete as many challenges as possible.

PowerPoint Game & Challenges

Roll the dice, count along the stamp game board and click on stamp image (mark on Smartboard your position on the board in order to continue play later). A hyperlink will take you to the challenge card associated with that stamp. Read the Japanese translations and the information provided. You can also listen to the sound file with this version. Complete the challenge.

Click on the stamp image again to return to the game board.

Board game versions

Contents –

- Game board
- Challenge cards

Requirements –

These Items are not provided but can be easily obtained:

- dice
- counter
- card holder – This is not essential but will help hold the cards, allow easy access to cards and enable cards to be turned over when completed. Suggested style as in illustration to hold credit card size. Available through school stationery suppliers usually listed under 'learning resources pocket charts'.



- 1. Challenge cards – upper primary & secondary level (similar to PP version).** Roll the dice, count along the game board and chose the challenge card which matches the stamp image. Read the Japanese translations and the information provided. Perform the challenges. Suggestion – place cards in a card holder in the same order as on game board with stamp image facing. When challenge completed, turn card over.
- 2. Word matching cards – lower primary level.** Roll the dice, count along the game board and try to match the English word to the stamp image. Read the Japanese translations. Suggestion – place cards in a card holder in alphabetical order with words facing. To check if correctly matched, turn card over. If correct, place back with stamp image facing. If incorrect, leave word facing.
- 3. Kanji learning cards – level as appropriate – some previous Kanji knowledge required.** Roll the dice, count along the game board and try to match the stamp image to the correct Kanji. Suggestion – place cards in card holder in random order with Kanji facing. To check if correctly matched, turn card over. If correct, place back with stamp image facing. If incorrect, leave Kanji facing.

Japanese Stamp Sugoroku

Suggested Answers:

Answers are not provided for the challenges which state – ‘*find out more about...*’
It is expected that the pupils will research and find out more about these subjects.

Kimono:

<i>eri:</i>	collar
<i>sode:</i>	sleeve
<i>obidome:</i>	sash clip
<i>tabi:</i>	split-toed socks
<i>geta:</i>	wooden clogs
<i>haori:</i>	coat
<i>kasa:</i>	an umbrella or parasol
<i>obi:</i>	An elaborate and usually beautifully decorated sash to tie the kimono. A woman's obi can be 3 to 4 meters long and up to 30cm wide. There is an art to tying the special knots that secure the obi. Men's obi are narrower and knotted more simply.

Coin:

The currency is Japanese Yen.
As at 24th January 2017, exchange rate is:
£1.00 = approx. 145 Japanese Yen
1 ¥ = approx. £0.007 (approx. $\frac{3}{4}$ x 1p)

Japanese Macaques:

See RZSS fact file.

Calligraphy:

See calligraphy sheets.

Pagoda:

The tallest pagoda in Japan is Kyo-o-gokokuji Temple, South Kyoto – 55m.

Tea:

1. Tea plant grown
2. Tea leaves picked
3. oxidation and drying
4. grading and sorting
5. packaging

Japanese Stamp Sugoroku

Suggested Answers:

Silk:

1. Farming silkworms (not worms but *Bombyx mori* moth)
2. Soaking cocoons
3. Spinning thread
4. Weaving into cloth
5. Dying the cloth

Rice:

Some different types of rice:

long grain rice
basmati rice
black rice
glutinous rice
sushi rice

お餅 おもち *omochi* are rice cakes.

Lacquer:



Lacquer is a resin substance from certain trees which is used as a natural varnish. Japanese lacquer is traditionally the sap from *Rhus verniciflua* tree.

Traditional theatre:

There are three main types of Japanese traditional theatre:

kabuki – traditional Japanese theatre
noh – similar to the Western musical
bunraku – Japanese puppet theatre

Japanese Stamp Surooku

Suggested Answers:

Puffer fish (fugu):

Fugu chefs must have a licence to prepare and sell the fish. There is usually a three year course to become a fugu chef.

The poison is tetrodotoxin.

Red crowned crane:

See RZSS fact file.

Volcanoes:

There is a high possibility of earthquakes and volcanic eruptions in Japan because it is located near three major tectonic plate boundaries.

Calligraphy tools:

The four basic tools of calligraphy are:

brush

inkstick

paper

inkstone (*to grind the inkstick against and mix with water*)

Mount Fuji:

Mount Fuji is the highest mountain in Japan at 3776 meters or 12,389 feet.

Ben Nevis is the highest mountain in Scotland and is 1344 meters or 4,406 feet.

Japanese food:

Sushi is a combination of vinegared rice and other ingredients, often raw fish.

Sashimi is most commonly thinly sliced raw fish but can also be other raw meat.

Map:

Japan is 9 hours ahead of Scotland.

The Japanese do not change their clocks seasonally.

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