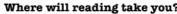
2025 Premier's reading challenge





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)	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 https://www.amazon.com/Pictu re-book-events-story- Tanabata/dp/4876920508
Hiraki, Kazuo; Ichihara Jun (illus)	ี่ Moi Moi A book for children that explores repetitive sounds of the Japanese language. (QDoE)	JF	14	Japanese sounds	9784799321102 https://www.languageint.com .au/product/12570
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 https://australia.kinokuniya.c om/bw/9784061991385
Ishizu, Chihiro; Murakami Yasanari (illus)	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 https://www.komineshoten.c o.jp/search/result.php?keyw ord=9784338261111
lwasaki, 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 next to an open window and are blown outside. They fly around the sky	JF	28	Adventure Origami	9784876920488 https://www.am azon.co.jp/%E3 %81%A1%E3% 81%84%E3%81 %95%E3%81% AA%E3%81%9 3%E3%81%84



Author	Title and book summary	JF/ F/ NF	Pages	Theme	ISBN
	exploring their new found freedom. (Adapted from publisher)				%E3%81%AE% E3%81%BC%E 3%82%8A%E3 %81%AE%E3% 81%BC%E3%8 1%86%E3%81 %91%E3%82% 93-%E8%A1%8 C%E4%BA%8B %E3%81%AE% E3%81%88%E3 %81%BB%E3% 82%93-%E5%B 2%A9%E5%B4 %8E-%E4%BA %AC%E5%AD %90/dp/487692 0486
Kagakui, Hiroshi	たるまさんの Daruma's Explore the tumbling doll's body parts. (QDoE)	JF	24	Body parts	9784893094476 https://www.languageint.com .au/product/12565
Kagakui, Hiroshi	だるまさんが Daruma is Explore the tumbling doll's actions. (QDoE)	JF	20	Japanese onomatopoeia	9784893094315 https://www.languageint.com .au/product/12564
Kagakui, Hiroshi	だるまさんと Daruma's with Explore the tumbling doll's friends. (QDoE)	JF	24	Japanese onomatopoeia Food	9784893094520 https://www.languageint.com .au/product/12566
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 https://www.amazon.com.au/ %E3%81%8B%E3%82%82 %E3%81%AE%E3%81%AF %E3%82%93%E3%81%AE %E3%82%93%E3%81%99 %E3%82%8F%E3%81%99 %E3%82%8F%E3%82%62 %E3%81%AE/dp/44770310 5X
Kanazawa, Toshiko; Karino, Fukiko (illus)	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	JF	28	Festivals	9784876920471 https://www.kinokuniya.co.jp/ f/dsg-01-9784876920471

Author	Title and book summary	JF/ F/ NF	Pages	Theme	ISBN
	of spring according to the lunar calendar. (Adapted from publisher)				
Kawabata, Makoto	おめてとう 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 https://australia.kinokuniya.com/products?utf8=%E2%9C%93&is_searching=true&restrictBy%5Bavailable_only%5D=1&keywords=9784652002049&taxon=&x=0&y=0
Kawabata, Makoto	でようなら Goodbye In Japanese there are lots of ways to say goodbye and bid farewell, 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	9784652002087 https://www.amazon.com/% E3%81%95%E3%82%88% E3%81%86%E3%81%AA% E3%882%89- %E3%881%859%E3%81%A4 %E3%81%95%E3%81%A4 %E3%81%AE%E3%81%AE%B5%B5 %E6%9C%AC/dp/46520020 84
Kawabata, Makoto	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 https://www.ehonnavi.net/eh on/10194/%E3%81%93%E3 %82%93%E3%81%AB%E3 %81%A1%E3%81%AF/
Kawabata, Makoto	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 https://www.ehonnavi.net/ehon00.asp?no=2518
Kayama, Yoshiko; Kakikimoto, Yukihiro (Kouzou) (illus)	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 https://www.abebooks.com/9 784893252500/Yoshiko- Kayama-489325250X/plp
Kimura, Yuuichi	おいしいな! It's delicious isn't it	JF	10	Food	9784097341222 https://www.ehonnavi.net/eh on00.asp?no=7962

