LESSON NOTES

# Japanese Culture Class #20
# Japanese Games Part II

CONTENTS

2 Vocabulary
2 Sample Sentences
2 Grammar

# 20


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# VOCABULARY

| Kanji | Kana | Romaji | English |
|---|---|---|---|
| 福笑い | ふくわらい | fukuwarai | jovial laughter game |
| 折り紙 | おりがみ | origami | paper folding |
| 千羽鶴 | せんばづる | senbazuru | 1000 paper cranes |
| 綾取り | あやとり | ayatori | cat's cradle |
| 剣玉 | けんだま | kendama | cup and ball game |
| 隠れん坊 | かくれんぼ | kakurenbo | hide-and-seek |
| じゃん拳 | じゃんけん | janken | Rock, paper, scissors game |

# SAMPLE SENTENCES

折り紙ができますか。
*Origami ga dekimasu ka?*

Can you make origami?

# GRAMMAR

### 福笑い ・ふくわらい ・*fukuwarai* - jovial laughter game

This is a game similar to pin the tail on the donkey which is often played around お正月 ・おしょうがつ ・o-shōgatsu, or New Year's. A piece of paper with outline of a head is usually placed on the floor or a table, and the player must place pieces of a face drawn on paper in the outline while blindfolded, in an attempt to reconstruct the face.

### 折り紙 ・おりがみ ・*origami* - paper folding

The popularity of origami has spread far outside of japan over the years. Usually, a small piece of square paper is folded into shapes of varying difficulty, such as hats, swords, airplanes, or cranes. Often, the paper has different colors or designs on each side. 千羽鶴 ・せんばづる ・*senbazuru* means means 1000 cranes and is 1000 origami cranes, often attached to a string and sent to someone or some group as a wish for good luck, health, or a sign of peace.

### 綾取り ・あやとり ・*ayatori* - cat's cradle

The game commonly know as cat's cradle" is actually a part of many cultures. This game is characterized by using a string and your fingers to from various shapes. Some common ones among the Japanese are 東京タワー ・とうきょうタワー ・Tōkyō tawā(Tokyo Tower) and 富士山 ・ふじさん ・Fujisan(Mt. Fuji). There are also more comlex moves that require more than one person, asuch as 亀 ・かめ ・kame, or the turtle.

### 剣玉 ・けんだま ・*kendama* - cup and ball game

Kendama is a game played using an apparatus that looks like a hammer, with a spike on top. A string is attached to both the hammer, and to a ball that rests on the spike. Each side of the "hammer", as well as the end of the handle, is actually a cup that can be used to catch the ball. One swing s and tries to catch the ball in various positions, including the spike.

### 隠れん坊 ・かくれんぼう ・*kakurenbō* - hide-and-seek

Hide-and-seek is another game that exists among many cultures. In Japan, when the person who is "it" finishes counting, he or she calls out "もういいかい ・*mō ii kai*" to ask if the others are ready, or "まだだよ ・*mada da yo*" to signify that they are not. In addition to children enjoying this game, *kakurenbo* is actually quite popular among older Japanese as well. In fact, there are even university clubs devoted to the game!