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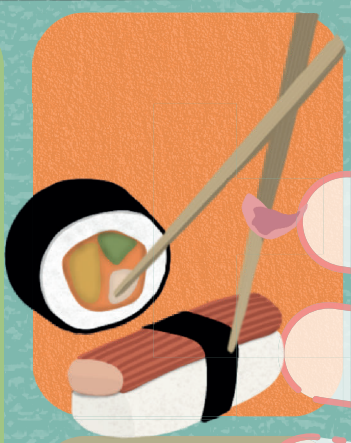
BILLIONS

kids' edition 2025





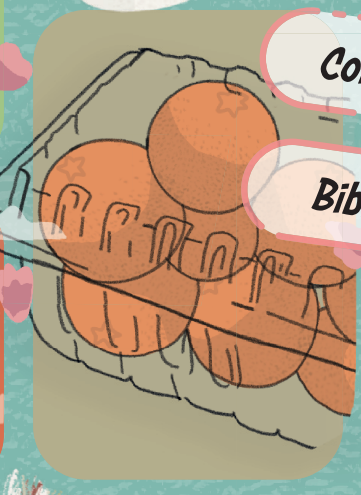




- Exciting stories
- Puzzles
- Colouring sheets
- Bible activities









Hello!

What do you think of when you hear about Japan? Maybe it's the beautiful cherry blossom, the tasty food or the newest technology?

What about the Church in Japan? Discover more about Japan and the huge opportunities to share Jesus' love there through these pages. We've packed them with stories, recipies, activities and colouring pages.

We hope this **'BILLIONS: KIDS EDITION'** helps you join in with God's global plan right where you are.



Reuben Grace
Editor and author of 'A Taste of Asia'

If you enjoy this mini magazine, we have a whole book to help you keep exploring. *'A Taste of Asia'* takes you and your family on a devotional adventure to see why Jesus is good news for the people and places of East Asia.

Order your copy today at:
go.omf.org/tasteofasia



OMF Heart for Asia. Hope for Billions.

We are OMF International, founded by James Hudson Taylor in 1865 as the China Inland Mission. We serve the Church and share the good news of Jesus Christ in all its fullness with the people of East Asia.

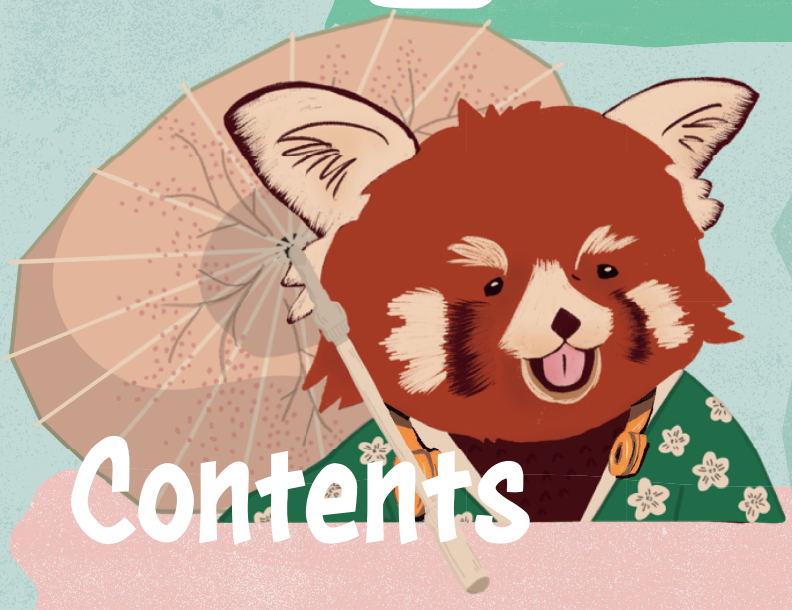
'Billions' magazine started life as 'China's Millions' in 1875, the title highlighted the numbers of people without the hope of Christ. In 2000 we changed the name to reflect East Asia's growing population. Today we still want to help all Christians get involved in God's global plan and to pursue every avenue to reach East Asians for Jesus.