Author	Title and book summary	JF/ F/ NF	Pages	Theme	ISBN
	A hard cover picture book that has secret openings to reveal food. (QDoE)				
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 https://www.ehonnavi.net/eh on00.asp?no=3254
Kotter, Bill	ぜったいにおしちゃダメ Don't touch the button Discover what happens when you push a button that you were asked not to push. (QDoE)	JF	32	Values	9784801400436 https://www.amazon.com/Do nt-Push-the-Button- Japanese/dp/4801400434?l anguage=en_US
Mase, Naokata	てんしゃていこう Let's go by train 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)	JF	24	Transport	9784893254894 https://www.kinokuniya.co.jp/ f/dsg-01-9784893254894
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 https://www.amazon.com.au/ Crayon-round-first- encounters- picture/dp/4774315710
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 https://www.amazon.com.au/ Colored-Paper-Rattling- Encounters- Picture/dp/4774315729
Matsuno, Masako	New Year 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)	JF	28	Special occasions	9784876920426 https://www.amazon.com/% E3%81%8A%E3%81%97% E3%82%87%E3%81%86% E3%81%8C%E3%81%A8% E3%81%AC%E3%81%A8B% E3%81%AE%E3%81%88% E3%81%BB%E3%82%93/d p/4876920427
Matsutani, Miyoko; Segawa, Yasuo (illus)	いいおかお Smiley face Discover the power of a smile. (QDoE)	JF	20	Body Animals	9784494001026 https://www.abebooks.com/9 784494001026/Happy-Face- Japanese-Edition-Matsutani- 4494001023/plp

Author	Title and book summary	JF/ F/ NF	Pages	Theme	ISBN
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 https://www.abebooks.com/9 784494001019/Peekaboo- Japanese-Edition-Matsutani- Miyoko-4494001015/plp
Matsutani, Miyoko; Segawa, Yasuo (illus)	ปาลผล Already asleep Already asleep is a night time children's book looking at characters falling asleep. (QDoE)	JF	20	Routines	9784494001033 https://www.amazon.com/Ti me-Sleep-Japanese-Miyoko- Matsutani/dp/4494001031
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 https://www.amazon.com.au/ %E3%81%844%E3%81%A1 %E3%81%B0%E3%82%93 %E3%81%97%E3%81%92 %E3%81%97%E3%81%98 %E3%81%AA%E3%81%8A %E3%81%AF%E3%81%8A %E3%81%AF%E3%82%86 %E8%82%E3%81%AE- %E5%AE%AE%E9%87%8E %E8%61%A1%E5%AD%90 /dp/4774620610
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 https://www.amazon.com/Pic ture-book-events-Momoko- Festival/dp/487692046X
Muira, Simal; Ichihara Jun (illus)	モイモイとキーリー Moi Moi and Kiirii A book for children that explores repetitive sounds of the (Japanese) language. (QDoE)	JF	14	Japanese sounds	9784799321119 https://www.amazon.com/- /ess/%E3%811%BF%E3%81 %86%E3%82%89%E3%81 %97%EF%BD%9E%E3%81 %BE%E3%82%8B/dp/4799 321110
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 https://www.kinokuniya.co.jp/ f/dsg-01-9784876920495
Nakae, Yoshio;	七五三きょうだい The siblings aged 7, 5 and 3	JF	28	Festivals	9784876920396 https://www.amazon.com/Pic ture-book-event-Seven-Five-

Author	Title and book summary	JF/ F/ NF	Pages	Theme	ISBN
Ueno, Noriko (illus)	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)				Three- Festival/dp/4876920397
	そらまめくんのはらっぱあそび				
	One day in summer - Mr Broadbean plays in the field				
Nakaya, Miwa	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 https://japanesebooks.jp/en/ children/1334/
	くろくんとなぞのおばけ				
Nakaya, Miwa	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 book explores the concept of death. (QDoE)	JF	32	Colours Drawing Death	9784494025459 https://www.amazon.com/Kurokun-Nazo-No-Obake-Japanese/dp/4494025453
	こぐまのまぐのなつやすみ				
Oka, Nobuko; Tsuchida, Yoshiharu (illus)	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 him have some fun. (Adapted from publisher)	JF	29	Holidays	9784876920518 https://www.amazon.com/Pic ture-book-event-summer- vacation/dp/4876920516
	おべんとうバス				
Shinju, Mariko	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	978489325227 https://www.amazon.com.au/ %E3%81%8A%E3%81%B9 %E3%82%93%E3%81%A8 %E3%81%86%E3%83%90 %E3%82%B9/dp/48932522 24
	もったいないばあさん				
Shinju,	Mottainai (What a waste!) Grandma	JF	32	Sustainability	9784061323223
Mariko	Mottainai is the Japanese word that relates to not appreciating gifts from nature or someone who made a		<u> </u>	Conservation	https://www.languageint.com .au/product/578

