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My First Japanese Kanji Book: Learning Kanji The Fun And Easy Way! [MP3 Audio CD Included]



Synopsis

My First Japanese Kanji Book is an inventive and unique introduction to kanji for children. Written by the mother-daughter team of Eriko and Anna Sato, this lovely book introduces 109 kanji characters to children with poems and illustrations. It includes all the Japanese Government-specified first grade level kanji characters and a sprinkling of simple second to sixth grade characters. The kanji are introduced in the context of 36 colorful paintings and poems by 14-year-old Anna Sato, herself a kanji learner. Each of the poems is presented in both Japanese and English, and all kanji are accompanied by furigana (small hiragana letters), stroke-order diagrams, sample vocabulary and boxes for writing practice. A charming and educational volume, My First Japanese Kanji Book can be used as a self-study text, a supplementary material in Japanese language schools or a gift book for family or friends. An MP3 audio CD reinforces learning and ensures correct pronunciation.

Book Information

Hardcover: 64 pages

Publisher: Tuttle Publishing; Csm Har/MP edition (April 25, 2017)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0804848890

ISBN-13: 978-0804848893

Product Dimensions: 8.5 x 11 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.2 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.4 out of 5 stars 4 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #1,677,263 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #67 in [Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > Foreign Language Learning > Japanese](#)

Age Range: 7 - 12 years

Grade Level: 2 - 6

Customer Reviews

"It's an illustrated picture book AND a workbook, all nicely hard-bound."

— PragmaticMom.com blog "Hazel and I began trying some out first with just regular colored pencils and I realized we were not getting the thickness of the lines correctly so I pulled out some calligraphy pens. Hazel loved this activity!! She wanted to do some more while I started making dinner. Again I love that Hazel gets to hear the correct pronunciation. I also showed her how to listen to the poems on her own if she wants to try some while I'm busy. This really excited her. She actually asked if we could try some lessons every day."

— Crafty Moms Share blog

Dr. Eriko Sato is Assistant Professor in the Department of Asian and Asian American Studies at the State University of New York at Stony Brook. She teaches Japanese language, linguistics and pedagogy as well as translation studies and acquisition of Asian languages. She serves as the adviser for the teacher education program for Japanese. Dr. Sato developed numerous courses including the first online Japanese course at her university. She has also authored or co-authored a number of books for teaching and learning Japanese, including Contemporary Japanese, Japanese Demystified, Japanese for Dummies, Complete Japanese Grammar, Basic Japanese, Basic Japanese: Introduction of the Structure of Japanese, Essential Japanese Grammar, My First Japanese Kanji Book, and Learning Japanese Kanji. Anna Sato is a 9th grader who loves languages, creative writing, art, and music. She participated in Japanese and Chinese weekend programs at the State University of New York at Stony Brook when she was an elementary school student.

VERY useful to people like me who are beginning the way to the Japanese language.

I'm a beginner in Japanese and I'm struggling not only with my sentence structure but my kanji as well. This book helps with both. Understand that the book does NOT teach sentence structure, so if you do not have ANY knowledge at putting sentences together... well, it may take a little longer to figure some of it out. The kanji is thoughtfully presented and kana pronunciations are presented along with the initial representations as well as with the simple sentences the kanji appear in. That really helps! Nice book for learning about 100 early kanji.

This book very carefully organizes important kanji characters so that young learners can easily continue learning kanji. For example, easy kanji, like numbers, the sun, the moon, etc. are introduced before slightly complex kanji, and one lesson introduces only a few kanji that are used in the same poem. My students memorized many poems in the book. Because the poems are short, they can recite them by heart, and can write one poem a day from their memory. This way, they can regularly practice and review kanji and hiragana.

I got this to help my kids learn kanji. The book has thick glossy pages which seem to contrast the workbook nature of the material. Each lesson has a color picture and a poem with kanji based on a theme. So for example, Lesson 9 has the kanji for rice field, soil, and rice. It gives the English

translation, but the pronunciation is all in hiragana. We are still learning the hiragana, so this book is too difficult at this point. It would be nice if it had romanji as well. Even if we were proficient in hiragana the thick, glossy pages would not take pencil well. The practice squares are not well defined. So the big picture of the kanji is the size of four small squares but does not have faint guidelines to copy the proportions of the letters into four small squares. If we are meant to use the small squares to complete the whole symbol it seems small for young children, its intended audience.

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