The full magazine for grown-ups comes out three times a year and is free for supporters. You can subscribe to get it by post or by email at omf.org/uk/billions

Read more at:

Explore **Thailand** and **China**: Learn about their history, wildlife, food, religion and more in our **Kids Exploring East Asia podcast** episodes.

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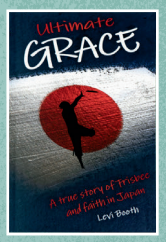
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Frisbee for Jesus

This story is from 'Ultimate Grace', find out more at

omf.org/uk/resource/ultimate-grace



When you think of places where people need to hear about Jesus, where do you imagine? A remote village in the jungle? Or maybe a tropical island? Somewhere where you'd have to be careful not to be eaten by the local wildlife. You probably don't think of Japan.

But at his university in Leeds, England, Levi met some Japanese students who had never met a Christian back home. They aren't the only ones. Most Japanese people will probably go their whole lives without hearing the life changing good news of Jesus. There are whole cities with no known church. How sad is that?

So Levi was determined to go to Japan and do something about it. What could he do? He considered his options: he wanted to help Japanese churches, but he didn't play any musical instruments or speak Japanese well enough to preach. He wanted to tell people about Jesus, but not in big crowds. Lots of people in Japan want to learn English, but Levi didn't enjoy teaching it.

So what on earth could he do?

Then Levi remembered. He remembered a little-known sport he loved playing in Leeds. You might even say it was the ultimate sport. (He would). So Levi found an Ultimate Frisbee team and dived right in; soon he was playing his first tournament in Japan within sight of Mount Fuji. There he discovered three things: he loved Japan, he loved Ultimate Frisbee and he wanted to use Frisbee to share Jesus with the Japanese. And God has used Levi – just as he was – ever since to share the ultimate good news.

FATHER GOD, PLEASE GIVE US CREATIVE IDEAS TO USE OUR SKILLS AND THE THINGS WE LOVE TO DO AS WAYS OF MAKING JESUS KNOWN. AMEN.



HOW MIGHT JESUS USE YOUR GIFTS TO SHOW HIS GRACE?

Colour This Train

With top speeds over 300mph Japan's Shinkansen trains are some of the fastest trains in the world!



Pray for a Missionary!

Pray that God will give us an opportunity to tell people his message.

Colossians 4:3

As the apostle Paul writes his letters to new churches, he tells them what he is praying for them. But here in Colossians he asks the Christians there to pray for him. He wants them to pray for open doors for the message, he means chances to talk about Jesus with the people he meets. It is exciting that God can use our prayers, wherever we are, to help people we've never met to hear the good news of Jesus. This is one reason it is great to pray for people living and working for Jesus in other countries.

Why not use Paul's words and the ideas below to write a prayer for a missionary you know who is living in another country to tell people the good news about Jesus.

Health

In many parts of the world life can be more dangerous and getting help from a doctor might be harder than here in the UK.

The leaders in their country

The Bible tells us we should pray for kings and governments (1 Timothy 2:1-2). See what you can find out about the country your missionary lives in and pray for the leaders.



Language

To make friends and speak clearly about Jesus many overseas workers need to learn a new language. Sometimes this can take years of lessons!

Friends and family

Living in a faraway country can sometimes be lonely and some missionaries have left all their friends and family behind whilst living overseas.

Dear God, I pray for _____

_____

_____

_____

_____

Amen.

Fun Facts about Japan

The world's snowiest country

Japan is the world's snowiest country! Their record for the deepest snow hasn't been beaten in almost 100 years! It is one of the world's top destinations for skiing and snowboarding.









Slurping noodles

When you eat in Japan, it's good manners to slurp your noodles!

National flower

Each year, people in Japan gather together to see the cherry blossom bloom from March to May.



