Under the Cherry Blossom Tree

An Annotated Bibliography of Stories about Japan
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Introduction

Come along with us on this journey of discovery about Japan — the country of focus for the Asian Festival of Children’s Content 2016. *Under the Cherry Blossom Tree* brings you tantalising tales and facts through a selection of storybooks, manga and informational titles that explore Japan’s rich history and culture. We hope that young and mature readers alike will be enthralled by the mysterious ways of ninjas and mythical kappa.

Happy reading!

Go to [http://search.nlb.gov.sg](http://search.nlb.gov.sg) to find out which libraries have the books available.

The book covers are the copyright of the respective publishing companies.

These icons represent the recommended reading level of the books.

- **Recommended for 4-6 years old**
- **Recommended for 7-12 years old**
- **Recommended for 13-18 years old**

These icons indicate that the books are also part of the Asian Children’s Literature collection or available at the Early Literacy Library.

- **Asian Children’s Literature** (located at Woodlands Regional Library)
- **Early Literacy Library** (located at Jurong Regional Library)
Title: Tasty Baby Belly Buttons  
Author: Judy Sierra  
Call No.: JP 398.2 SIE-[FOL]  

Uriko-hime, a girl born from a melon, fights the Oni monsters who kidnap babies to eat their belly buttons as treats. Beautifully illustrated with watercolour, this is a tale of how brave Uriko and her friends save the babies.  


Title: The Farmer and the Poor God: A Folktale from Japan  
Author: Ruth Wells  
Call No.: JP 398.2 WEL-[FOL]  

A farmer wants to leave his house because he believes that the “poor” god living in his attic does not bring him any fortune. However, he changes his mind when something unexpected happens.  

All Rights Reserved, Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers, 1996.

Title: The Boy of the Three-Year Nap  
Author: Dianne Snyder  
Call No.: JP 398.2 SNY-[FOL]  

Lazy Taro could nap for three years if no one woke him up. He hatches a plan to make money by tricking a rich man into letting him marry his daughter. However, his mother sees through his plan. Will Taro get his just desserts?  


Title: Maneki Neko: The Tale of the Beckoning Cat  
Author: Susan Lendroth  
Call No.: JP 398.2 LEN-[FOL]  

A young samurai sees a mysterious cat taking shelter in a temple. As the curious samurai trails the beckoning feline, a lightning bolt strikes the tree he had just been resting against. He declares that the cat brings good fortune. This story recounts the origin of the “beckoning” cat, or maneki-neko, a popular lucky charm in Japan.  

All Rights Reserved, Shen’s Books, 2010.
Title: Yuko-chan and the Daruma Doll: The Adventures of a Blind Japanese Girl Who Saves Her Village
Author: Sunny Seki
Call No.: JP 398.20952 SEK–[FOL]
A blind girl named Yuko-chan comes up with a brilliant idea to raise money for her village. She begins making and selling little Daruma dolls — toys made in the likeness of a respected monk.
All Rights Reserved, Tuttle, 2012.

Title: Momotaro (The Peach Boy): A Japanese Folktale
Retold By: M. J. York
Call No.: JP 398.2 YOR–[FOL]
Momotaro, a boy born from a peach, goes on a quest to defeat the Oni monsters that have attacked his village. During his journey, he befriends a dog, a monkey and a pheasant, who join him to punish the monsters.

Title: The Last Kappa of Old Japan: A Magical Journey of Two Friends
Author: Sunny Seki
Call No.: JP 398.20952 SEK–[FOL]
A young boy and a young kappa — a Japanese water spirit — become friends. When the boy saves the kappa from the clutches of some malicious adults, the kappa promises that he will return the favour.
All Rights Reserved, Tuttle, 2010.

Title: Issun Bōshi: The One-Inch Boy
Author: Icinori
Call No.: JP 398.20952 ICI–[FOL]
A tiny boy named Issun Bōshi sets out on an adventure. Along the way, he meets an ogre which offers its magic hammer to make Issun Bōshi bigger in exchange for his help. He refuses and eventually discovers that the ogre intends to kidnap a nobleman’s daughter.
All Rights Reserved, Little Gestalten, 2014.

