



2023 Premier's reading challenge

Japanese book list

This book list is a guide to help students, parents, guardians and teachers select reading material. Students may select any suitable books.

*QDoE – Queensland Department of Education

Author	Title and book summary	JF/ F/ NF	Pages	Theme	ISBN
Bushika, Etsuko; Shinno, Megumi (illus)	<p>ほしにおねがい</p> <p>Wishing on a star</p> <p>The story of a young girl who made a wish on the day of the Tanabata Festival (Star Festival) and had her wish granted by a gallant little star. (Adapted from publisher)</p>	JF	28	Festivals Japanese mythology	9784876920501
Hiraki, Kazuo; Ichihara Jun (illus)	<p>もいもい</p> <p>Moi Moi</p> <p>A book for children that explores repetitive sounds of the Japanese language. (QDoE)</p>	JF	14	Japanese sounds	9784799321102
Iriyama, Satoshi	<p>パンダなりきりたいそう</p> <p>Exercising with panda</p> <p>The exercising panda stretches to make different shapes. (QDoE)</p>	JF	36	Movement	9784061991385
Ishizu, Chihiro; Murakami Yasanari (illus)	<p>すいか</p> <p>Watermelon</p> <p>What fun to visit Grandad in his watermelon patch! How will he tell which ones are ready to eat? Could he just listen to them? Would you like some of Grandad's yummy melon? (QDoE)</p>	JF	32	Onomatopoeia Food	9784338261111
Iwasaki, Kyouko; Nagano, Hideko (illus)	<p>ちさいなこいのぼりのぼうけん</p> <p>The adventures of the small carp</p> <p>Five small carp kites made by school children go flying one day. The are left next to an open window and are blown outside. They fly around the sky</p>	JF	28	Adventure Origami	9784876920488



Author	Title and book summary	JF/ F/ NF	Pages	Theme	ISBN
	exploring their new found freedom. (Adapted from publisher)				
Kagakui, Hiroshi	たるまさんの Daruma's ... Explore the tumbling doll's body parts. (QDoE)	JF	24	Body parts	9784893094476
Kagakui, Hiroshi	だるまさんが Daruma is ... Explore the tumbling doll's actions. (QDoE)	JF	20	Japanese onomatopoeia	9784893094315
Kagakui, Hiroshi	だるまさんと Daruma's with ... Explore the tumbling doll's friends. (QDoE)	JF	24	Japanese onomatopoeia Food	9784893094520
Kanaizumi, Sachiko	かものはしくんのわすれもの The things the platypus forgot Platypus goes on a journey to visit his grandma to give her a birthday present. What does he leave behind on the way? (QDoE)	JF	32	Gift giving	9784477031057
Kanazawa, Toshiko; Karino, Fukiko (illus)	おにのおめん The ogre's mask A story about the adventures of two boys and their family on the festival of Setsubun, the day before the beginning of spring according to the lunar calendar. (Adapted from publisher)	JF	28	Festivals	9784876920471
Kawabata, Makoto	おめでとう Congratulations Japanese people have many ways to wish people the best on different occasions. What is the best way to say congratulations? (QDoE)	JF	25	Manners	9784652002049
Kawabata, Makoto	さようなら Goodbye In Japanese there are lots of ways to say goodbye and bid farewell, depending on the occasion and with	JF	25	Greetings	9784652002087