Sumo wrestling

Its origins go all the way back to the Yayoi period (300 BC – AD 300) and because of the rituals and traditions of the sport, it has been closely linked to the Shinto religion.



Turkey replacement

On Christmas Eve, it's traditional to eat KFC!

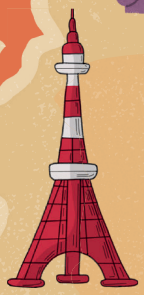




Vending machines

1 vending machine for every 24 people.





Largest city in the world

Tokyo is the largest city in the world, with a population of 37 million people.





Anti-ninja flooring

During the 1200s, wealthy Japanese lords built homes with squeaky floors (known as nightingale floors) as a defence against ninjas.

Around 1,250 beaches

Okinawa is south of the rest of Japan, it is best known for its picture-perfect beaches, historic places, and delicious food.



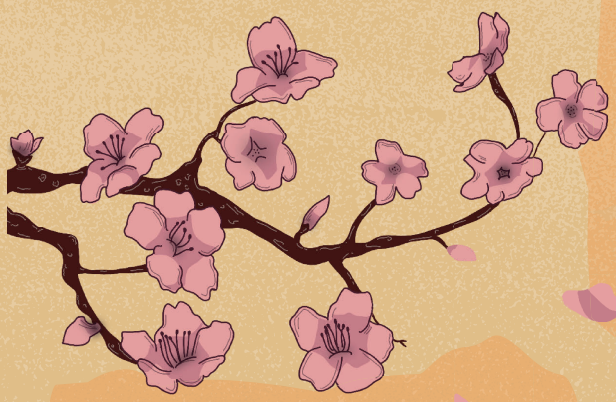
Highest mountain in Japan

Mount Fuji is an active volcano and a cultural icon of Japan.



CROSSWORD

Find hints on the cover, p.3, 4, 7, 8 and 9, answers on p.11.