Title: Gon, the Little Fox
Author: Nankichi Niimi
Call No.: JP NII
Gon’s naughty pranks bring misfortune upon a farmer and his family. The guilty fox tries to make amends, but his actions lead to further mishaps, and tragedy eventually ensues.
All Rights Reserved, Museyon, 2015.

Title: The Funny Little Woman
Retold By: Arlene Mosel
Call No.: JP 398.2 MOS–[FOL]
A woman’s strange adventure involving a rice dumpling leaves her with a magic paddle that can cook a pot of rice from a single grain. Upon returning home, she makes rice dumplings faster than ever with the magic paddle and becomes the richest woman in Japan.
All Rights Reserved, Dutton, 1986.

Title: The Boy Who Drew Cats
Author: Anushka Ravishankar
Call No.: JP 398.20952 RAV–[FOL]
Akira does only one thing all day — draw cats. His parents send him to a temple, hoping he will make better use of his time. But a twist of fate lands him in a sticky situation where his life depends on the cats that he draws.
All Rights Reserved, Karadi Tales, 2009.

Title: The Furry-Legged Teapot
Retold By: Tim Myers
Call No.: JP 398.2 MYE–[FOL]
An inexperienced tanuki (shapeshifter) called Yoshi transforms himself into a teapot, but is unable to change back. Will he be able to regain his true form?
Title: The Tongue-Cut Sparrow: A Japanese Folktale
Retold By: M. J. York
Call No.: JP 398.2 YOR–[FOL]

An angry wife cuts off the tongue of her kind husband’s pet sparrow and chases it away. When he finds the bird, it gives him a basket filled with treasures. But when his wife also decides to visit the sparrow, it gives her exactly what she deserves.


Title: The Boy in the Garden
Author: Allen Say
Call No.: JP SAY

Jiro sees a crane statue in the garden and recalls an old folktale. In the story, a woodcutter sets a magical crane free and the crane returns as a beautiful lady to marry him. Later, Jiro encounters a mysterious lady who bears a striking resemblance to the woodcutter’s wife, so much so that Jiro wonders if she is real.


Title: Once Upon a Time in Japan
Call No.: J 398.20952 ONC–[FOL]

A miser marries a woman who never eats; a grateful crane magically transforms into a woman; a baby princess is found inside a bamboo stem — enjoy these stories and more in this compilation of eight traditional folktales.

All Rights Reserved, Tuttle, 2015.

Title: Under the Cherry Blossom Tree
Author: Allen Say
Call No.: J 398.2 SAY–[FOL]

A wicked landlord swallows a cherry pit, causing a cherry blossom tree to grow on his head. When he pulls out the tree, it leaves a large hole in his head. Rain and fish eventually fill up the hole, bringing much happiness to his poor villagers.


Japan enjoys a rich blend of traditional Asian and modern influences. This is apparent in the food they eat, the music and art they create, their traditional clothes, and the way they live. Learn more about the Japanese way of life from the books in this section.
Title: The Great Wave: A Children’s Book  
Author: Véronique Massenot  
Call No.: JP MAS  
Taro adopts a baby boy that a great wave deposited into his boat. Years pass, but the little boy Naoki does not grow much — until he befriends a mythical fish which takes him deep into the sea.

All Rights Reserved, Prestel, 2011.

Title: Suki’s Kimono  
Author: Chieri Uegaki  
Call No.: JP UEG  
Despite her sisters’ disapproval, Suki wears her favourite kimono, a gift from her grandmother, on the first day of school. Her new classmates tease her, but Suki delights everyone with her dancing as she recounts the street festival she went to with her grandmother.


Title: Pinkalicious: Cherry Blossom  
Author: Victoria Kann  
Call No.: JP KAN  
Springtime means only one thing to Pinkalicious — the much-anticipated cherry blossom festival. She is overjoyed to see all the flowers in full bloom and wants to join the festivities by flying a kite. But it takes the help of a special friend for her kite to get airborne.


