

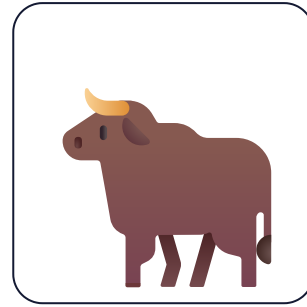


The Eel Day of Summer

Read the story. 英文を読もう。

Class _____ No. _____ Name _____

① In late July, a sweet and smoky smell fills the streets of Japan. It comes from grilled eel, called unagi. Long lines form outside eel shops, and supermarkets put up big flags with one letter, u. This is Doyo no Ushi no Hi, the Day of the Ox in summer.



音声を聞こう

② The name comes from the old calendar. Doyo is a period of about 18 days before a new season starts. Ushi means ox, one of the 12 animals of the Chinese zodiac. In the old calendar, each day also has one of these animals, so an ox day comes every 12 days. Some summers have two ox days, and others have only one.

③ Why eel? A famous story says that a scholar named Hiraga Gennai helped an eel shop in the 1700s. Summer was a slow season for the shop. He told the owner to put up a sign that said, "Today is the Day of the Ox." But nobody knows if this story is true. Still, the idea is very old. A poem from about 1,300 years ago tells a thin friend to eat eel in summer.

④ Today, there are fewer eels in the wild. Japanese eels are born in the ocean near the Mariana Islands, about 2,000 kilometers away. Scientists in Japan can now raise eels from eggs, but it is still very expensive. So people are asking a new question. How can we keep this tasty summer custom and protect the eels at the same time?

Words 単語

grilled (網や火で) 焼いた**smoky** 煙のにおいがする、香ばしい**zodiac** (十二支などの) 干支、星座**period** 期間**scholar** 学者**sign** 看板、貼り紙**custom** 習慣、しきたり**protect** 守る



Reading Check

Choose the best answer. 正しいものを選ぼう。

Class _____ No. _____ Name _____

1. What is the main idea of the reading?

- (A) Japanese people eat beef on a summer ox day. (B) Doyo no Ushi no Hi is a summer day for eating eel.
(C) Eels are born in rivers in Tokyo. (D) Hiraga Gennai opened the first eel shop.

2. How often does an ox day come in the old calendar?

- (A) Every 7 days (B) Every 18 days
(C) Every 30 days (D) Every 12 days

3. What does the reading say about the Hiraga Gennai story?

- (A) Nobody knows if it is true. (B) It is written in a 1,300-year-old poem.
(C) It happened in winter. (D) It is a story from Canada.

4. In paragraph 3, what does "a slow season" mean?

- (A) A season when people walk slowly (B) A season with very long days
(C) A season when few customers come (D) A season when eels swim slowly

5. In the dialogue, why does Emily think they will eat beef?

- (A) Because Sota likes steak. (B) Because the day is called the Day of the Ox.
(C) Because eel is too expensive. (D) Because it is a Canadian custom.

True or False? 正しいければ T、ちがえば F に○

Doyo no Ushi no Hi is on the same date every year.	T / F
An ox day comes every 12 days in the old calendar.	T / F
Everyone agrees that the Hiraga Gennai story is true.	T / F
Japanese eels are born in the ocean far from Japan.	T / F



