

Let's dive into the world of Japanese Children's Day!

In Japan, May 5th is a special day just for YOU!

It's a day filled with flying giant fish, cool Samurai armor, and snacks with wrapped in leaves. Want to know a tiny fish can turn into a powerful dragon?

Symbolizing strength, health, and future success for children.



Why 'carp'? The carp is a very strong and energetic fish. It can swim through fast rivers and even jump up waterfalls!

Koi nobori carp swimming up



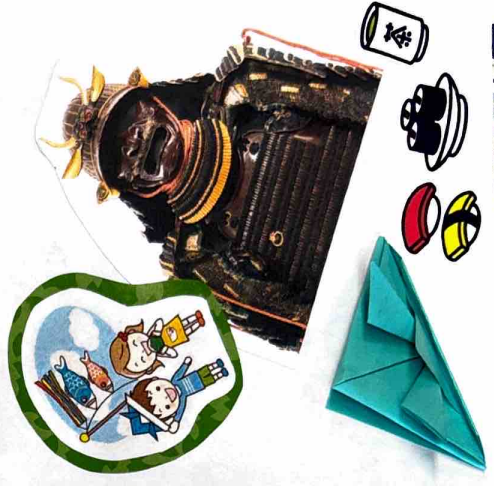
Hey Families! Did you know? Symbols of Children's Day



Japanese

Children's Day

May 5



These are traditional displays of miniature samurai armor and helmets. They symbolize the wish for children to grow up strong and healthy.

Samurai Helmets



"They represent STRENGTH and PROTECTION"

Displaying May Dolls

The Legend of Dragon



Legend says there's a golden waterfall called the 'Dragon Gate'. Many fish try to climb it, but only the brave carp never gives up. When it finally reaches the top, it transforms into a powerful dragon.

This story teaches us 'Perseverance'. Even when things are hard, if you keep trying like the carp, you can achieve something amazing and become your own version of a dragon.

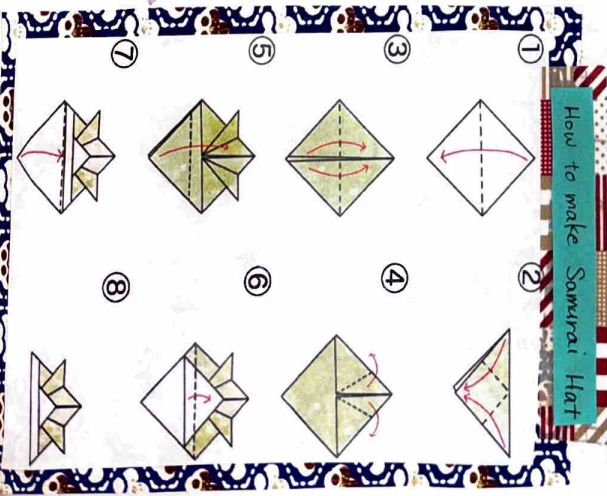


Food and Custom

These are rice cakes filled with sweet bean paste **kashiwa-mochi** and wrapped in an oak leaf. Since oak leaves don't fall until new buds grow, they represent the prosperity of the family and the continuity of generations.

On May 5th, it is a custom to take a hot bath with floating iris leaves (shoub (shoubu)). The long leaves look like samurai swords, and their aroma is believed to drive away evil spirits.

Shoubu



How to make Samurai Hat