Title: Yoko’s Show-and-Tell  
Author: Rosemary Wells  
Call No.: JP WEL  
Yoko’s grandparents send her a gift from Japan — a family doll named Miki that has been passed down for generations. Despite her mother’s instructions, Yoko brings Miki to her school for show-and-tell and ends up getting the doll broken. Will she be able to mend the ancestral doll before her grandparents visit?

All Rights Reserved, Disney/Hyperion Books, 2011.

Title: Dad’s Favourite Cookie  
Retold By: Joy Cowley  
Call No.: JP COW  
Little Yuka yearns to spend more time with her father, who works late every day. When she wins a basket of sweets, she is thrilled because one of the sweets is her father’s favourite. Will she get to share it with her father?

All Rights Reserved, Candlewick, 2014.

Title: Dodsworth in Tokyo  
Author: Tim Egan  
Call No.: JP EGA  
Dodsworth is worried that his duck companion will invite trouble as usual during their adventures in Japan. He tries to educate the duck on Japanese customs. To his surprise, the duck is on his best behaviour most of the time.


Title: Take Me Out to the Yakyu  
Author: Aaron Meshon  
Call No.: JP MES  
A little boy learns about the differences between American and Japanese baseball from his grandfathers. As he enjoys the game, he learns the different traditions of the two countries.

All Rights Reserved, Atheneum Books for Young Readers, 2013.

Title: Japanese Nursery Rhymes: Carp Streamers, Falling Rain, and other Traditional Favourites  
Author: Danielle Wright  
Call No.: JP 398.8 WRI  
This enchanting collection of favourite nursery rhymes in Japan is a great introduction to Japanese language and culture for children. The accompanying CD has songs and rhymes in both English and Japanese.

All Rights Reserved, Tuttle, 2012.
Title: My Awesome Japan Adventure: A Diary about the Best Four Months Ever
Author: Rebecca Otowa
Call No.: J 915.204 OTO
(This book is also available on eReads at www.nlb.gov.sg.)
Dan, an American fifth-grader, travels to Japan as an exchange student. Although he finds it hard to adjust at first, he soon has fun trying unique food, learning brush painting and visiting new places.
All Rights Reserved, Tuttle, 2013.

Title: Super Simple Japanese Art: Fun and Easy Art from Around the World
Author: Alex Kuskowski
Call No.: J 745.5 KUS
Did you know that Japanese paper-folding is a popular art form with a history of more than 300 years? Learn about Japanese paper-folding and try some cool projects from this book. Get creative as you find out how to fold a bento box, make a keychain doll, and much more!
All Rights Reserved, Super Sandcastle, 2015.

Title: All about Japan: Stories, Songs, Crafts, and More
Author: Willamarie Moore
Call No.: J 952 MOO
Take a tour around Japan with Yuto, from the countryside, and Momoka, from the city. Get introduced to Japanese customs, stories, haiku, food, leisure activities and celebrations.
All Rights Reserved, Tuttle, 2011.

Title: Girls’ Day; Boys’ Day
Author: Minako Ishii
Call No.: J 394.2620952 ISH
This book explains the origins and significance of the two festivals that celebrate the rites of passage for girls and boys in Japan. Girls’ Day shares the custom of making hanging dolls. Boys’ Day highlights the practice of masquerading as samurai and flying carp streamers.

The stories in this section emerged from significant events in Japan’s history. The Hiroshima and Nagasaki bombings, as well as the 2011 tsunami, were events that deeply affected the Japanese. Books such as Yoko’s Diary and Kenta and the Big Wave reflect the resilience and determination shown by the Japanese in the face of adversity. The tale of the famous dog Hachiko, whose unwavering loyalty to his owner touches us deeply, deserves a special mention. The diversity within Japanese realistic fiction allows readers to have a better understanding of Japan.
Title: The Favorite Daughter  
Author: Allen Say  
Call No.: JP SAY

Yuriko is half-Japanese, and at school she is constantly being teased for her name and ancestry. Luckily for her, she has a wonderful father who gives her the courage to face her challenges with confidence.


Title: Tsunami!  
Author: Kimiko Kajikawa  
Call No.: JP 398.2 KAJ-[FOL]

The wise Ojiisan lives high on a mountain overlooking the sea and the village. One autumn day, when the whole village is celebrating the rice harvest, Ojiisan suddenly feels some strange tremors. He looks out to the sea and sees an impending tsunami. What will Ojiisan do to save the villagers?


