

Keizai Koho Center- student lesson plan

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7th grade

Lesson Objective: Students will engage in an inquiry-based lesson that explores the diverse aspects of Japanese society and culture, including its traditions, social structures, and contemporary influences. As key resources for this lesson, I will use my rich experiences through the KKC study tour to be a primary source for my students. I will utilize photos and videos taken during my time in Japan during direct instruction to lay the foundation for what society and culture means.

1. Identify key components of Japanese society and culture, including traditions, customs, and social structure.
2. Explain the significance of various cultural practices in Japan, such as festivals and cuisine.
3. Demonstrate knowledge by participating in a cultural activity that reflects Japanese traditions.
4. Compare and contrast Japanese culture with that of another country.
5. Assess the impact of globalization on Japanese society and culture.

Prior Knowledge and Key Vocabulary

- Basic understanding of world geography.
- Key vocabulary: customs, traditions, social norms, society, culture
- Identify prior knowledge about different countries and societies.

Direct Instruction

1. Mini-Lecture: Introduce Japanese society and culture, including history, customs, and social norms using my own photos, anecdotal stories, and artifacts from my KKC trip .
2. Video Presentation: Show a short video presentation highlighting festivals, cuisine, and daily life in Japan, again using video taken during my trip, supplementing with other video clips as needed.
3. Engage students in a discussion about their perceptions of Japan and what they would like to learn.

Workshop- individual or small group inquiry research

1. Cultural Research Assignment: Students research a specific aspect of Japanese culture and prepare a brief presentation after choosing an inquiry question below.

2. Reflection Journal: Students write a journal entry about what they learned and how it compares to their own culture.
3. Cultural Artifact Creation: Create a simple cultural artifact, such as a origami piece or a calligraphy work, to explore Japanese art.

INQUIRY QUESTIONS: designed for students to work in small groups to build understanding of Japanese culture and society and foster understanding.

How do traditional Japanese customs, like tea ceremonies and calligraphy, reflect the values of Japanese society?

What role does family play in Japanese culture, and how are Japanese families similar to or different from families in other countries?

What are the most important holidays in Japan, and how do people celebrate them?

How has Japan's history, particularly the influence of samurai and emperors, shaped its modern culture?

What are the key elements of Japanese pop culture, such as anime, manga, and video games, and why are they popular worldwide?

How does Japan balance modern technological advancements with preserving its ancient traditions?

What is the role of religion, particularly Shintoism and Buddhism, in Japanese society today?

How does Japan's education system compare to education systems in other parts of the world?

How do traditional Japanese arts, such as origami, ikebana (flower arranging), and kabuki theater, reflect Japanese culture?

What are some key differences between rural and urban life in Japan, and how do these differences impact society?

How have Japan's interactions with other countries influenced its culture throughout history?

What is the significance of sumo wrestling in Japanese culture, and how does it reflect the country's history?

How do Japanese people show respect in everyday life, and how is respect important in their culture?

In what ways has Japanese fashion changed over time, and how do traditional styles, like kimonos, continue to be part of modern life?

Celebration of Learning:

Cultural Fair: In small groups, students create a booth showcasing different aspects of Japanese culture (food, traditions, etc.) to present to the class.

Formative Assessment Measures

1. Students write one thing they learned about Japanese culture and one question they still have from each inquiry project presentation.

Summative Constructive Response

1. What are the ways that cultural traditions shape the identity of a society?
2. In what ways can understanding a different culture enhance our appreciation of our own?
3. How do societal values in Japan compare to those in your culture?
4. What role do festivals play in maintaining cultural heritage in Japan?