

Japan Today : Geography : Year 5/6

	Learning Objective	Overview	Assessment Questions	Resources
Lesson 1	To know where Japan is in the world	Children use world maps to locate Japan and investigate the bodies of water and neighbouring countries around it. Using a detailed map of Japan the children learn about the main islands of Japan and its capital city. The children then record what they have learnt on their own map of Japan and answer questions about its location.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Can children locate Japan on a world map? Can children identify the surrounding seas, and oceans of Japan? Can children identify the capital city, and other major cities of Japan? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Slides Worksheets 1A/1B/1C Map of Japan Domino Cards (FSD? activity only)
Lesson 2	To use latitude and longitude to describe the position of Japan, and other countries on a map	Children explore the use of latitude and longitude when referring to a location on a world map. The lesson teaches children about meridian lines and how they can be used to pinpoint a location anywhere in the world. The children then go on to finding the countries that given co-ordinates are describing.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Can children identify Japan and Asia on a global map? Can children describe what a meridian line is? Are children able to use the latitude and longitude to pinpoint a country's location? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Slides Worksheets 2A/2B/2C/2D Atlases Computers/tablets (FSD? activity only)
Lesson 3	To learn about how earthquakes occur and the impact they have on a location.	In this lesson the children learn about how earthquakes occur and why Japan is particularly susceptible to them. Studying the fault lines and how earthquakes can affect a location, the children will investigate preventative and safety measures put in place. They play the role of safety officer in the classroom, identifying objects that could become hazards should an earthquake begin.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Can the children describe how an earthquake occurs? Can the children describe why Japan has more earthquakes than the UK? Can children identify hazards and safety precautions that could be put in place during an earthquake? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Slides Worksheets 3A/3B/3C/3D Challenge Card Felt tips (FSD? activity only) Plain paper (FSD? activity only)
Lesson 4	To identify the physical geography of Japan	In this lesson the children are challenge to identify the key physical features of Japan and compare these to the physical geography of the UK. The children will be able to investigate the mountains and volcanoes of Japan, as well as its lakes, hot springs and climates. They then comment on these features in a postcard or letter to a friend.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Can children give a definition of physical geography? Can children identify a physical feature of Japan? Can children compare and contrast the physical geography of Japan and the UK? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Slides Worksheet 4A/4B/4C Picture Cards Worksheet 4D (FSD? activity only) Watercolours/ pastels (FSD? activity only, optional)
Lesson 5	To explore the human geography of Japan	Exploring Japan's rich culture in this lesson allows the children to make detailed and meaningful comparisons with their own culture. They learn about the population and economy of Japan, and discuss things that have particularly affected each of them over the last 150 years. Children then go on to research their own facts about Japan or take influence from Japan's innovative culture by designing their own inventions.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Can children define the term human geography? Can children identify anything that might affect a nation's population? Can children compare the human geography of two locations? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Slides Worksheets 5A/5B/5C/5D Fact Cards Information Sheets Worksheets 5E (FSD? activity only) Challenge Cards (FSD? activity only)
Lesson 6	To compare the life of a Japanese school child with a UK school child	In this lesson the children explore the typical school day of a Japanese student and compare it to their own experiences. They then record their discussions about how similar and different the two schools are, or have a go at some traditional Japanese art forms.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Can children identify any similarities between a UK school and a Japanese school? Can children compare advantages and disadvantages to the different ways of education? Can children describe what a Japanese school is like? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Slides Worksheets 6A/6B/6C Fact cards Paintbrushes (FSD? activity only) Paint (FSD? activity only) Picture Cards (FSD? activity only) Worksheet 6D (FSD? activity only)