Title: Hachiko: The True Story of a Loyal Dog  
Author: Pamela S. Turner  
Call No.: JP 636.7 TUR
(This book is also available on eReads at www.nlb.gov.sg.)

Every day, Hachiko walks with Dr. Ueno to the station and waits for him to return in the evening. One day, Dr. Ueno does not return. Hachiko continues to go to the train station every evening, waiting for his master’s arrival.


Title: Cherry Blossom Winter  
Author: Jennifer Maruno  
Call No.: J MAR
(This book is also available on eReads at www.nlb.gov.sg.)

Michiko is yearning to lead a normal life, but being of Japanese descent in Canada during World War II makes things difficult for her family. They are forced to leave their home and move to a place where they have to endure prejudice and deprivation.

All Rights Reserved, Dundurn, 2012.

Title: Grandfather’s Journey  
Author: Allen Say  
Call No.: JP SAY
(This book is also available on eReads at www.nlb.gov.sg.)

Allen Say’s grandfather left his hometown in Japan to settle down in America. Allen’s mother later left America and raised her own family in Japan. After hearing about his grandfather’s life in America, Allen travelled there to retrace his grandfather’s steps.


Title: The Peace Tree from Hiroshima: The Little Bonsai with a Big Story  
Author: Sandra Moore  
Call No.: J MOO

Miyajima is a bonsai tree that has been nurtured by a family for several generations. The tree survives the bombing of Hiroshima and eventually becomes a gift to the United States on its 200th birthday. Children will learn about resilience, compassion and empathy from this book.

All Rights Reserved, Tuttle, 2015.

Title: Kenta and the Big Wave  
Author: Ruth Ohi  
Call No.: JP OHI

A tsunami sweeps away Kenta’s home, and with it, his favourite soccer ball. As his parents rebuild their home, Kenta goes about making a new soccer ball, but the new ball is not as good as the old one. Meanwhile, Kenta’s old soccer ball is picked up by a boy on the other side of the world.


Title: Yoko’s Diary: The Life of a Young Girl in Hiroshima during WWII  
Author: Yoko Moriwaki  
Call No.: Y 940.53161 MOR

Yoko’s Diary provides a vivid description of a time when it was tough to be a child in Japan. It showcases a myriad of details about Japanese life, customs, and traditions. Contributions from Yoko’s school friends and relatives give a broader picture of the effects of the nuclear bombing in Hiroshima on the surviving families.

Title: Heart of a Samurai  
Author: Margi Preus  
Call No.: Y PRE  
(This book is also available on eReads at www.nlb.gov.sg.)

After a fishing trip goes awry, Manjiro is rescued and eventually adopted by William Whitfield, captain of a whaling ship. Manjiro returns with Captain Whitfield to America and learns about American culture and skills such as navigation. He eventually returns to Japan with knowledge of the outside world.


Title: Nobody Knows  
Author: Shelley Tanaka  
Call No.: Y TAN

Akira is a 12-year-old boy from Tokyo. He lives with his three siblings in a rental apartment. One day, Akira’s mother abandons them and he is forced to get by with what little money he has remaining. Based on an award-winning film, this is a touching novel about four children who are invisible to the community they live in.


Title: Totto-chan: The Little Girl at the Window  
Author: Tetsuko Kuroyanagi  
Call No.: 791.45092 KUR–[ART]

Totto-chan is a precocious little girl who bubbles with energy. Too active for her teachers, she is expelled from her first school. She enrolls in another school, where her life is changed forever by the headmaster’s unconventional teaching methods.

All Rights Reserved, Kodansha USA, 2011.

Title: Oishinbo, A La Carte. Japanese Cuisine  
Author: Tetsu Kariya  
Call No.: 741.5952 KAR–[ART]

Journalist Shiro Yamaoka and his colleague are tasked to assemble the ultimate menu for their newspaper’s 100th anniversary. Along the way, Shiro clashes with his father Kaibara, well known for his ferocious temper and extraordinary palate. This graphic novel, like the others in the same series, reveals surprising facts and intricacies of creating Japanese cuisine.

