

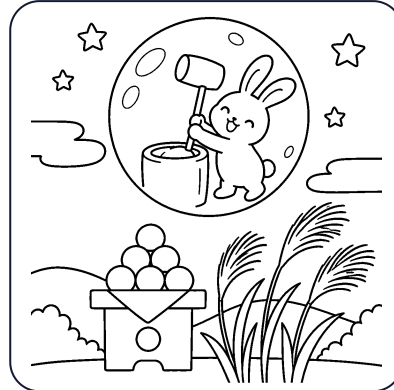


A Rabbit on the Moon: Tsukimi in Japan

Read the story. 英文を読もう。

Class _____ No. _____ Name _____

① Look up at the moon on a clear autumn night. Can you see a rabbit? In Japan, people say a rabbit lives on the moon and makes rice cakes. Each fall, families put out food for the moon and enjoy its light. This custom is called tsukimi, or moon viewing.



音声を聞こう

② Tsukimi came from China a long time ago. The oldest record of a moon party in Japan is from 859. Rich people at the palace wrote poems and played music under the moon. Some of them sat in boats and looked at the moon in the water. In an old story from the same time, Princess Kaguya goes back to the moon on this very night.

③ Today, tsukimi is on the 15th night of the eighth month of the old moon calendar. It is usually in September or early October. Families put round rice dumplings and tall grass called susuki by the window. Some people also offer taro, because it is harvest time.

④ Here is a fun fact. The moon on this night is not always full. In 2026, tsukimi was on September 25, but the full moon came two days later. This happens because the moon often takes more than 14 days to grow full, and the number of days changes every month. So the 15th night and the full moon are often one or two days apart.

⑤ Many countries in Asia enjoy the same moon. Chinese families eat mooncakes, and Koreans go back to their hometowns for Chuseok. In Vietnam, children walk through the streets with bright lanterns. So next time you see the autumn moon, say hello to the rabbit!

Words 単語

moon viewing 月見

full moon 満月

custom 習慣、風習

rice cake 餅

dumpling 団子

offer 供える

harvest 収穫

palace 宮殿、宮廷

poem 詩

calendar 暦

lantern 灯籠、ちょうちん

mooncake 月餅



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) Rabbits in Japan eat rice cakes in the fall.
- (B) Moon viewing is an autumn custom in Japan with a long history.
- (C) Japanese people go to China to see the moon.
- (D) The full moon in Japan always comes on September 15.

2. When is the oldest record of a moon party in Japan from?

- (A) 2026.
- (B) 1135.
- (C) 859.
- (D) 1991.

3. What did rich people at the palace do under the moon?

- (A) They wrote poems and played music.
- (B) They made mooncakes.
- (C) They walked with lanterns.
- (D) They had a barbecue.

4. In 2026, when was the full moon?

- (A) On September 23.
- (B) On September 25.
- (C) On September 15.
- (D) Two days after September 25.

5. In paragraph 3, what does "offer" mean?

- (A) To sell something.
- (B) To give something as a gift to a god or the moon.
- (C) To throw something away.
- (D) To cook something.

6. Which sentence matches the reading?

- (A) Tsukimi started in Brazil.
- (B) Tsukimi is always in August.
- (C) Children in Vietnam walk with lanterns.
- (D) The moon on this night is always full.

7. Why do some people offer taro?

- (A) Because taro looks like a rabbit.
- (B) Because the moon likes potatoes.
- (C) Because it is the time to harvest taro.
- (D) Because taro is from China.

8. In the dialogue, what does Lucas say some people in Brazil see on the moon?

- (A) Saint George.
- (B) A rabbit.
- (C) A crab.
- (D) A woman's face.

True or False? 正しいければ T、ちがえば F に○

- | | |
|---|-------|
| Tsukimi came from China. | T / F |
| The moon on Jugoya is always a full moon. | T / F |
| Families put dumplings and susuki by the window. | T / F |
| In Japan, people say a rabbit makes rice cakes on the moon. | T / F |
| Tsukimi is a national holiday in Japan. | T / F |
| In 2026, tsukimi was on August 15. | 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。



