

Kasa Jizō and the Wonderful Hat Song

TEACHERS NOTES

Japanese teachers may like to prepare the children by reading them a different Japanese fairy tale. My story is a modified version of the traditional folk tale *Kasa Jizō*. (It is best not to read *Kasa Jizō* to them until after my visit). I have set my version in the early 1870s at the beginning of the Meiji era. You may like to investigate this period with your students.

On the next page are words I use in my show. Going through the words with the students will help them to feel enthusiastic and get more out of the session. If you have the time to look at the extended list, then this will enable the children to retain more vocabulary and be more engaged in the learning process. If you do not have much time to prepare, simply going over the vocabulary in the song would be helpful.

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Please prepare:

- an indoor venue such as a hall, library or multipurpose room (not outdoors)
- a data projector (with extension power cord) & screen, or smart board.
- a table or desk to place Anne's instruments on
- 6 kasa hats made from card (see instructions below)
- 10 minutes before the first performance, please introduce Anne to one student (grade 4 or older) for each show who will operate her laptop. They need to be literate and able to listen carefully. Anne will arrive 1 hour before the first show.

Using a stiff card, draw a circle of 44cm diameter and cut a line to the centre. Overlap the card as you create a *slight* conical shape and stick it together with tape. Make an inner band to seat the hat comfortably on the head with a 4cm-wide strip of card in a loop taped inside the cone. This can be fitted to the head-size of the student.



Thank you for booking *Kasa Jizō and the Wonderful Hat Song*.

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The Wonderful Hat Song – lyrics

<i>Kasa, kasa, subarashii kasa</i>	かさ、かさ、すばらしい	かさ	hats, hats, wonderful hats
<i>Mabushiku-temo</i>	まぶしくても		even if it's glary
<i>Yuki ga fut-temo</i>	ゆき が ふっても		even if it's snowing
<i>Heiki da yo!</i>	へいき だよ		no worries!

Short Vocab list

<i>mukashi mukashi</i>	むかしむかし	once upon a time
<i>jinrikisha</i> 人力車	じんりきしゃ	rickshaw, a man-powered car
<i>Jizō</i>	じぞう	protector of children and travellers
	Jizō is a bodhisattva or helper. Not worshipped, but there to call on for help. Short stone statues of this friendly guardian are seen all over Japan.	
<i>kimono</i>	きもの	Japanese clothing
<i>otōsan</i>	おとうさん	father
<i>okāsan</i>	おかあさん	mother
<i>Edo</i>	えど	the city of Edo became Tokyo in 1868
<i>kasa</i>	かさ	an umbrella-shaped hat of woven sedge. Today <i>kasa</i> usually refers to an umbrella.
<i>subarashii</i>	すばらしい	wonderful
<i>mabushii</i>	まぶしい	glary, bright sunshine
<i>mabushiku-temo</i>	まぶしくても	even if the sun is glary
<i>yuki</i>	ゆき	snow
<i>yuki ga futtemo</i>	ゆきがふっても	even if it's snowing
<i>heiki da yo</i>	へいきだよ	no problem, it's fine, no worries
<i>arigatō-gozaïmasu</i>	ありがとうございます	thank you very much

Extended vocabulary for more comprehension

<i>kago</i>	かご	palanquin, sedan chair/basket
<i>yōku nemashita ne</i>	よくねましたね	you slept well!
<i>shimpai shimasu</i>	しんぱいします	(I am) worried
<i>tōfu</i>	とうふ	tofu, bean curd
<i>miso</i>	みそ	miso paste, for making miso soup
<i>Ittekimasu</i>	いってきます	Bye! I'm off. (said by person departing)
<i>Itterasshai</i>	いってらっしゃい	Bye! Come back safely.
<i>rāmen</i>	ラーメン	noodles made from wheat
<i>mochi</i>	もち	rice cakes
<i>Itadakimasu</i>	いただきます	thanks for this food (grace)
<i>kodomo</i>	こども	children
<i>hazukashii</i>	はずかしい	embarrassed
<i>dare deshō?</i>	だれでしょう	who could it be?
<i>dōshiyō</i>	どうしよう	what shall I do?