



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.

Note: The suggested books cover a range of themes and some books may be more suited to older children. Parental and/or teacher guidance is recommended when selecting texts to read.

*QDoE – Queensland Department of Education

| Author | Title and book summary | JF/ F/ NF | Pages | Theme | ISBN |
|--|--|--------------|-------|------------------------------------|--|
| Bushika, Etsuko; Shinno, Megumi (illus) | ほしにおねがい Wishing on a star 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) | JF | 28 | Festivals Japanese mythology | 9784876920501 Available at the Queensland Languages Library : JAP 394.26952 EVE |
| Hiraki, Kazuo; Ichiara Jun (illus) | もいもい Moi Moi A children's book that explores repetitive sounds of the Japanese language. (QDoE) | JF | 14 | Japanese sounds | 9784799321102 |
| Iriyama, Satoshi | パンダなりきりたいそう Exercising with panda The exercising panda stretches to make different shapes. (QDoE) | JF | 36 | Movement | 9784061991385 |
| Ishizu, Chihiro; Murakami Yasanari (illus) | すいか Watermelon 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) | JF | 32 | Onomatopoeia Food | 9784338261111 |
| Iwasaki, Kyouko; Nagano, Hideko (illus) | ちさいなこいのぼりのぼうけん The adventures of the small carp Five small carp kites made by school children go flying one day. The are left | JF | 28 | Adventure Origami | 9784876920488 Available at the Queensland Languages |



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|--|---|-----------|-------|-------------------------------|--|
| | next to an open window and are blown outside. They fly around the sky exploring their new found freedom. (Adapted from publisher) | | | | Library : JAP 394.26952 EVE |
| 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 Available at the Queensland Languages Library : JAP 394.26952 EVE |
| 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, | JF | 25 | Greetings | 9784652002087 |



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|--|--|-----------|-------|-----------------|---------------|
| | depending on the occasion and with 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 |
| Mase, Naokata | でんしゃでいこう Let's go by train <i>Let's go by train</i> explores the beautiful Japanese countryside from the comfort of a train. Readers guess what scenery | JF | 24 | Transport | 9784893254894 |



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|--|---|-----------|-------|-------------------|---|
| | they will see next as they travel through tunnels. (QDoE) | | | | |
| Matsunaga, Aki; Hayashi, Rui (illus) | クレヨンぐるぐる Circling crayons This book explores crayon colours and the shapes they draw. (QDoE) | JF | 24 | Colours | 9784774315713 |
| Matsunaga, Aki; Hayashi, Rui (illus) | いろがみびりびり Torn pieces of coloured paper A piece of coloured paper is torn ... what will it be? (QDoE) | JF | 24 | Imagination | 9784774315720 |
| Matsuno, Masako | おしょうがつ New Year This book tells 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) | JF | 28 | Special occasions | 9784876920426 Available at Queensland Languages Library : JAP 394.2614 EVE |
| Matsutani, Miyoko; Segawa, Yasuo (illus) | いいおかお Smiley face Discover the power of a smile. (QDoE) | JF | 20 | Body Animals | 9784494001026 |
| Matsutani, Miyoko; Segawa, Yasuo (illus) | いないいないばあ Peek-a-boo Characters in the book play peek-a-boo. (QDoE) | JF | 20 | Games | 9784494001019 |
| Matsutani, Miyoko; Segawa, Yasuo (illus) | もうねんね Already asleep Already asleep is a night time children's book looking at characters falling asleep. (QDoE) | JF | 20 | Routines | 9784494001033 |
| 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 | JF | 28 | Festivals | 9784876920464 |