All Rights Reserved, VIZ Media, 2009.

Ancient Japan was ruled by emperors, shoguns and daimyos. During the Age of the Warring States, the daimyos fought one another to occupy more lands. They recruited different fighters and warriors to help them, including ninjas and samurai. These warriors played important roles in ancient Japan. They had to undergo tough training and maintain strict discipline. What were their lives like? What qualities did they possess? Uncover the way of the warrior through the books listed here.
Title: Nighttime Ninja  
Author: Barbara DaCosta  
Call No.: JP DAC

In the middle of the night, a mysterious black figure silently and skillfully breaks into a house. What is he looking for and will he be able to complete his mission?

All Rights Reserved, Little, Brown, 2012.

Title: Three Samurai Cats:  
A Story from Japan  
Retold By: Eric A. Kimmel  
Call No.: JP 398.2 KIM–[FOL]

The daimyo of the castle has a big problem — a rat is causing chaos and bullying everyone in the castle. The furious daimyo decides to seek help from the samurai cats. One by one, the samurai cats are defeated by the cunning and powerful rat until Neko Roshi, an old and feeble samurai cat, is sent to the castle.


Title: Wink: The Ninja Who Wanted to Nap  
Author: J.C. Philipps  
Call No.: JP PHI

Wink is the star ninja performer at the circus. He has lots of fans and enjoys being famous. But one day, he realizes the downside to fame when his persistent supporters foil his attempts to have an afternoon nap.

All Rights Reserved, Viking, 2011.

Title: Tsubame the Ninja  
Author: Mayumi Ichikawa  
Call No.: JP ICH

Tsubame is an ordinary boy who trains hard in ninja skills at night. He is preparing for the secret Ninja Olympics, where all the ninjas come together to compete. Will Tsubame emerge as the champion of the tournament after all his intense training?


Title: Samurai  
Author: John Devin  
Call No.: J 952 DEV

This concise guide shares interesting facts and information about the samurai of Japan, warriors who fought bravely and followed a strict code. Where did the samurai go? Why do we not see them anymore? Find the answers in this book.

All Rights Reserved, Bellwether Media, 2012.

Title: Real Ninja: Over 20 True Stories of Japan’s Secret Assassins  
Author: Stephen Turnbull  
Call No.: J 796.8 TUR

Ninjas were experts at undercover work such as assassinations, infiltrating enemy armies, and setting fire to enemy castles. Their disguises and resourcefulness made them difficult to catch. This book uncovers interesting facts about the mysterious ninjas.


Title: Kendo  
Author: Carol Ellis  
Call No.: J 796.86 ELL

Kendo is a popular martial art that originated from Japan and evolved from kenjutsu, a form of swordfighting practised by the samurai. This comprehensive book describes the history and origins of kendo as well as some balancing and striking techniques.

All Rights Reserved, Marshall Cavendish Benchmark, 2011.

Title: Ninjas and Samurai: A Nonfiction Companion to Magic Tree House #5: Night of the Ninjas  
Authors: Mary Pope Osborne and Natalie Pope Boyce  
Call No.: J 952 OSB
(This book is also available on eReads at www.nlb.gov.sg.)

This book covers the history of ninjas and samurai, and discusses the upbringing as well as lifestyles of these two classes of fighters.

The Japanese have always sought to strike a balance between nature and technology, tradition and modernity. This challenge to preserve the delicate balance between Mother Nature and modern society is nowhere more apparent than in the genre of fantasy. From the yōkai spirits of Kitaro to the moral dilemmas of androids in Astro Boy, this section contains tales that are out of this world.

**Title: Jet Black and the Ninja Wind**
**Authors:** Leza Lowitz and Shogo Oketani
**Call No.:** Y LOW

Jet Black is a half-Japanese teenager who has been living in America. Raised by her Japanese mother, Jet’s life is filled with physical and mental training. When her mother dies, Jet learns of her Japanese roots and leaves for Japan to reunite with her maternal grandfather. But shortly after their reunion, they are attacked by mysterious ninjas.

