

Japanese Academy of the Rockies 2012 School Year Syllabus

Class Name: Hoshi Gumi (Japanese as a Foreign Language)

Student Ages: 7-11 yrs old (students who turn 7 before Aug 31st and don't speak Japanese as their language)

Class time: 2 hours 30 minutes (9:00~11:30)

① Class Description

This is a Japanese language class for students who do not speak Japanese as their first language. In this class, we will study Japanese pronunciation, vocabulary, characters, and the construction of Japanese sentences. Students will enjoy many structured opportunities to listen, speak, read and write in Japanese.

② Class Goals

Students will review the Japanese they have previously learned, learn about the differences between Japanese and American culture, and learn useful vocabulary, phrases, and expressions in Japanese for everyday situations.

③ Class Overview

Weeks 1-5 Think of and share individual images of Japan with one another

- Envision a day in Japanese life by creating a schedule
- Use the schedule to learn everyday phrases in Japanese life (i.e. greetings and activities)
- Prepare a skit for the 2012 Japanese Language Contest (Nov 3rd)
- Review previously learned Japanese (numbers)

Weeks 6-15 In English, think of phrases one might need in Japanese life

- List differences between American and Japanese cultures
- Discuss Japanese phrases not prevalently used in English
- Connect language differences to differences in culture
- Continue preparing for the 2012 Japanese Language Contest (Nov 3rd)
- Review previously learned Japanese (numbers)

Weeks 16-30 Learn about the differences between schooling in America and Japan

- Read stories contained in age-appropriate Japanese textbooks
- Memorize Japanese characters using mnemonics
- Play games that are popular with Japanese children
- Review previously learned Japanese (verbs)

Weeks 31-34 Consolidate material learned this year, and prepare for next year.