

Knowledge Organiser Year 4 - Autumn 1 2023

Geography - Japan - Tokyo/Transport Networks

Where in the world is Japan?

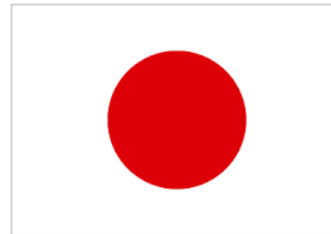
- Japan is a country in Asia.
- Japan is an archipelago (a string of islands). There are four main islands: Hokkaido, Honshu, Shikoku, and Kyushu. There are also nearly 4,000 smaller islands!
- Almost four-fifths of Japan is covered with mountains.



In September, Year 4 are going to be learning all about Japan in our Geography learning. We will be focusing on the capital city (Tokyo) and we will also be learning about the transport networks across Japan.

Read the information below to find out more about our Geography learning.

Don't forget to complete your project too!



The Japanese flag



Mount Fuji in Japan

Tokyo

- Tokyo is the capital city of Japan.
- Tokyo is the world's largest urban area.
- Tokyo has a population of around 14 million people.
- Tokyo was destroyed by fires started by the Great Kantō earthquake in 1923. It was also badly damaged by bombs during World War II. After the war, the city was rebuilt.
- The Tokyo Sky Tree, Shibuya Crossing and the Meiji Jingu Shrine are famous landmarks in Tokyo.



Tokyo, Japan

Shinkansen trains

- The **Shinkansen** (in Japanese 新幹線) is a group of high-speed rail lines in Japan. The famous "Bullet Trains" run on these lines.
- As Japan has many mountains, the network that existed before the Shinkansen were built tended to take longer routes.
- Unlike the older lines, Shinkansen lines use **tunnels** and **viaducts** to go through and over obstacles, rather than around them.
- Shinkansen trains run at speeds of up to 185 mph, putting them among the fastest trains running in the world!



A Shinkansen train

Suspension bridges

- Suspension bridges are bridges with overhead cables which support the roadway underneath.
- Modern suspension bridges can span longer distances than any other type of bridge.
- The **Akashi-Kaikyō Bridge** in Japan is the world's longest suspension bridge.
- Before the Akashi-Kaikyō Bridge was built, boats and ferries were used to transport passengers and vehicles across the Akashi Strait. This was considered one of the world's most dangerous waterways.



Akashi-Kaikyō Bridge

Project for Home Learning

Can you find out more about Tokyo and the transport networks in Japan and present your learning in a creative way?

You could...

- **create a powerpoint presentation showing your research**
- **create a 3D model of a Shinkansen train**
- **create a 3D model of Tokyo or one of its famous buildings**
- **sketch/paint a picture of Tokyo**
- **find out about Japanese cuisine and make a delicious Japanese recipe with your adults at home**

or anything else you can think of!

