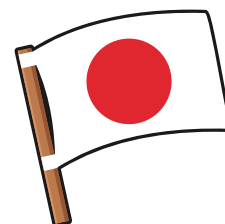


FESTIVALS AROUND THE WORLD

JAPAN

MOUNTAIN DAY



Watch a short video on how the Mountain Day Festival is celebrated in Japan and take part in activities from that culture.

COUNTRY QUIZ TIME

Q1. True or false: Japanese video game company SONY invented Pokemon?

False. Nintendo was founded in 1889 in Kyoto, Japan and is now one of the worlds large video game company. It has well known franchises such as Pokemon, Mario and Legend of Zelda.

Q2. True or false: Cleaning is a normal part of daily school schedule?

True. Order is an important thing in Japanese culture. Schools have students clean their toilets, classrooms and school areas to learn life skills and teach responsibility.

Q3. True or false: trains are a form of transport that floats in Japan?

True. There are bullet trains in Japan called Shinkansen that 'floats' above the tracks using magnetism. It can go up to speeds of 311 mph!

Q4. True or false: The Japanese Imperial family existed in Jesus' time?

True. The imperial family of Japan descends from an unbroken lineage of nearly 2,000 years. No other royal family in history has held this position for so long, the first emperor ruled at the time of Christ.

Q5. True or false: The Japanese express thanks before a meal?

True. The Japanese put their palms together and say 'Itadakimasu' before eating to say 'thank you'. It is a Buddhist way of respecting all living things that went into your meal.

ACTIVITY TIME:

One: Colour in a Japanese lady wearing traditional clothes and Mt Fuji.

<https://www.education.com/worksheet/article/color-mt-fuji-japan/>

Two: Make a Mt Fuji storage box. <https://www.theideaking.com/2020/03/tutorial-149-mount-fuji-box.html>

Three: Cook some delicious Yakitori chicken, great snack after long

walks!<https://www.kidspot.com.au/kitchen/recipes/japanese-yakitori-recipe/sdapn8qj>

VIDEO EXPLAINING MOUNTAIN DAY FESTIVAL IN JAPAN

When is it celebrated?

Mountain Day is the newest national holiday in Japan. Since 2016, it is celebrated around August 11th of each year.

Why is it celebrated?

Mountain Day is a time for all Japanese people who live in packed urban cities to ponder the natural blessings that mountains offer. This is reflective of Shintoism, one of the major religions in the country.

How is it celebrated?

As it is a modern holiday, there are no particular traditional ceremonies set. About 70% of Japan is mountainous so people are encouraged to meditate and worship as Shinto monks did in the past.

What happens at the festival?

Hiking is a popular activity on the day, with senior citizens going hill-walking. Many people plan a trip to the mountains as a getaway from the bustling cities.

For younger folk, many are exploring the mountains through biking trails, camping and climbing.



PRAYER TIME:

1. People: Give thanks to God for the people of Japan, whom he made and loves. Pray that we can love them too.
2. Children: Pray for the children of Japan, that they will get to know the love of Jesus as they grow up.
3. Place: Pray for believers in Japan to confidently share about God, almighty creator of the mountains and universe to their family and friends during this event.