What do the attackers want? Will Jet Black be able to save her family?

All Rights Reserved, Tuttle, 2013.

**Title: First Mission**
**Author:** Chris Bradford
**Call No.:** J BRA

Taka has been training hard and yearns to join his friends on their ninja missions. When the secret scrolls of his ninja clan are stolen by a rival warlord, the Grandmaster assigns Taka to retrieve the scrolls.

All Rights Reserved, Barrington Stoke, 2011.

**Title: Bokuden and the Bully: A Japanese Folktale**
**Author:** Stephen Krensky
**Call No.:** J 398.2 KRE–[FOL]

Bokuden, a travelling martial arts exponent, meets a disrespectful warrior on one of his trips. When the warrior challenges Bokuden to a battle, Bokuden gets a chance to teach the bully a lesson.

All Rights Reserved, Millbrook, 2009.

**Title: White Crane (Samurai Kids, Book 1)**
**Author:** Sandy Fussell
**Call No.:** J FUS

Cockroach Rya is a special samurai school that takes in students who are physically challenged. As the students train together to participate in the Samurai Trainee Games, they learn to overcome challenges and unleash their fullest potential.

Title: Kitaro
Author: Shigeru Mizuki
Call No.: Y 741.5952 MIZ
(This book is also available on eReads at www.nlb.gov.sg.)

Kitaro is a one-eyed spirit boy born in the cemetery. He uses wit and dark humour to champion peace between humans and yokai (spirit monsters).

All Rights Reserved, Drawn & Quarterly, 2013.

Title: Taka-chan and I: A Dog's Journey to Japan
Author: Betty Jean Lifton
Call No.: JP LIF

Told through a series of photographs, this endearing story begins when Runcible the dog digs a tunnel in the sand in Cape Cod. He resurfaces in Japan, halfway around the world. There, he meets a little girl held captive by a mysterious dragon, and helps her find the canine symbol of loyalty in Japan, the iconic Hachiko.


Title: 999 Frogs and a Little Brother
Author: Ken Kimura
Call No.: JP KIM

Award-winning illustrator Yasunari Murakami lends his whimsical touch to this quaint story. A little tadpole finds an unlikely friend in a baby crayfish who looks up to the tadpole as his big brother. What unfolds next is an unforgettable adventure.

All Rights Reserved, NorthSouth, 2015.

Title: The Strongest Boy in the World
Author: Jessica Souhami
Call No.: JP 398.2 SOU–[FOL]

Based on a famous Japanese folktale, this book tells the story of Kaito, a skinny boy who dreams of becoming a sumo wrestling champion. On his way to the wrestling tournament in Kyoto, he meets a girl who is stronger than him. Realising his need for guidance, Kaito accepts Hanna’s offer to train him. Will Kaito achieve his dream of becoming the next sumo wrestling champion?


Title: Japanese Mythology (World of Mythology)
Author: Jim Ollhoff
Call No.: J 398.2 OLL–[FOL]

This title provides a brief introduction to the intricate world of gods and goddesses in Japanese mythology. From the creation story of Izanagi and Izanami, to the tale of Amaterasu, the sun goddess who has close ties with the royal family, this compilation is a fantastic doorway into Japanese folklore.

All Rights Reserved, ABDO, 2012.

Title: Amaterasu: Return of the Sun: A Japanese Myth
Author: Paul D. Storrie
Call No.: J 398.2 STO–[FOL]
(This book is also available on eReads at www.nlb.gov.sg.)

When Amaterasu goes into hiding to escape her brother, the world plunges into darkness. Find out why the Japanese sun goddess disappeared and how she was tricked into bringing sunlight back to the universe in this graphic novel.


Title: The Secret of the Blue Glass
Author: Tomiko Inui
Call No.: J INU

Tatsuo’s family is entrusted to take care of the Little People until World War II. The Little People are tiny beings who feed on milk. When food becomes scarce, the Little People are forced to leave the dusty library room they live in to face the dangerous outside world. This story about great love, bravery, and the effects of war has been shortlisted for the prestigious Carnegie Medal (2016).


