

Selected Online Resources for Teaching with *While I Was Away*

- [Kids Web Japan: Schools](#) [Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan]
A student-friendly overview of Japanese K-12 education including pictures with a focus on the actual school day.
- [Japan Fact Sheet: Education \[PDF\]](#) [Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan]
Provides background information Japanese education from kindergarten through college.
- [Cross Currents: Japan Through the Year](#) [University of Hawaii]
Information about schooling in Japan.
- [What Is School Really Like in Japan \[PDF\]](#) [Keizai Koho Center]
Middle school lesson plan that can be done independently or as part of a unit.
- [World Factbook: Japan](#) [CIA]
Offers up-to-date statistics on energy, population, literacy, economy, natural resources, etc.
- [Aging and the Family](#) [University of Pittsburgh]
Essay about this critical problem for Japanese society.
- [Japan: Exploring Different Cultural Components of Japan Through Education, Declining Population, and Immigration \[PDF\]](#) [Foreign Policy Research Institute]
Lesson plan for grade 10, but may be adapted.
- [Being Japanese American in Japan](#) [Japanese American National Museum]
Interview with Vince Ota, a young designer, experiencing the country of his ancestors.

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