



Wishes Under the Milky Way

Read the story. 英文を読もう。

Class _____ No. _____ Name _____

① Every year on July 7, Japanese children write wishes on colorful paper strips. Then they hang the wishes on bamboo branches. This is Tanabata, the Star Festival.

② The festival comes from an old Chinese love story. Orihime was a princess who made beautiful cloth. Hikoboshi took care of cows. After

they got married, they played all day and stopped working. The king of the sky got angry and put them on two sides of the Milky Way. Now they can meet only once a year, on the night of July 7.

③ In the sky, Orihime is the star Vega, and Hikoboshi is the star Altair. But here is a surprising fact. The two stars are about 14.4 light-years apart. Even light needs more than 14 years to travel between them. Together with a third star, Deneb, they make a big shape called the Summer Triangle.

④ Long ago in China, women prayed to the stars on this night to become better at sewing. In Japan, children in the Edo period wished for better handwriting. Today, people write all kinds of wishes, like passing a test or winning a game.

⑤ July 7 is often rainy in Japan, so the stars may hide behind clouds. That is why some cities hold their festival in August. In Sendai, more than 2 million people come to see huge paper decorations from August 6 to 8. Rain or shine, it is a night to look up and make a wish.



音声を聞こう

Words 単語**wish** 願い、願う**strip** 細長い切れ**bamboo** 竹、笹**branch** 枝**princess** 王女、お姫さま**cloth** 布**the Milky Way** 天の川**light-year** 光年**apart** はなれて**sewing** 裁縫**handwriting** 手書きの文字、字**decoration** 飾り



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 passage?

- (A) How to grow bamboo
- (B) The story and customs of Tanabata
- (C) Why it rains in July
- (D) How to become a princess

2. Why did the king of the sky get angry?

- (A) Orihime and Hikoboshi stopped working.
- (B) The cows ran away.
- (C) It rained every day.
- (D) Hikoboshi lost the cloth.

3. Which star is Hikoboshi?

- (A) Vega
- (B) The Sun
- (C) Altair
- (D) The Moon

4. How far apart are the two stars?

- (A) About 7 light-years
- (B) About 1 light-year
- (C) About 100 light-years
- (D) About 14.4 light-years

5. In paragraph 4, what does "sewing" mean?

- (A) cooking food
- (B) making clothes with a needle and thread
- (C) singing songs
- (D) planting rice

6. Which is true about Tanabata in Sendai?

- (A) It is held in December.
- (B) It is held from August 6 to 8.
- (C) Only 200 people come.
- (D) It has no decorations.

7. Why do some cities hold Tanabata in August?

- (A) Because bamboo grows only in August.
- (B) Because schools are closed in July.
- (C) Because July 7 is often rainy and the stars are hard to see.
- (D) Because the stars move in August.

8. In the dialogue, what does Lucas wish for?

- (A) To win a game
- (B) To see the Milky Way
- (C) To pass a test
- (D) To speak Japanese better

True or False? 正しいければ T、ちがえば F に○

Tanabata is on July 7.	T / F
Orihime is the star Altair.	T / F
The two stars are about 14.4 light-years apart.	T / F
Tanabata is a national holiday in Japan today.	T / F
The Sendai Tanabata Festival is held in August.	T / F
Tanabata started in Brazil.	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。



● moon



● umbrella



● star



● bamboo



● thread



● princess



● noodles



● cow

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

1. A S T R

2. H S W I

3. M B O O B A

4. C L H T O

5. I P G M A E

6. T H G I N

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

winter

cloudy

faster

strip

August

wish

bamboo

practice

snow

stars

7

pumpkin

sky

Aya's Wish

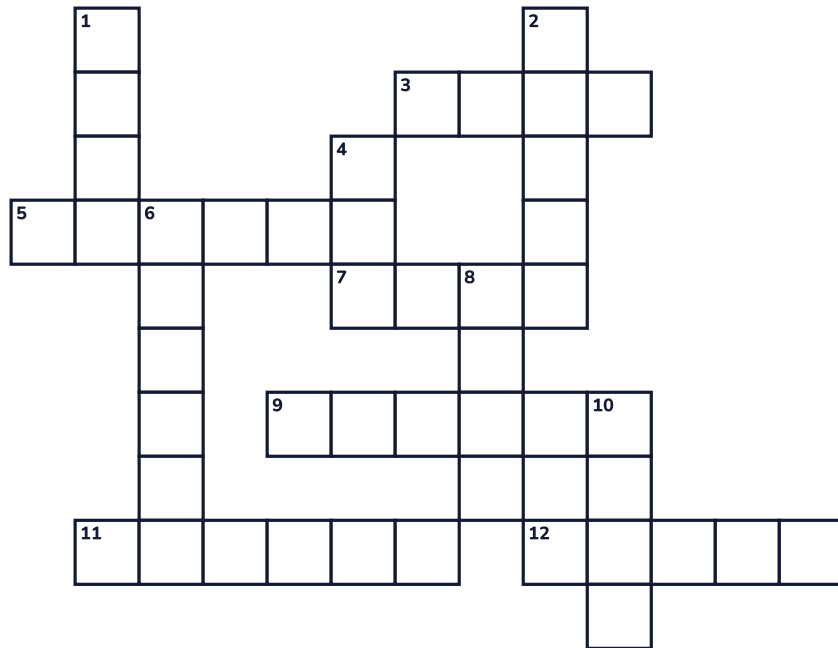
It is July (1) _____. Aya's class makes Tanabata decorations. Each student gets a paper (2) _____. Aya thinks hard. Then she writes, "I want to swim (3) _____." She hangs it on the (4) _____. In the evening, Aya and her mom look up at the (5) _____. It is (6) _____, and they cannot see the (7) _____. Aya is a little sad. Mom says, "Don't worry. In (8) _____, we can try again." Aya smiles and says, "I will also (9) _____ hard!" Her (10) _____ feels a little closer.