Title: Under the Cherry Blossom
Author: Maya Healy
Call No.: Y HEA

In this historical revenge saga set in 13th century Japan, Hana and Kimi are devastated when their uncle murders their family. The girls disguise themselves and begin physical and mental training to take on their uncle.

All Rights Reserved, Oxford University, 2012.
Quiz Challenge

ANSWERS:
1. MOCHI
2. ROCKY
3. A) DOG  B) MONKEY   C) PHEASANT
4. BUSHIDŌ
5. HACHIKO

Quiz Challenge

1. The Japanese rice cake is a traditional snack eaten during the Japanese New Year. What is the name of this rice cake?
   M _ _ H _
   Clue: Find the answer on Pages 43-44 of My Awesome Japan Adventure: A Diary about the Best Four Months Ever.

2. What is the name of Totto-chan’s pet dog?
   R_ _ K_
   Clue: Find the answer on Page 25 of Totto-chan: The Little Girl at the Window.

3. What were the three animals that helped Momotaro to fight the Oni?
   A) D_ _ B) M _ _ _ _ _ C) P_ _ _ S _ _ _
   Clue: Find the answers from Pages 12-16 in Momotaro (The Peach Boy): A Japanese Folktale.

4. Samurai were disciplined fighters who followed a strict code of honour, loyalty, and fair fighting. What is this code called?
   B_ _ _ _ _
   Clue: Find the answer on Page 4 of Samurai.

5. This legendary canine is a symbol of loyalty and perseverance. In the book Taka-chan and I: A Dog’s Journey to Japan, a bronze statue of him has become a popular landmark at Shibuya station in Japan. Who is he?
   H_ _ _ _ _O
   Clue: Find the answer on Page 50 of Taka-chan and I: A Dog’s Journey to Japan.

Title: Ichiro
Author: Ryan Inzana
Call No.: Y 741.5973 INZ
Ichiro is lost in the world of gods and demons, and bears witness as chaos engulfs the underworld because of a trivial misunderstanding. Can peace ever be restored? This impressively illustrated graphic novel pitches a strong anti-war message in its layered, allegorical storyline.

Title: Book Girl and the Corrupted Angel
Author: Mizuki Nomura
Call No.: Y NOM
Ever since Konoha Inoue met Tohko Amano, he has been forced to write improvised stories for her. However, Tohko does not read the stories — she eats them. Book Girls are magical beings that receive nourishment not from actual food, but from the written word in its purest form.
All Rights Reserved, Yen, 2012.

Title: Astro Boy
Author: Osamu Tezuka
Call No.: 741.5952 TEZ–[ART]
Astro Boy was created by the father of manga, Osamu Tezuka. He is an android who lives in a futuristic world where robots co-exist with human beings. As the story goes, Dr. Tenma created Astro Boy in his dead son’s image and equipped him with advanced defence capabilities. Using his amazing strength, Astro Boy deals with evil scientists and strange monsters.
All Rights Reserved, Dark Horse Comics, 2003.
6. In April, the Japanese celebrate the festival shown in this picture by enjoying picnics under the blossoming trees. What is it called?

C _ _ B _ _ S _ _ FESTIVAL
Clue: Find the answer on Page 8 of All about Japan: Stories, Songs, Crafts, and More.

7. Name the Japanese folktale which has the scenes below.

M
Clue: It is related to a cat.

8. This creature of the sea is led to believe that it is an amphibian in Yasunari Murakami’s 999 Frogs and a Little Brother. What is this creature?

C _ _ F _ _
Clue: Find the answer on Page 22 of 999 Frogs and a Little Brother.
Credit:
The cover page of this bibliography was designed by Mr. Yasunari Murakami, most well-known for his 999 Tadpoles book series. Born in Japan's Gifu Prefecture in 1955, Mr. Murakami enjoys the possibilities of expression through picture books. His work 999 Tadpoles was nominated for the German Children's Literature Award in 2012. He was the winner of the Graphic Prize at the Bologna International Children's Book Fair for the following works: Pinku to Suno Jiisan (Pink and Uncle Snow) in 1986, Purezento (The Gift) in 1988 and Youkoso mori e (Welcome to the Forest) in 1989.