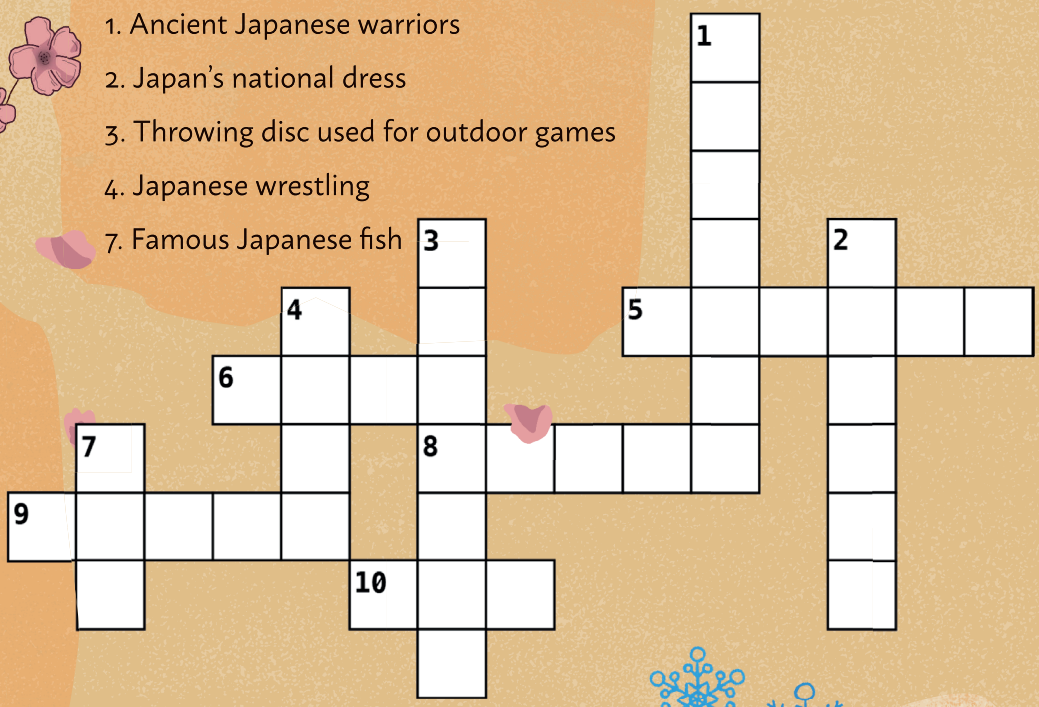


Down

1. Ancient Japanese warriors
2. Japan's national dress
3. Throwing disc used for outdoor games
4. Japanese wrestling
7. Famous Japanese fish

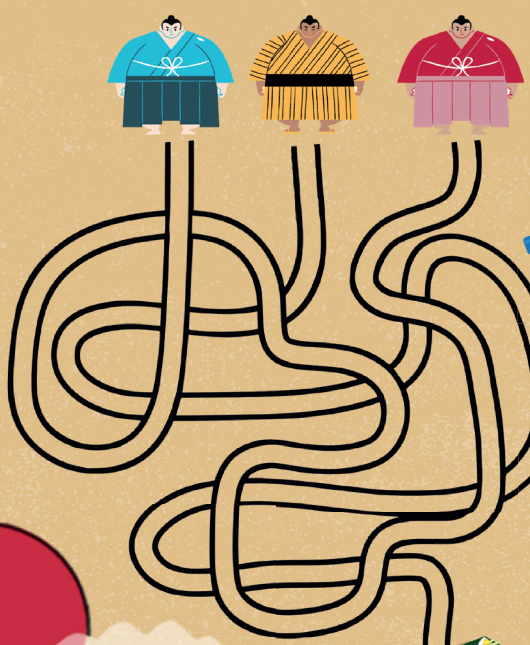
Across

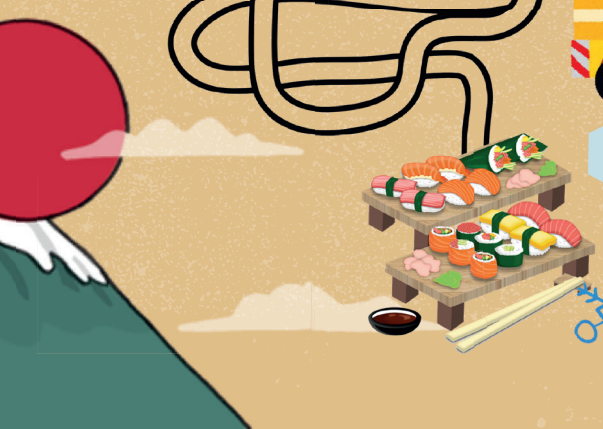
5. Shinkansen are some of the fastest of these in the world
6. Japan's highest mountain
8. Japanese food made with rolled rice, seaweed and raw fish
9. Capital of Japan
10. The Japanese flag is white and...



SUMO SUSHI

Which sumo wrestler will enjoy the tasty sushi dinner?



