
Japanese Businesses in the United States

<i>Title</i>	Japanese Businesses in the United States
<i>Subject</i>	Economics
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<i>Grade level</i>	12
<i>Time duration</i>	5 Days
<i>Overview</i>	Japan and the United States have a special relationship. This relationship is both military and economic, and has done more to contribute to the relative stability in the Asia Pacific region for the past 40 years than any other factor. It is vital for American students to better appreciate and understand this connection so that it is preserved and promoted.
<i>Objective</i>	Students will develop a deeper understanding of the economic ties between Japan and the United States by researching Japanese businesses operating in the United States.
<i>Materials</i>	Internet access, trifold presentation board or other form of creative presentation (approved by teacher), PowerPoint or Prezi presentations.
<i>Activities and procedures</i>	<p>Day 1: Begin background research by reading current news articles about Japan, especially articles about the Japanese economy and Japanese businesses in the United States.</p> <p>Day 2: Narrow research by compiling a list of at least five Japanese companies with operations in the United States (preferably in the states in which students live), from which they will select one to focus on. Begin earnest research on selected company.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">What does the company do—past, current, and future activities?How many employees locally, nationally, internationally?Total revenues? Total federal, state, local taxes paid?Types of jobs available? Education required? Growth outlook? <p>Day 3: Continue research. Begin gathering or creating visual aids for presentation. Begin work on final presentation.</p> <p>Day 4: Complete research. Complete visual aids. Complete final presentation.</p> <p>Day 5: Present findings to classmates.</p>
<i>Conclusions</i>	Students now have a foundational depth of knowledge regarding Japan's economic relationship with the United States. This is particularly useful in class as these businesses can be used as real-world examples to teach students about international trade and finance. Students also better recognize the special relationship that exists between Japan and the United States and the powerful role economics plays in it.
<i>Extra credit</i>	Conduct an interview with a representative from the Japanese business you have researched and present your findings to the class.
