

Japanese calligraphy

Students' Material

1. Discovering Japanese calligraphy

1. See the short film shown on https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rf-n_qI2occ. It shows you how to write and read Japanese katakana characters that are only used for loan words.
2. You can read some of the katakana characters while listening to the short film on YouTube.
3. Let's talk about how these characters sound! Do you have similar sounds in your home language(s) or in any other languages you might know?

2. Let's study Japanese

1. Look carefully at the katakana character list.
2. Choose one character and try to draw it by yourself.
3. Then try to pronounce it and present it to your classmates.

Japanese "Katakana" Character List

ア	イ	ウ	エ	オ								
a	i	u	e	o								
カ	キ	ク	ケ	コ	ガ	ギ	グ	ゲ	ゴ	ギヤ	ギユ	ギョ
ka	ki	ku	ke	ko	ga	gi	gu	ge	go	gya	gyu	gyo
サ	シ	ス	セ	ソ	ザ	ジ	ズ	ゼ	ゾ	ジャ	ジュ	ジョ
sa	shi	su	se	so	za	ji	zu	ze	zo	ja	ju	jo
タ	チ	ツ	テ	ト	ダ	ヂ	ヅ	デ	ド	チャ	チュ	チョ
ta	chi	tsu	te	to	da	ji	zu	ze	do	cha	chu	cho
ナ	ニ	ヌ	ネ	ノ						ニヤ	ニユ	ニョ
na	ni	nu	ne	no						nya	nyu	nyo
ハ	ヒ	フ	ヘ	ホ	バ	ビ	ブ	ベ	ボ	ビヤ	ビユ	ビョ
ha	hi	fu	he	ho	ba	bi	bu	be	bo	bya	byu	byo
マ	ミ	ム	メ	モ						ミヤ	ミユ	ミョ
ma	mi	mu	me	mo						mya	myu	myo
ヤ		ユ		ヨ								
ya		yu		yo								
ラ	リ	ル	レ	ロ						リヤ	リュ	リョ
ra	ri	ru	re	ro						rya	ryu	ryo
ワ				ヲ								
wa				wo								
ン					パ	ピ	プ	ペ	ポ	ピヤ	ピユ	ピョ
n					pa	pi	pu	pe	po	pya	pyu	pyo

The katakana table is read from right to left or from top to bottom

3. Play with Katakana



Grouping:

Look again at the katakana table.

Form different groups and choose a character from the table.

Each group will form the chosen katakana character with their bodies on the floor.

The other group is going to guess which katakana character is produced by their classmates' bodies.