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 →

- 3 The seventh month of the year. (4)
- 5 A tall green plant. Pandas like to eat it. (6)
- 7 You write this on a paper strip. (4)
- 9 The bright star of Hikoboshi. (6)
- 11 A city in Tohoku with a famous festival in August. (6)
- 12 The dark time between evening and morning. (5)

Down ↓

- 1 The bright star of Orihime. (4)
- 2 Orihime made this. You can make a shirt from it. (5)
- 4 Hikoboshi took care of this farm animal. (3)
- 6 A black and white bird. In Chinese stories, it makes a bridge. (6)
- 8 A bright point in the night sky. (4)
- 10 Water that falls from clouds. It often comes in early July. (4)



Word Search

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

Class _____ No. _____ Name _____

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

Find these words! 14

- ☐ ALTAIR
- ☐ BAMBOO
- ☐ CLOTH
- ☐ COW
- ☐ JULY
- ☐ MAGPIE
- ☐ NIGHT
- ☐ PAPER
- ☐ RAIN
- ☐ SENDAI
- ☐ SKY
- ☐ STAR
- ☐ VEGA
- ☐ WISH

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。



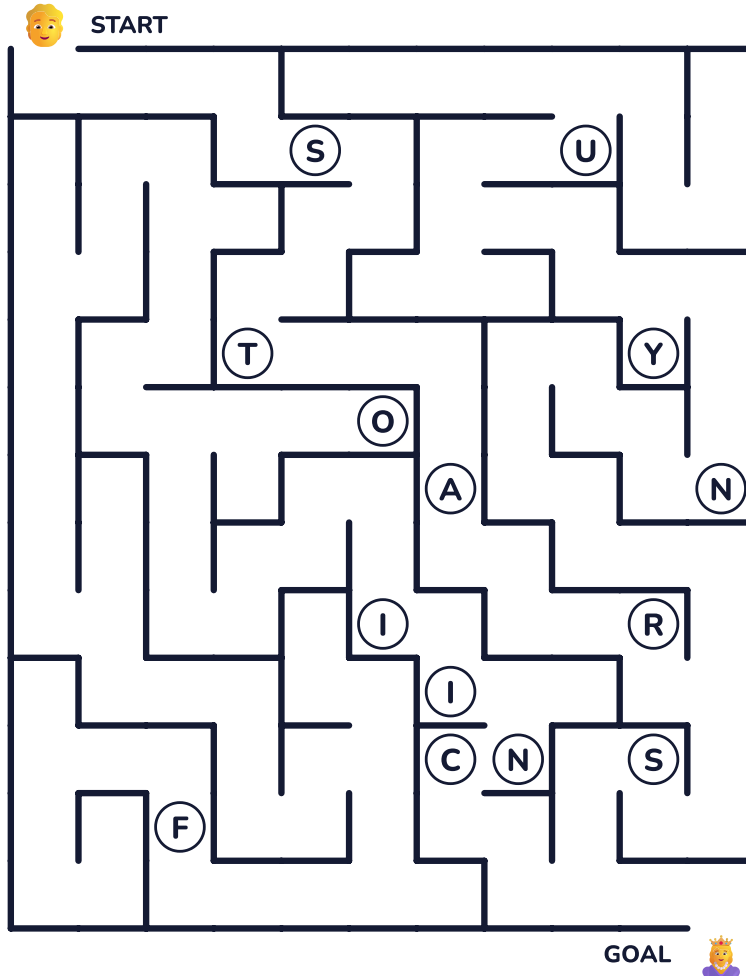


Maze & Sentences

Class _____ No. _____ Name _____

Help Hikoboshi cross the Milky Way to meet Orihime!

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. on / I / wrote / strip / my / wish / paper / a .

2. year / stars / once / meet / a / Two .

3. hang / We / the / on / wishes / bamboo .

4. is / July / often / It / on / 7 / rainy .

5. festival / big / has / August / in / Sendai / a .



Class Activity & Writing

Class _____ No. _____ Name _____

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

Find someone who ...	Name
... has written a wish on a tanzaku	
... has seen the Milky Way	
... knows the name of a star	
... has been to a Tanabata festival	
... likes somen noodles	
... can find the Summer Triangle	
... has a wish about sports	
... knows the English word for tanabata	

Let's Write! 英語で書いてみよう。

My Tanabata wish is _____ because _____.

If I could meet someone only once a year, I would _____.

I want to get better at _____, so I will _____.



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 _____



star



bamboo



moon



umbrella

