



Demons Out, Luck In!

Read the story. 英文を読もう。

Class _____ No. _____ Name _____

① On a cold night in early February, Japanese families open the front door and throw beans into the dark. They shout, 'Oni wa soto! Fuku wa uchi!' It means 'Demons out! Luck in!' This is Setsubun. Then they quickly close the door, so the demons cannot come back in.



音声を聞こう

② Setsubun means the line between two seasons. Long ago, there were four Setsubun days each year, one before each season. Today, people only celebrate the day before the first day of spring. It is usually February 3, but not always. In 2021 and 2025, it was on February 2.

③ The custom began at the palace more than 1,000 years ago. People held a ceremony to chase away demons that brought sickness. A man in a scary mask with four eyes chased the demons. He also carried a spear and a big shield. But later, people began to see this man as a demon himself!

④ Today, people throw roasted soybeans. After that, each person eats one bean for each year of their age. Some people eat one more for good luck. So a grandmother who is 80 has a lot of beans to eat! In snowy places like Hokkaido, many families throw peanuts, because they are easy to find in the snow.

⑤ Many people also eat ehomaki, a thick sushi roll. They face the lucky direction of the year and eat the whole roll without talking. People say this custom came from Osaka. In 1989, a convenience store in Hiroshima gave it the name ehomaki, and by the 2000s the whole country was eating it.

Words 単語

demon 鬼、悪魔**throw** 投げる、まく**roasted** 炒った、焼いた**soybean** 大豆**chase away** 追い払う**luck** 運、幸運**season** 季節**direction** 方角、方向**mask** お面、仮面**custom** 習慣、風習**ceremony** 儀式、式**sickness** 病気



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) Setsubun is a summer festival in Osaka. (B) Setsubun is a day to chase away bad luck before spring.
(C) Setsubun is a day to give gifts to teachers. (D) Setsubun is a holiday when schools close.

2. How many Setsubun days were there each year long ago?

- (A) One (B) Two
(C) Three (D) Four

3. What did the man in the four-eyed mask do at first?

- (A) He chased the demons. (B) He sold beans.
(C) He made sushi. (D) He brought sickness.

4. How many beans should a 13-year-old eat?

- (A) 3 beans (B) 8 beans
(C) 13 or 14 beans (D) 80 beans

5. In paragraph 3, 'chase away' means:

- (A) to make something go away (B) to invite someone to a party
(C) to cook something quickly (D) to buy something cheaply

6. Which is true according to the reading?

- (A) Setsubun is always on February 3. (B) Families in Hokkaido never throw anything.
(C) People eat ehomaki without talking. (D) Ehomaki came from Hokkaido.

7. Why do you think families in snowy places throw peanuts?

- (A) Because peanuts are bigger and easy to pick up from the snow (B) Because demons love peanuts
(C) Because soybeans do not grow in Japan (D) Because peanuts are the lucky direction

8. In the dialogue, how many beans will Mia eat?

- (A) 8 (B) 13
(C) 80 (D) 16

True or False? 正しいければ T、ちがえば F に○

Setsubun is the day before the first day of spring.	T / F
Setsubun is always on February 3.	T / F
People say 'Demons out! Luck in!'	T / F
People eat ehomaki while talking a lot.	T / F
Some families throw peanuts instead of soybeans.	T / F
Setsubun is a national holiday in 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。



●

● fish



●

● peanuts



●

● compass



●

● beans



●

● demon



●

● spring flower



●

● door



●

● sushi

② Unscramble the words. 文字を並べ替えて単語にしよう。

1. E M O D N

2. S E S O N A

3. R A E O S T D

4. T O U C S M

5. N E I T D I C O R

6. Y A E B O S N

③ Fill in the blanks. 語群から選んで () に入れよう。

beans

mask

candy cane

swimsuit

quietly

lucky

door

sister

summer

year

direction

dinner

outside

Dad Is the Demon!

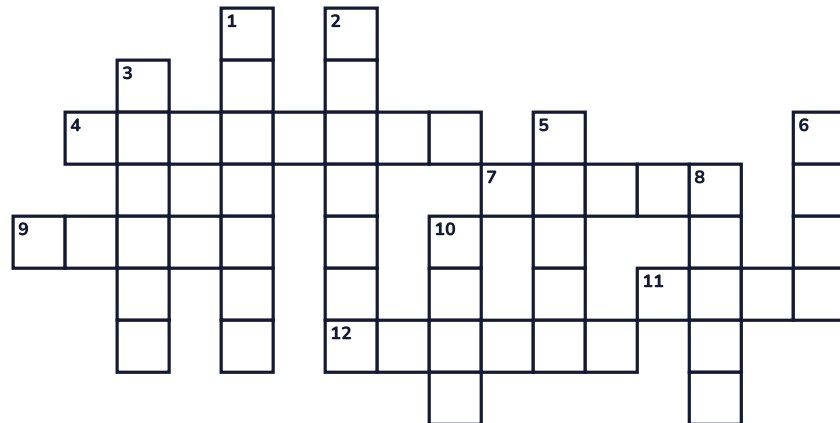
It was February 3. After (1) _____, Dad put on a red demon (2) _____. "Grrr!" he said. Riku and his little (3) _____ were ready. They opened the (4) _____ and threw (5) _____ at Dad. "Oni wa soto! Fuku wa uchi!" Dad ran (6) _____, and they quickly closed the door. Then they each ate beans, one for each (7) _____ of their age. Riku ate nine. Mom made ehomaki. Everyone faced the lucky (8) _____ and ate (9) _____. Riku wanted to talk, but he did not. It was a (10) _____ night.