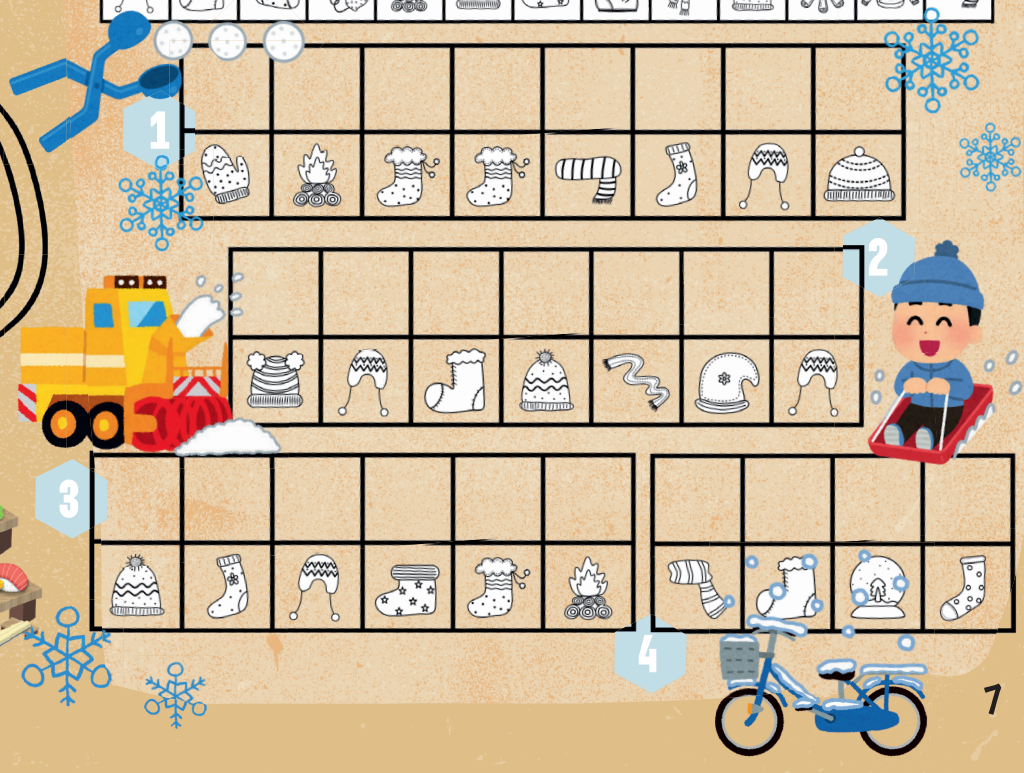


WINTER CODE BREAKER

Can you decode these snow themed words? Use the key below to break the code!

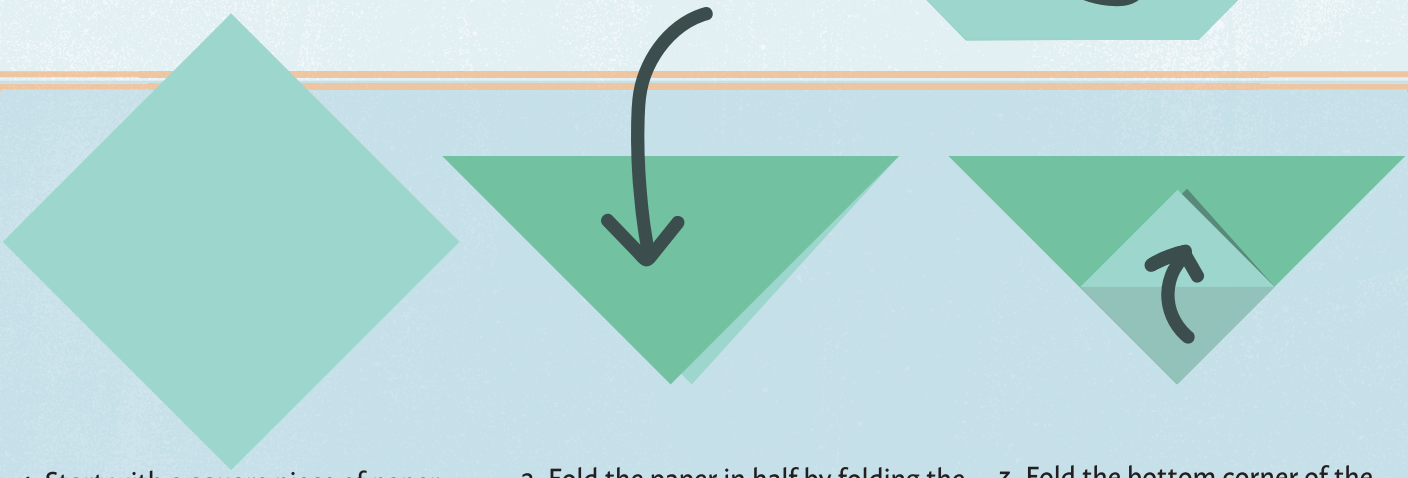
Answers on p.9

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M
N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z