● dumpling



● lantern



● star



● grass



● chestnut



● mooncake



● rabbit



● full moon

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

1. R B A B T I

2. S T V A R E H

3. N U A M T U

4. N A T R L E N

5. E N P S I R C S

6. C S O U M T

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

year

window

outside

cakes

grass

table

rabbit

beach

dumplings

moon

pencil

snow

quiet

Sota's Moon Night

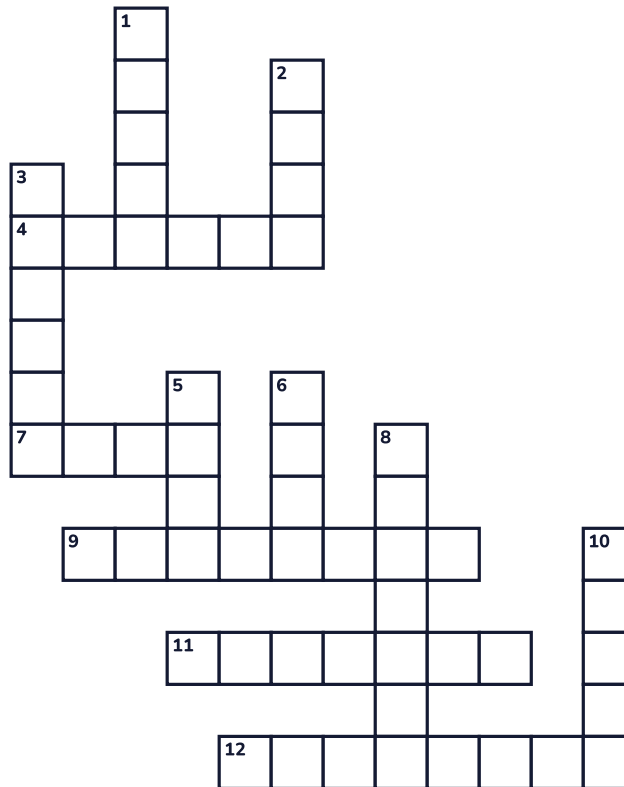
On the night of Jugoya, Sota helped his mom make (1) _____. They made fifteen and put them on a small (2) _____ by the (3) _____. Mom also brought some tall (4) _____ from the riverside. At eight o'clock, a big yellow (5) _____ came up over the roofs. "Can you see the (6) _____?" Mom asked. Sota looked hard. "Yes! It is making rice (7) _____!" Then they sat (8) _____ and ate the dumplings. The night was cool and (9) _____. Sota said, "Thank you, Moon. See you next (10) _____!"



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 season between summer and winter. (6)
- 7 A brown potato-like vegetable. It is offered on Jugoya. (4)
- 9 A small round ball made of rice flour. (8)
- 11 The time when farmers collect their crops. (7)
- 12 The daughter of a king. Kaguya is one. (8)

Down ↓

- 1 The dark time when you can see stars. (5)
- 2 It shines in the night sky and goes around the Earth. (4)
- 3 An animal with long ears. In Japan, people see one in the night sky. (6)
- 5 Short writing with beautiful words, often in lines. (4)
- 6 The moon is round and bright. It is a ____ moon. (4)
- 8 A paper light. Children in Vietnam carry one. (7)
- 10 A green plant that covers fields and parks. (5)



Word Search

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

Class _____ No. _____ Name _____

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

Find these words! 13

- ☐ AUTUMN
- ☐ CAKE
- ☐ DUMPLING
- ☐ GRASS
- ☐ HARVEST
- ☐ LANTERN
- ☐ LIGHT
- ☐ MOON
- ☐ NIGHT
- ☐ PRINCESS
- ☐ RABBIT
- ☐ STAR
- ☐ TARO

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。



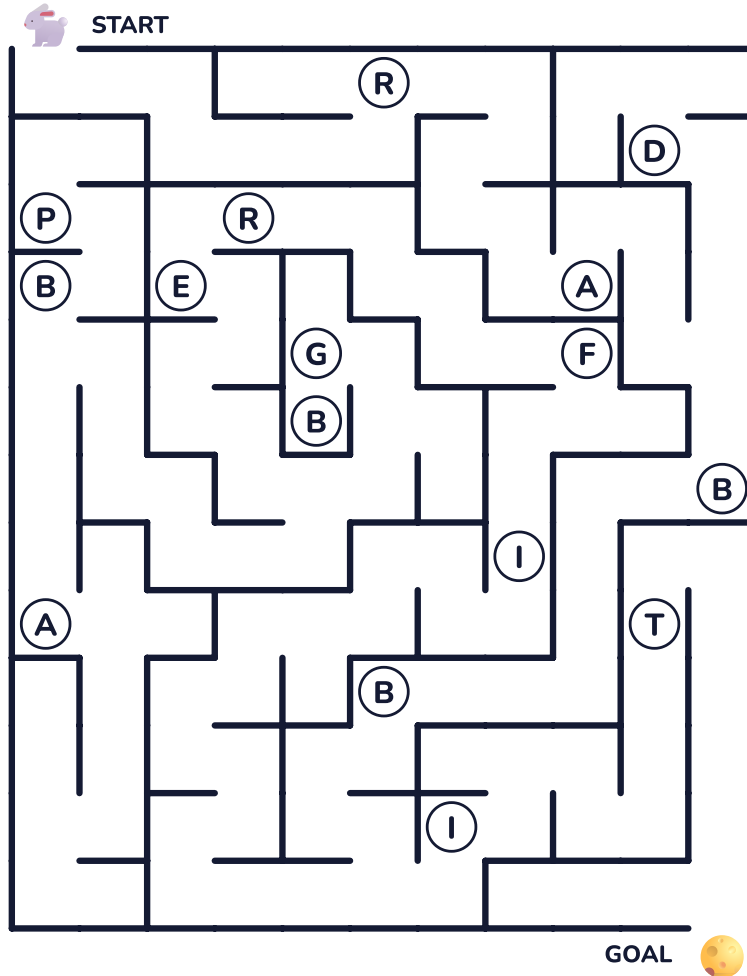


Maze & Sentences

Class _____ No. _____ Name _____

Help the rabbit go back to the moon!

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. in / We / the / look / autumn / moon / at .

2. cakes / rabbit / moon / the / on / rice / makes / A .

3. put / dumplings / the / window / We / by .

4. later / came / days / moon / full / two / The .

5. custom / This / China / long / ago / came / from .



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 made tsukimi dumplings	
... can see a rabbit on the moon	
... has eaten a mooncake	
... knows the story of Princess Kaguya	
... has eaten tsukimi udon	
... knows the English word for 満月	
... likes looking at the night sky	
... has seen the moon through a telescope	

Let's Write! 英語で書いてみよう。

When I look at the moon, I see _____.

If I could go to the moon, I would _____.

On Jugoya, I want to offer _____ to the moon because _____.



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 _____



full moon



rabbit



dumpling



grass

