



Plum Rain and a Little White Doll

Read the story. 英文を読もう。

Class _____ No. _____ Name _____

① In June, the sky in much of Japan turns gray. It rains on many days for more than a month. This is the rainy season, called tsuyu. The kanji for tsuyu mean plum and rain. Many people say this is because plums get ripe at this time. Some people say the name first came from another word for mold.



② Old Japanese calendars have a special day called nyubai. It means entering the rainy season. Today, this day is decided by the position of the sun. It is usually around June 11. Farmers used it as a sign to get ready for planting rice.

③ But the real rain does not read calendars. So the weather office in Japan watches the sky and says when the rainy season has started in each area. In Okinawa, it usually starts in early May. In Hokkaido, there is no official rainy season at all. Every September, the office checks the summer weather again and sometimes changes the dates.

④ Children have their own way to stop the rain. They make a teru teru bozu, a small white doll of paper or cloth. They hang it by the window and wish for a sunny day. The idea may come from China, where a paper girl with a broom sweeps the clouds away. And if you hang the doll upside down, you are asking for rain!

Words 単語

rainy season 雨季、梅雨

plum 梅、プラム

ripe 熟した

mold カビ

position 位置

official 公式の、正式な

hang つるす、かける

upside down さかさまに



Reading Check

Choose the best answer. 正しいものを選ぼう。

Class _____ No. _____ Name _____

1. What is the passage mainly about?

- (A) How to grow plums in Japan
- (B) The rainy season in Japan and a doll for sunny weather
- (C) Why Hokkaido has the most rain in Japan
- (D) How to make a paper ghost for Halloween

2. When is nyubai usually?

- (A) around May 10
- (B) around June 7
- (C) around June 11
- (D) around July 19

3. What does the weather office do every September?

- (A) It checks the summer weather again.
- (B) It starts the rainy season in Hokkaido.
- (C) It makes teru teru bozu for children.
- (D) It decides the position of the sun.

4. In paragraph 1, what does ripe mean in plums get ripe?

- (A) small and hard
- (B) wet from rain
- (C) sold in shops
- (D) ready to eat

5. Why does Haruki tell Mia not to hang the doll upside down?

- (A) Because it will fall down.
- (B) Because it means you want rain.
- (C) Because it looks like a ghost.
- (D) Because the window is too small.

True or False? 正しいければ T、ちがえば F に○

- | | |
|---|-------|
| Nyubai is usually around June 11. | T / F |
| Hokkaido has a long official rainy season. | T / F |
| A teru teru bozu is a doll for sunny weather. | T / F |
| The weather office never changes the dates. | 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。



●

● sun



●

● broom



●

● frog



●

● umbrella



●

● snail



●

● cloud

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

upside

sun

soccer

face

snow

paper

June

window

Sora and the Rain

It is (1) _____. It rains every day. Sora wants to play (2) _____ on Saturday. So she makes a teru teru bozu with white (3) _____. She draws a smiling (4) _____ on it.

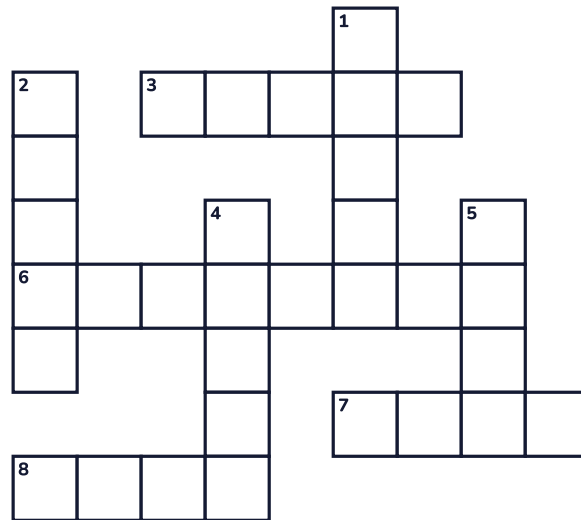
Then she hangs it by the (5) _____. On Saturday, the sky is blue. "Thank you!" Sora says. The (6) _____ is shining!



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 weather is bright, and there are no clouds. (5)
6 You hold it over your head on wet days. (8)
7 The sixth month of the year. (4)
8 A small round fruit. Its tree has pink or white flowers in early spring. (4)

Down ↓

- 1** A small slow animal with a shell on its back. (5)
2 It is white or gray and floats in the sky. (5)
4 You use it to sweep the floor. (5)
5 Water that falls from the sky. (4)



Word Search

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

Class _____ No. _____ Name _____

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

Find these words! 10

- ☐ CLOUD
- ☐ DOLL
- ☐ FROG
- ☐ JUNE
- ☐ PLUM
- ☐ RAIN
- ☐ SNAIL
- ☐ SUNNY
- ☐ UMBRELLA
- ☐ WET



Class _____ **No.** _____ **Name** _____

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。

On a rainy day, I like to _____ because _____.

If I made a teru teru bozu, I would wish for a sunny day for _____.



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 _____



umbrella



snail



frog



cloud



sun

Draw your Tsuyu (Rainy Season)! 入梅（梅雨入り）とてるてる坊主の絵を描こう。