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)				
	てをつなぐ			Morals	9784323024646
Suzuki,	Holding Hands	JF	32	Occupations	https://www.amazon.com.au/% E3%81%A6%E3%82%92%E3 %81%A4%E3%81%AA%E3%
Mamoru	People of the world hold hands to show unity and friendship. (QDoE)	0.	32	Animals Friendship	%81%90- %E9%88%B4%E6%9C%A8- %E3%81%BE%E3%82%82% E3%82%8B/dp/4323024649
	ぼくんちのシロ				9784592762010
	My shiro				https://www.amazon.com.au/ %E3%81%BC%E3%81%8F
Suzuki, Miho	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	%E3%82%93%E3%81%A1 %E3%82%93%E3%82%B7 %E3%83%AD- MOE%E3%81%AE%E3%81 %88%E3%81%BB%E3%82 %93- %E3%81%99%E3%81%9A %E3%81%BD- %E3%81%BF%E3%81%BB /dp/4592762010
	すなばばば				
Suzuki,	Sand	JF		Play	9784569786124
Noritake	Plays on the word sand pit in Japanese to explore different types of words associated with a sand pit. (QDoE)		32		https://www.cdjapan.co.jp/pr oduct/NEOBK-2034321
	す~べりだい				
Suzuki,	The slippery slides			Play https://www.cdjapan.co.jg oduct/NEOBK-2034321	9784569784489
Noritake	Plays on the word slippery slide in Japanese to explore different types of slides. (QDoE)	JF	32		https://www.cdjapan.co.jp/pr oduct/NEOBK-1774993
	やまのおふろやさん				
	The mountain bathhouse				
Toyota, Kazuhiko	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 https://www.ehonnavi.net/ehon00.asp?no=12049
	いただきます!				
Watanabe, Shigeo;	Let's eat!			Food	9784834007824
Ootomo, Yasuo (illus)	Little Bear discovers that there is more than one way to eat a meal. (Adapted from publisher)	JF	24	Eating	https://www.ehonnavi.net/eh on00.asp?no=1005

Author	Title and book summary	JF/ F/ NF	Pages	Theme	ISBN
Watanabe, Shigeo; Ohtomo, Yasuo (illus)	と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 https://www.amazon.com.au/ %E3%81%A9%E3%81%86 %E3%81%99%E3%82%80 %E3%81%99%E3%81%84 %E3%81%B0%E3%81%84 %E3%81%B0%E3%81%AA -%E5%B9%BC%E5%85%9 0%E7%B5%B5%E6%90%A C%E3%882%B7%E3%83%A A%E3%83%BC%E3%82%B A-%E3%81%97%E3%81%9 F%E3%81%AA%E3%81%99 %E3%81%A7%E33%81%95 %E3%81%A7%E33%81%95 %E3%81%A7%E33%81%95 %E3%81%A7%E33%81%95 %E3%81%A7%E33%81%95

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/resour ces/items/25eed0ea- 7458-42d5-b8da- 26aedcf7fbd2/0/Vie wIMS.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/resour ces/items/3beab020- 6d00-455e-b3b7- fbeeeb9ca9fa/0/Vie wIMS.jsp
Queensland Department of Education	いっすんぽうし 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/resour ces/items/4793578a- 4e7d-4780-ae32- a74633200138/0/Vie wIMS.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/resour ces/items/d08a18cc- 8eec-4d22-ae62- 75d3093284da/0/Vie wIMS.jsp

Queensland Department of Education	ももたろう Peach Boy This resource introduces new vocabulary and language used in traditional tales or stories. Supports C2C Japanese Years P-2 Unit 11.	JF	16	Traditional tales Stories	https://learningplace. eq.edu.au/cx/resour ces/items/2e8a42ea- ca35-4762-a30d- a4f209bad446/0/Vie wIMS.jsp
Queensland Department of Education	Where's Ninja? This eBook provides a narrative to support language and vocabulary relating to a traditional Japanese house. Supports C2C Japanese Years 3-4 Unit 1.	JF	19	Traditional houses	https://learningplace. eq.edu.au/cx/resour ces/items/52c0667a- 7fa9-4fa1-bbe1- aca738a932f4/0/Vie wIMS.jsp
Queensland Department of Education	たぬきたろうと おに Taro the Racoon and the Demon An eBook to introduce our mascot – Taro the Racoon's adventure. Supports C2C Japanese Years P-2 Unit 12.	JF	9	Mascots Adventure	https://learningplace. eq.edu.au/cx/resour ces/items/dd88a20b- 8e72-413e-a96b- 1a3594e6b7f9/0/Vie wIMS.jsp
Queensland Department of Education	うらしまたろう Urashimataro This eBook consists of the traditional Japanese tale about a young angler 'Urashimataro'. Supports C2C Japanese Years 3-4 Unit 8.	JF	13	Folktale	https://learningplace. eq.edu.au/cx/resour ces/items/b3b9f842- 171c-4910-b4d3- 64c46b2d6c5b/0/Vie wIMS.jsp