Author	Title and book summary	JF/ F/ NF	Pages	Theme	ISBN
	whom you are speaking. What's the best word to use with whom and when? (QDoE)				
Kawabata, Makoto	こんにちは Hello Japanese people have many ways to say hello, depending on the occasion and with whom you are speaking. What's the best word to use with whom and when? (QDoE)	JF	25	Greetings	9784652002063
Kawabata, Makoto	ありがとう Thank you Japanese people value respect and have many different ways to say thank you, depending on the occasion. (QDoE)	JF	25	Manners	9784652002070
Kawabata, Makoto	じゅうにし せちりょうり 十二支のお節料理 The Zodiac animals' new year's feast Told in a humorous style, this illustrated story relates to the origins of the Japanese zodiac. The animals of the zodiac are given duties based on their talents. (QDoE)	JF	31	Japanese zodiac	9784892387418
Kayama, Yoshiko; Kakikimoto, Yukihiro (Kouzou) (illus)	どうぞのいす The kindness chair The kindness chair looks at the concept of giving. A donkey inadvertently leaves his acorns on the kindness chair and takes a nap. He awakes to find that his acorns have turned into chestnuts. (QDoE)	JF	32	Values	9784893252500
Kimura, Yuuichi	おいしいな! It's delicious isn't it A hard cover picture book that has secret openings to reveal food. (QDoE)	JF	10	Food	9784097341222
Kimura, Yuuichi	だーれだだれだ! Who is it? Who is it? A hard cover picture book that has secret openings to reveal hidden characters. (QDoE)	JF	10	Animals Games	9784097341239

Author	Title and book summary	JF/ F/ NF	Pages	Theme	ISBN
Kotter, Bill	<p>ぜったいにおしちやダメ</p> <p>Don't touch the button</p> <p>Discover what happens when you push a button that you were asked not to push. (QDoE)</p>	JF	32	Values	9784801400436
Mase, Naokata	<p>でんしゃでいこう</p> <p>Let's go by train</p> <p>Let's go by train explores the beautiful Japanese countryside from the comfort of a train. The readers guess what scenery they will see next as they travel through tunnels. (QDoE)</p>	JF	24	Transport	9784893254894
Matsunaga, Aki; Hayashi, Rui (illus)	<p>クレヨンぐるぐる</p> <p>Circling crayons</p> <p>This book explores crayon colours and the shapes they draw. (QDoE)</p>	JF	24	Colours	9784774315713
Matsunaga, Aki; Hayashi, Rui (illus)	<p>いろがみびりびり</p> <p>Torn pieces of coloured paper</p> <p>A piece of coloured paper is torn ... what will it be? (QDoE)</p>	JF	24	Imagination	9784774315720
Matsuno, Masako	<p>おしょうがつ</p> <p>New Year</p> <p>This book tells us the story of the traditional activities one Japanese family does on New Year's Day – a very special day of the year on the Japanese calendar. (QDoE)</p>	JF	28	Special occasions	9784876920426
Matsutani, Miyoko; Segawa, Yasuo (illus)	<p>いいおかお</p> <p>Smiley face</p> <p>Discover the power of a smile. (QDoE)</p>	JF	20	Body Animals	9784494001026
Matsutani, Miyoko; Segawa, Yasuo (illus)	<p>いないいないばあ</p> <p>Peek-a-boo</p> <p>Characters in the book play peek-a-boo. (QDoE)</p>	JF	20	Games	9784494001019
Matsutani, Miyoko; Segawa, Yasuo (illus)	<p>もうねんね</p> <p>Already asleep</p>	JF	20	Routines	9784494001033

Author	Title and book summary	JF/ F/ NF	Pages	Theme	ISBN
	Already asleep is a night time children's book looking at characters falling asleep. (QDoE)				
Miyano, Satoko	いちばんしあわせなおくりもの The best gift Two friends discover the value of friendship over material wealth. (QDoE)	JF	28	Friendship	9784774620619
Moriyama, Miyoko; Furiya, Kayoko (illus)	ももこのひなまつり Momoko's doll festival Momoko's birthday falls on the 3rd of March – the day of Hinamatsuri Doll Festival. Momoko and her family drive into the countryside to see the peach blossom and encounter an insight into this traditional festival. (Adapted from publisher)	JF	28	Festivals	9784876920464
Muir, Simal; Ichihara Jun (illus)	モイモイとキリー Moi Moi and Kiirii A book for children that explores repetitive sounds of the (Japanese) language. (QDoE)	JF	14	Japanese sounds	9784799321119
Murayama, Keiko; Mineyashi, Yamaguchi (illus)	もりのはみがき Brushing teeth in the forest Mr Hippo has a sore tooth. The forest animals try to help him feel better, but nothing works! He visits the dentist who fixes his tooth and sends Mr Hippo away with something he must use day and night. (QDoE)	JF	28	Health	9784876920495
Nakae, Yoshio; Ueno, Noriko (illus)	七五三きょうだい The siblings aged 7, 5 and 3 This book provides an amusing view of Japanese children and family life. The story concerns three siblings aged 3, 5 and 7, and their activities on the festival day known as 7, 5, 3 Age Festival (Shichi-go-san). (Adapted from publisher)	JF	28	Festivals	9784876920396
Nakaya, Miwa	そらまめくんのはらっぱあそび	JF	32	Imagination Craft	9784097266983