Folding an Origami Bear





1. Start with a square piece of paper, face the lighter side upwards.

2. Fold the paper in half by folding the top corner to the bottom corner.

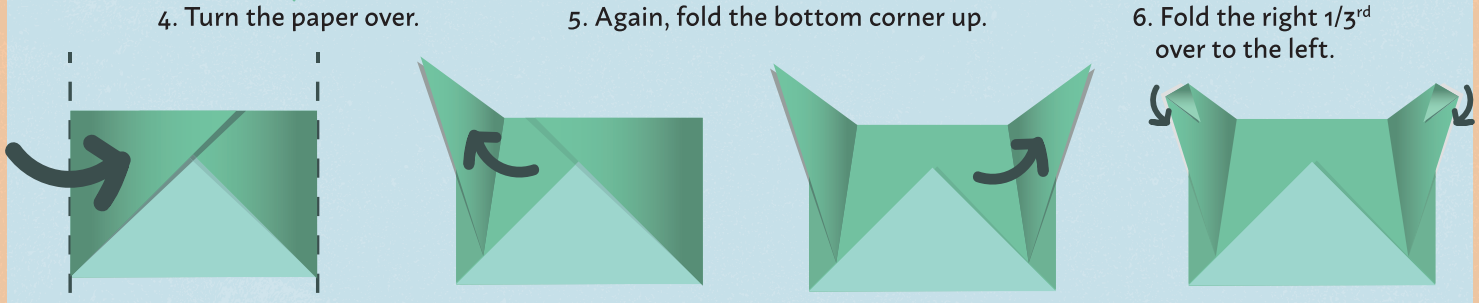
3. Fold the bottom corner of the top layer up about halfway.



4. Turn the paper over.

5. Again, fold the bottom corner up.

6. Fold the right 1/3rd over to the left.

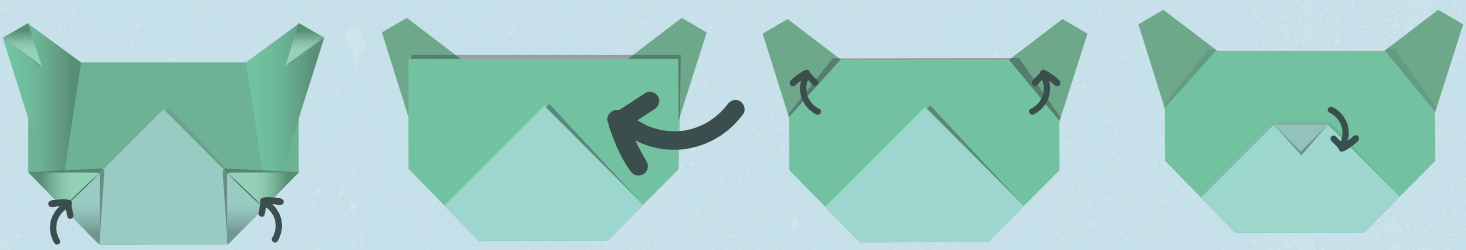


7. Fold the left 1/3rd over to the right.

8. Fold those same flaps up at an angle. These are the ears. Fold left first.

9. Fold right flap.

10. Fold the ears down like this.



11. Fold in the bottom left and right corners.

12. Turn the bear over.

13. Fold back the top left and right corners of the head.

14. Fold the edge of top flap to make a nose. Draw on the face to finish!

Colour in these Koi Carp!

Koi carp are famous fish in Japan. There's an ancient story about one climbing a waterfall and these large and often colourful fish can cost £1000 or more!



1. Freezing 2. Snowman 3. Winter 4. Cold

Japan's Cities

Over 120 million people live in Japan and most of them live in large urban areas. The capital Tokyo and the surrounding area, known as Greater Tokyo, is home to nearly one third of all the people in Japan! An incredible 37 million people live there, which is more than the populations of London and New York put together!