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 →

- 4 The month of this event. (8)
- 7 People throw these small seeds at oni. (5)
- 9 Japanese food with rice and fish. Ehomaki is a big roll of it. (5)
- 11 Good things that happen by chance. (4)
- 12 The season after winter. (6)

Down ↓

- 1 A small fish. Its head is put on a holly branch. (7)
- 2 Nuts in a shell. People in Hokkaido throw them. (7)
- 3 Spring, summer, fall, or winter. (6)
- 5 A scary monster with horns. In Japan, it is oni. (5)
- 6 You wear this over your face. Dad wears a scary one. (4)
- 8 The opposite of north. (5)
- 10 A hard pointed thing on the head of a cow or an oni. (4)



Word Search

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

Class _____ No. _____ Name _____

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

Find these words! 14

- ☐ BEANS
- ☐ DEMON
- ☐ FEBRUARY
- ☐ HORN
- ☐ LUCK
- ☐ MASK
- ☐ PEANUTS
- ☐ ROLL
- ☐ SARDINE
- ☐ SEASON
- ☐ SOUTH
- ☐ SPRING
- ☐ SUSHI
- ☐ THROW

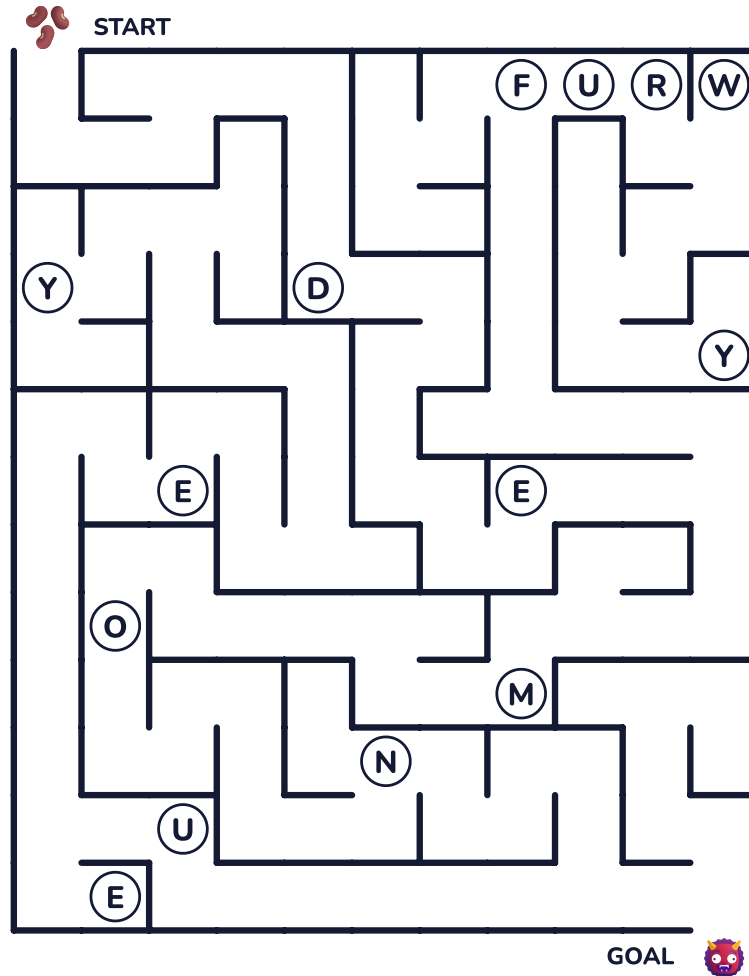
Secret Code 暗号を解こう！記号を文字に直すと、メッセージが出てくるよ。





Help the beans hit the demon!

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。



Secret word: _____

Put the words in order. 並べ替えて正しい文にしよう。

1. the / beans / out / throw / We / door .

2. the / spring / is / before / Setsubun / day .

3. for / each / bean / one / Eat / year .

4. My / a / dad / mask / wears / demon / scary .

5. talking / ehomaki / eat / without / We .



Find Someone Who... クラスで聞いて回ろう！ Ask: "Do you ...?" / "Have you ...?"

Find someone who ...	Name
... has thrown beans at a demon	
... has worn a demon mask	
... likes ehomaki	
... knows this year's lucky direction	
... has thrown peanuts on Setsubun	
... can eat ehomaki without talking	
... knows the date of Setsubun this year	
... can say 'Oni wa soto' in English	

Let's Write! 英語で書いてみよう。

This year, I want to chase away _____ because _____.

I want to invite _____ into my home because _____.

If I explain Setsubun to a friend, 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 _____



demon



beans



sushi



peanuts