Author	Title and book summary	JF/ F/ NF	Pages	Theme	ISBN
	<p>One day in summer - Mr Broadbean plays in the field</p> <p>Mr Broadbean and his friends skillfully devise fun ideas for using the flowers and leaves found in summer fields. Step-by-step instructions for creating items from flowers and plants are included. (QDoE)</p>				
Nakaya, Miwa	<p>くろくとなぞのおばけ</p> <p>The crayons and the mysterious ghosts</p> <p>Follow the adventures of the black crayon as he tries to find out what has happened to all his crayon friends. This book explores the concept of death. (QDoE)</p>	JF	32	Colours Drawing Death	9784494025459
Oka, Nobuko; Tsuchida, Yoshiharu (illus)	<p>こぐまのまぐのなつやすみ</p> <p>Magu, the bear cub's summer holiday</p> <p>The story of a bear who finds himself with nothing to do in his summer holidays until his grandfather appears and says he will help him have some fun. (Adapted from publisher)</p>	JF	29	Holidays	9784876920518
Shinju, Mariko	<p>おべんとうバス</p> <p>The lunch box bus</p> <p>The lunch box bus examines food contained in a Japanese lunch box. The food characters board an imaginary bus. (QDoE)</p>	JF	20	Japanese food	9784893252227
Shinju, Mariko	<p>おててかいじゅうつみきのまちへ</p> <p>The hand monster attacks building block town</p> <p>Child play and imagination are explored in the context of a building block town being attacked by a large hand monster. (QDoE)</p>	JF	32	Imagination	9784569787046
Shinju, Mariko	<p>もったいないばあさん</p> <p>Mottainai (What a waste!) Grandma</p> <p>Mottainai is the Japanese word that relates to not appreciating gifts from nature or someone who made a</p>	JF	32	Sustainability Conservation	9784061323223

Author	Title and book summary	JF/ F/ NF	Pages	Theme	ISBN
	product. For example, being wasteful or using something carelessly or without consideration. In English it would be "What a waste!", "Do not waste!" (Adapted from publisher)				
Suzuki, Mamoru	てをつなぐ Holding Hands People of the world hold hands to show unity and friendship. (QDoE)	JF	32	Morals Occupations Animals Friendship	9784323024646
Suzuki, Miho	ぼくんちのシロ My shiro Nagi has a special friend whose name is Shiro. Together, they explore the neighbourhood and go on long walks. Everybody loves Shiro, and they often give him treats. Who do you think Shiro loves? (QDoE)	JF	32	Community	9784592762010
Suzuki, Noritake	すなばばば Sand Plays on the word sand pit in Japanese to explore different types of words associated with a sand pit. (QDoE)	JF	32	Play	9784569786124
Suzuki, Noritake	す〜べりだい The slippery slides Plays on the word slippery slide in Japanese to explore different types of slides. (QDoE)	JF	32	Play	9784569784489
Toyota, Kazuhiko	やまのおふろやさん The mountain bathhouse What a wonderful place! A hot, bubbling outdoor bath in the snow! No wonder so many creatures come to sit in it. Perhaps creatures in other cold places might enjoy this, too. (QDoE)	JF	24	Bathing	9784893252241
Watanabe, Shigeo; Ootomo, Yasuo (illus)	いただきます! Let's eat! Little Bear discovers that there is more than one way to eat a meal. (Adapted from publisher)	JF	24	Food Eating	9784834007824