Millions of people, but very few of them know and love Jesus. In the huge crowds and all the busyness it can be very hard for Japanese people to even hear the good news of the God who made them and loves them.

When Jesus saw crowds of people, he wanted to help them: 'When he saw the crowds, he had compassion on them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd.' (Matthew 9:36). Take time today to pray for the crowds in Toyko and across Japan who don't know Jesus yet.

Skyscraper Challenge

Japan's capital Tokyo is home to over 160 skyscrapers. In just ten minutes, what's the tallest tower you can build?

What you'll need:

- Either 1 pack of spaghetti and 1 pack of marshmallows, or, if you prefer, paper cups, plates and bowls, coffee stirrers, straws and tape
- Timer

What to do:

- Set the timer for ten minutes.
- Get building! Think about the best shape you can make as the basis for your structure.
- When you've finished, take a minute to pray that the millions of people in Japan's cities to get to hear about Jesus.

Did you know...?

The Toyko Skytree, is the world's tallest tower, at 634 metres tall - that's almost as tall as two Eiffel towers stacked on top of one another!



Let's make Teriyaki Sauce together!

Ingredients



100ml Soy sauce



200ml Mirin
(available in some UK supermarkets)

+ 2 Tbsp Sugar



Method

1. Heat the mirin in a saucepan over a low heat for 1-2mins.
2. Add the soy sauce and sugar and simmer for 1-2mins.
3. If you're not going to use your sauce, store it in the fridge.

How to use your teriyaki sauce?

Heat some oil in a frying pan and fry some meat, fish or vegetables. When they're nicely cooked add your teriyaki sauce and keep cooking on a medium heat until the sauce goes a bit sticky.

照り焼き

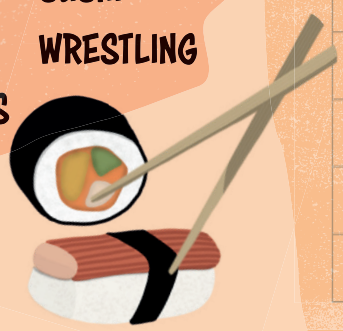


We particularly enjoy this sauce with chicken or salmon!

Across : 5.Trains 6. Fuji 8.Shushi 9.Tokyo 10.Red;
Down: 1.Samurai 2.Kimono 3.Frisbee 4.Sumo 7.Koi

Word Search

WAVES
ISLANDS
FRISBEE
EMPEROR
JAPANESE
SHOGUN
NORI
CHOPSTICKS
SHINTO
TOKYO
KIMONO
FUJI
RICE
SUSHI
WRESTLING



K	E	E	T	E	M	J	Y	A	G	S	F	O	R
I	M	O	O	F	N	O	A	O	O	N	W	E	E
M	P	G	O	S	R	N	S	P	C	I	O	O	N
O	E	R	A	C	A	H	S	H	A	I	B	S	H
N	R	A	N	H	I	A	E	B	O	N	O	N	I
O	O	M	O	O	R	N	C	U	O	R	E	I	O
S	R	O	A	P	O	T	C	U	N	O	N	S	A
E	H	E	I	S	N	S	W	T	F	U	J	I	E
E	S	N	C	T	E	N	A	O	O	I	A	I	S
B	H	U	C	I	T	S	V	U	N	K	A	L	U
S	I	G	S	C	R	H	E	N	N	I	Y	I	S
I	N	O	I	K	E	N	S	E	S	G	I	O	H
R	T	H	G	S	S	D	N	A	L	S	I	U	I
F	O	S	E	W	R	E	S	T	L	I	N	G	S

A Taste of Asia

21 Devotional Adventures for the Family

Join Jon and explore why Jesus is good news for the people and places of East Asia. Dive into fun activities, bite-sized Bible studies, prayer points, exciting stories and fascinating facts.

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