

JAPANESE LANGUAGE & CULTURE SUMMER CAMP

EAST ASIA INSTITUTE / JULY 2017

The East Asia Institute hosted its 8th annual Japanese Language and Culture Camp at UTSA for children ages 6 through 12 from July 17th -21st.

When the bright coming of a new day presented itself so did Japanese Camp campers eager to learn and have fun at Camp. Beginning with Japanese Folktale story time which gave the campers an insight on traditional Japanese customs and culture.

Next, campers would start the learning fun by being introduced to the Japanese writing systems Hiragana and Katakana. Campers learned the proper pronunciation and form of how to write symbols.



Kumamoto Origami

In addition to the writing and reading, campers played matching games to match Hiragana and Katakana cards with Roma-ji cards. This activity helped campers recognize the shapes of Hiragana and Katakana as

well as their pronunciation. Each day a new set of Hiragana or Katakana would be introduced as the previous set was reinforced, in order to ensure a full understanding of the Japanese writing systems.

continued on page 2



Kendama



Ikebana Making



Learning Japanese

After that, the art of Origami would be practiced by all our campers folding the paper into all sorts of interesting and enjoyable shapes. From Pikachu to ninja stars, campers had fun making their origami creations. Japanese arts and crafts followed after Origami activity where campers had the chance to make traditional Japanese fans, lucky cats, cherry blossom scrolls, paper sumo wrestlers, chigirie Koinobori (flying carp), and paper Sakura flowers.

Campers also had opportunities to watch family friendly animated Japanese films during their lunch time. Films that embodied and represented key Japanese ideals and characteristics films such as My Neighbor Totoro, Spirited Away, and Kiki's Delivery Service.

ARTS & CRAFTS



Chigirie Koinobori



Campers paint cherry blossom scrolls

Following lunch time, campers again engaged in language-learning lessons where they would learn how to converse in basic Japanese. At the beginning of the very first day, the instructor promised all campers that they would be able to introduce themselves in Japanese by the end of

this camp. Each day students learned how to introduce their name, nationality, age, job and family respectively. While learning self-introduction phrases, campers also learned how to say yes/no, count numbers from 1-20 and say body parts in Japanese with songs and games.

HANDS-ON ACTIVITIES



Onigiri Making



Paper Sumo Wrestling



Clay Shisa Dog Making

Japanese Summer Camp



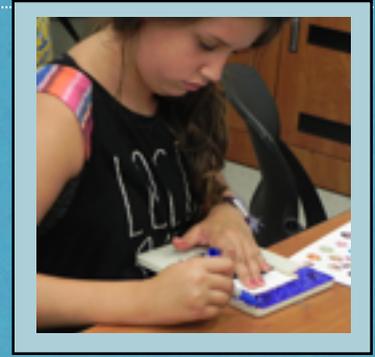
Kite Flying

Campers did exceptionally well in learning how to converse in Japanese in a week.

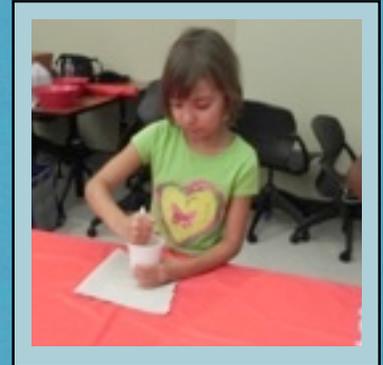
Afterwards, the campers returned to participate in mixed activities ranging from Japanese food making to clay shisa dog sculpting. Food making ranged from green tea cupcakes, onigiri and, of course, sushi. Campers had a great time in making and tasting their delicious Japanese culinary creations. The other non-food related activities they made to end the day included kite making and calligraphy cards hand

drawn in Japanese by campers themselves! Each camper chose a Kanji letter from the list given, practiced strokes and shapes many times, and finally wrote the letter on a card. The card was framed the next day for campers to take home.

The Japanese Language and Culture Camp gave the campers a chance to discover and revel in an amazing and unique culture that is Japanese in its entirety. The Japanese Camp stands as an unforgettable and most importantly enjoyable educational learning experience for all of our campers. We look forward to seeing many familiar faces again next year!



Calligraphy Frame Making



Green Tea Cupcake



Paper Doll



Calligraphy



Chopsticks Practice



Sushi Making