

Around the World in 28 Weeks: Art, Literature & Geography Lessons for Kindergarten

Week 4 Introduction, Lesson Plan, and Supply Lists

Introduction to Week 4

This week you will be returning with the children in your class to the continent of **Asia** and introducing them to the country of **Japan**. You can do the lesson plan activities in the order that you prefer.

Prep Work

- Gather book and supplies (see checklist on page 4)
- Print out handouts and 3-hole punch them for notebooks (see list on page 4)

Lesson Plan

Date and Destination (5 - 10 minutes)

Date: Third week of September**

Continent: Asia

Country: Japan

Pretend Passport: Please see Week 2 for suggestions on how to use the Play Passports during your lesson.

Reading (10 - 15 minutes)

Story:

Discussion: Ask questions to determine reading comprehension; tailor these to your children's ages and abilities. Depending on the size of your class and as time permits, try to allow each child to participate. Don't drag this part on too long or your kids will lose interest. Here are a few to get you started:

- Did you like the story? Why or why not?
- What was your favorite part?
- Questions based on the Who?, What?, Why?, When?, and How? of a story are great for getting kids thinking.

You may want to have your discussion time while you eat a snack.

Geography (5 - 15 minutes)

Globe or Wall Map Activity: With your class,

- find the Continent of Asia
- point out the different countries on the continent, including Japan
- find the capitol of Japan, Tokyo.

Japan Map Handout*: Pass out the *Map Handout* to your class and allow them to color the page as time permits. You may want this to be the last activity of your class so they can be kept busy until the next class starts or until their parents pick them up. Have the kids place their handouts in their **World Traveler Notebook** (3-ring binder) before they leave.

Art (20 - 30 minutes)

Gyotaku Art (Fish Prints): from *Global Art: Activities, Projects, and Inventions from Around the World* by MaryAnn F. Kohl and Jean Potter. Read the "Did You Know?" sidebar on page 62.

Global Art suggests an alternative to a real fish: a rubber fish. This gave me the idea of trying my daughter's small rubber animals, and they worked great! The paint cleaned off them completely. They are the sticky rubber kind so they stuck to the paper, but peeled off easily.

You need:

- Real fish OR rubber fish or other rubber animal
- Washable tempura paint
- Paintbrush for each paint color
- Pie tins or foam trays for paint
- Paper for printing (I used Crayola 10 x 8 Inches Marker and Watercolor Pad)
- Paper towels
- Newspapers or something else to protect tabletop
- Soap and water

The process:

Place the fish on plain piece of paper. Brush on a very thin layer of tempura paint (you can use more than one color). Work quickly so the paint doesn't dry. Take another plain piece of paper and press firmly on fish. Start in the middle and press all over without moving the paper. Then carefully peel off the paper.

(Note: The Global Art book gives more detailed instructions on how to prepare your real fish for an excellent print. For example, you can use straight pins to arrange the fins, and salt or sand to rough up the scales if you wish.)

Other Activities (10 - 15 minutes)

Japan Facts & Flag Handout*: Pass out and read this handout to your class and allow them to color the page as time permits. You may want this to be the last activity of your class so they can be kept busy until the next class starts or until their parents pick them up. Have the kids place their handouts in their **World Traveler Notebook** (3-ring binder) before they leave. (Free printable on post.)

*If there is not time in class, provide these as handouts for the kids to do at home. The pages can go in their World Traveler Notebooks as a record of their journeys.

**Our homeschool coop begins during the last week of August, but the *Around the World* course can be started at any time of year. Some re-arranging of the weekly plans may be necessary due to holidays, but with a little planning ahead of time, this should be very manageable.

Supply Lists

General Supply List

- Globe or large World Wall Map
- 3-Ring binder for each child for handouts, 1-1/2" size
- 3-Hole punch
- Date Stamp
- Computer and Printer (color printer is recommended)
- Markers, crayons, and/or colored pencils
- Roll of paper towels

Week 4 Supply List

- Book: *Grandfather's Journey* by Allen Say
- Book: *The Lion Storyteller Bedtime Book*
- Book: *Global Art: Activities, Projects, and Inventions from Around the World* by MaryAnn F. Kohl and Jean Potter
- Passports and World Traveler Notebooks for each child from Week 1
- Printables from this post: *Lesson Plan, Cruise Ship Tickets, Passport Stamps, Map Handout, and Facts & Flag Handout*

Supplies for Art Project

- Real fish OR rubber fish or other rubber animal
- Washable tempura paint
- Paintbrush for each paint color
- Pie tins or foam trays for paint
- Paper for printing (I used Crayola 10 x 8 Inches Marker and Watercolor Pad)
- Paper towels
- Newspapers or something else to protect tabletop
- Soap and water