Author	Title and book summary	JF/ F/ NF	Pages	Theme	ISBN
Watanabe, Shigeo; Ohtomo, Yasuo (illus)	<p>どうすればいいのかな？</p> <p>How do I put it on?</p> <p>Shirts, pants, shoes, hat — how does one put them on? With a little trial and error, Little Bear discovers he can do it all by himself. This picture book introduces the verbs for getting dressed, using hiragana for katakana words. (Adapted from publisher)</p>	JF	24	Clothing	9784834007688

eBooks (C2C)

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Author	Title and book summary	JF/ F/ NF	Pages	Theme	Link
Queensland Department of Education	<p>A day out with my family</p> <p>An eBook that models language used to describe a day out with family. Supports C2C Japanese Year P-2 Unit 8.</p>	JF	11	Family	https://learningplace.eq.edu.au/cx/resources/items/25eed0ea-7458-42d5-b8da-26aedcf7fd2/0/ViewIMS.jsp
Queensland Department of Education	<p>えきべんしんかんせん</p> <p>Japanese train station lunch</p> <p>An eBook that models language used to name food items in a Japanese lunch box. Supports C2C Japanese Years P-2 Unit 6.</p>	JF	26	Trains Bullet train Picnics Food	https://learningplace.eq.edu.au/cx/resources/items/3beab020-6d00-455e-b3b7-fbeeb9ca9fa/0/ViewIMS.jsp
Queensland Department of Education	<p>いっすんぼうし</p> <p>Inch High Samurai</p> <p>This resource retells the story of Issunboushi (Inch high samurai). Supports C2C Japanese Years P-2 Unit 11.</p>	JF	13	Traditional tales Stories	https://learningplace.eq.edu.au/cx/resources/items/4793578a-4e7d-4780-ae32-a74633200138/0/ViewIMS.jsp
Queensland Department of Education	<p>かぐやひめ</p> <p>Kaguyahime</p> <p>This eBook introduces students to the characters in the traditional Japanese tale about a bamboo cutter 'Kaguyahime'. Supports C2C Japanese Years 3-4 Unit 8.</p>	JF	11	Folktale	https://learningplace.eq.edu.au/cx/resources/items/d08a18cc-8eec-4d22-ae62-75d3093284da/0/ViewIMS.jsp

Queensland Department of Education	<p>ももたろう</p> <p>Peach Boy</p> <p>This resource introduces new vocabulary and language used in traditional tales or stories. Supports C2C Japanese Years P-2 Unit 11.</p>	JF	16	Traditional tales Stories	https://learningplace.eq.edu.au/cx/resources/items/2e8a42eaca35-4762-a30d-a4f209bad446/0/ViewWIMS.jsp
Queensland Department of Education	<p>にんじゃはどこですか？</p> <p>Where's Ninja?</p> <p>This eBook provides a narrative to support language and vocabulary relating to a traditional Japanese house. Supports C2C Japanese Years 3-4 Unit 1.</p>	JF	19	Traditional houses	https://learningplace.eq.edu.au/cx/resources/items/52c0667a-7fa9-4fa1-bbe1-aca738a932f4/0/ViewWIMS.jsp
Queensland Department of Education	<p>たぬきたろうと おに</p> <p>Taro the Raccoon and the Demon</p> <p>An eBook to introduce our mascot – Taro the Raccoon's adventure. Supports C2C Japanese Years P-2 Unit 12.</p>	JF	9	Mascots Adventure	https://learningplace.eq.edu.au/cx/resources/items/dd88a20b-8e72-413e-a96b-1a3594e6b7f9/0/ViewWIMS.jsp
Queensland Department of Education	<p>うらしまたろう</p> <p>Urashimataro</p> <p>This eBook consists of the traditional Japanese tale about a young angler 'Urashimataro'. Supports C2C Japanese Years 3-4 Unit 8.</p>	JF	13	Folktale	https://learningplace.eq.edu.au/cx/resources/items/b3b9f842-171c-4910-b4d3-64c46b2d6c5b/0/ViewWIMS.jsp