Word Work

Words & phrases. 単語のれんしゅう。

Class _____ No. _____ Name _____

① Match the pictures and the words. 絵と単語を線で結ぼう。



●

● fire



●

● chopsticks



●

● ox



●

● ocean



●

● sun



●

● rice

② Fill in the blanks. 語群から選んで () に入れよう。

snow

winter

cake

energy

smoky

shop

grilled

rice

Ox

July

Eel Night

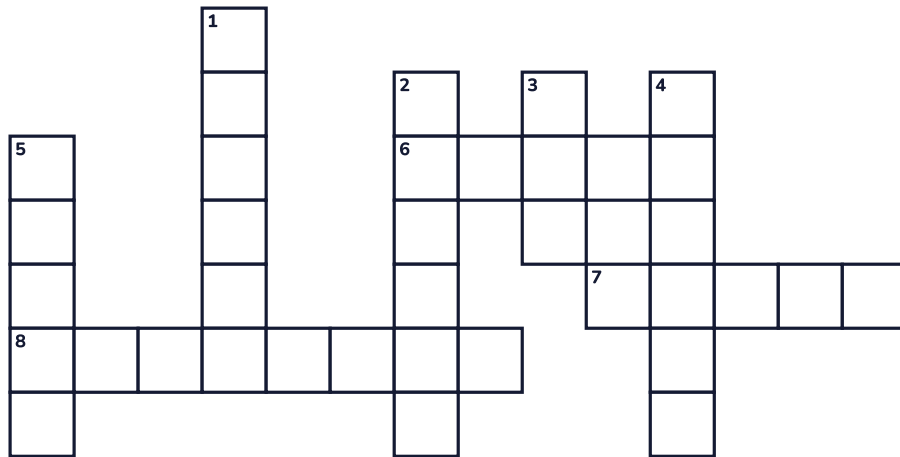
It was a hot day in (1) _____. Mom said, "Today is the Day of the (2) _____!" We went to an old eel (3) _____. The air smelled sweet and (4) _____. The cook (5) _____ the eel over hot charcoal. Then he put it on (6) _____ in a red box. I ate every bite. Dad smiled and said, "Now we have (7) _____ for the summer!"



Crossword Puzzle

Read the clues and fill in the puzzle. ヒントを読んで、クロスワードを完成させよう。

Class _____ No. _____ Name _____



Across →

- 6** A very big sea. The Pacific is one. (5)
7 To cook food over a fire. (5)
8 Black fuel from burned wood. Cooks use it for unagi. (8)

Down ↓

- 1** The hottest season of the year. (6)
2 The 12 animals: rat, ox, tiger, rabbit and more. (6)
3 A long fish that looks like a snake. In Japanese, unagi. (3)
4 You need it to run and play. Food gives it to you. (6)
5 A sweet brown liquid you put on the fish. (5)



Word Search

Find the hidden words. かくれた単語を探そう (→ ↓ ↘ ↗)。

Class _____ No. _____ Name _____

S	G	K	R	A	S	R	M	T	H	O	D	I
M	A	D	G	W	A	T	M	I	F	I	D	L
O	T	U	I	F	Y	N	U	R	A	A	I	A
K	U	P	C	H	E	G	S	L	E	V	F	B
Y	J	S	O	E	U	A	M	R	O	B	O	U
L	S	U	F	C	H	A	R	C	O	A	L	B
T	H	S	L	C	B	H	C	E	N	T	L	O
B	J	Z	P	Y	N	S	W	J	Y	K	V	S
T	O	O	R	G	T	A	U	G	O	L	G	T
J	I	D	Y	R	F	F	R	M	L	T	B	V
C	S	I	P	G	I	E	D	I	M	E	N	F
L	K	A	W	S	N	C	R	D	O	E	R	J
F	Y	C	G	E	U	G	E	H	Y	L	R	I

Find these words! 10

- ☐ CHARCOAL
- ☐ EEL
- ☐ ENERGY
- ☐ GRILL
- ☐ JULY
- ☐ RICE
- ☐ SAUCE
- ☐ SMOKY
- ☐ SUMMER
- ☐ ZODIAC



Class	No.	Name
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Collect the letters on the right path. What is the secret word? 正しい道の文字を集めると、ひみつの言葉になるよ。





Class Activity & Writing

Class _____ No. _____ Name _____

Let's Write! 英語で書いてみよう。

To beat the summer heat, I like to eat _____ because _____.

If I explain the Day of the Ox to a friend from abroad, I will say, "_____."



Trace & Color

Trace the words. Then color the picture! なぞって書こう。絵に色を塗ろう。

Class _____ No. _____ Name _____



ox



rice



fire



sun



ocean

Draw your Doyo no Ushi no Hi (Eel Day)! 土用の丑の日の絵を描こう。