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|---|---|-----------|-------|-----------------------|--|
| | Festival. Momoko and her family drive to the countryside to see the peach blossom and encounter an insight into this traditional festival. (Adapted from publisher) | | | | |
| Muira, Simal; Ichihara Jun (illus) | モイモイとキーラー Moi Moi and Kiirii A children's book 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 Available at Queensland Languages Library : JAP 394.26952 EVE |
| 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 One day in summer - Mr Broadbean plays in the field 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) | JF | 32 | Imagination Craft | 9784097266983 |
| Nakaya, Miwa | くろくんなぞのおばけ The crayons and the mysterious ghosts Follow the adventures of the black crayon as he tries to find out what has happened to all his crayon friends. This | JF | 32 | Colours Drawing Death | 9784494025459 |



| Author | Title and book summary | JF/ F/ NF | Pages | Theme | ISBN |
|--|---|-----------|-------|--|--|
| | book explores the concept of death. (QDoE) | | | | |
| Oka, Nobuko; Tsuchida, Yoshiharu (illus) | こぐまのまぐのなつやすみ Magu, the bear cub's summer holiday 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 the bear have some fun. (Adapted from publisher) | JF | 29 | Holidays | 9784876920518 Available at the Queensland Languages Library : JAP 394.26952 EVE |
| Shinju, Mariko | おべんとうバス The lunch box bus The lunch box bus examines food contained in a Japanese lunch box. The food characters board an imaginary bus. (QDoE) | JF | 20 | Japanese food | 9784893252227 |
| Shinju, Mariko | おててかいじゅうつみきのまちへ The hand monster attacks building block town Child play and imagination are explored in the context of a building block town being attacked by a large hand monster. (QDoE) | JF | 32 | Imagination | 9784569787046 |
| Shinju, Mariko | もったいないばあさん Mottainai (What a waste!) Grandma Mottainai is the Japanese word that relates to not appreciating gifts from nature or someone who made a 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) | JF | 32 | Sustainability Conservation | 9784061323223 |
| 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 | JF | 32 | Community | 9784592762010 |



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|---|--|-----------|-------|-------------|---------------|
| | neighbourhood and go on long walks. Everybody loves Shiro, and they often give him treats. Who do you think Shiro loves? (QDoE) | | | | |
| Suzuki, Noritake | すなばば 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 |
| Watanabe, Shigeo; Ohtomo, Yasuo (illus) | どうすればいいのかな? How do I put it on? 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) | JF | 24 | Clothing | 9784834007688 |

Please note: Some books on the Japanese booklist are available for loan through the Queensland Languages Library (for teachers in Queensland schools). Please contact the Queensland Languages Library for any enquiries about sourcing books on this list – email: Languages.Library@brisbanesde.eq.edu.au



eBooks (C2C)

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| Author | Title and book summary | JF/ F/ NF | Pages | Theme | Link |
|------------------------------------|---|-----------|-------|---|---|
| Queensland Department of Education | A day out with my family An eBook that models language used to describe a day out with family. Supports C2C Japanese Year P-2 Unit 8. | JF | 11 | Family | https://learningplace.eq.edu.au/cx/resources/items/25eed0ea-7458-42d5-b8da-26aedcf7bd2/0/ViewWIMS.jsp |
| Queensland Department of Education | えきべんしんかんせん Japanese train station lunch An eBook that models language used to name food items in a Japanese lunch box. Supports C2C Japanese Years P-2 Unit 6. | JF | 26 | Trains Bullet train Picnics Food | https://learningplace.eq.edu.au/cx/resources/items/3beab020-6d00-455e-b3b7-fbeeb9ca9fa/0/ViewWIMS.jsp |
| Queensland Department of Education | いっすんぼうし Inch High Samurai This resource retells the story of Issunboushi (Inch high samurai). Supports C2C Japanese Years P-2 Unit 11. | JF | 13 | Traditional tales Stories | https://learningplace.eq.edu.au/cx/resources/items/4793578a-4e7d-4780-ae32-a74633200138/0/ViewWIMS.jsp |
| Queensland Department of Education | かぐやひめ Kaguyahime 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. | JF | 11 | Folktale | https://learningplace.eq.edu.au/cx/resources/items/d08a18cc-8eec-4d22-ae62-75d3093284da/0/ViewWIMS.jsp |
| Queensland Department of Education | ももたろう Peach Boy | JF | 16 | Traditional tales Stories | https://learningplace.eq.edu.au/cx/resources/items/2e8a42ea- |



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|------------------------------------|---|----|----|--------------------|---|
| | This resource introduces new vocabulary and language used in traditional tales or stories. Supports C2C Japanese Years P-2 Unit 11. | | | | ca35-4762-a30d-a4f209bad446/0/ViewIMS.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/ViewIMS.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/ViewIMS.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/ViewIMS.jsp |

