

# Year 4 Red Kites Geography Summer 2

# Japan



## Where is Japan?

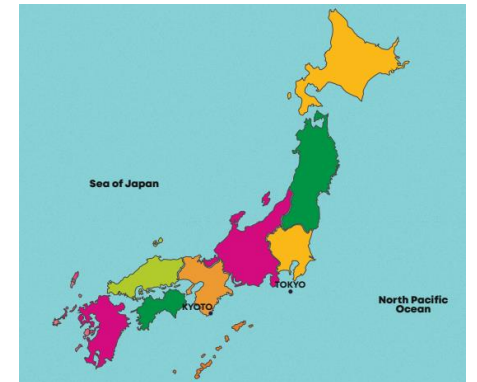


Key Vocabulary	Definition
<b>archipelago</b>	A group or chain of islands.
<b>climate</b>	The average weather in a place over many years.
<b>humid</b>	When the air feels damp and sticky, like when it's hot and you start to sweat a lot.
<b>kimono</b>	A long, loose traditional Japanese robe with wide sleeves and tied with a sash.
<b>Kyoto</b>	A large city in Honshu, Japan. It was previously the capital.
<b>Land of the Rising Sun</b>	The name sometimes given to Japan because of the sun rising in the east and it being the most Easterly area in Asia.
<b>monsoon</b>	Wing systems that bring heavy rains in summer and winter.
<b>origami</b>	A Japanese art of folding paper to make decorative shapes and figures.
<b>samurai</b>	Japanese army warriors.
<b>Shinkansen</b>	The name of the super-fast bullet train system
<b>tectonic plate</b>	The Earth's surface is not one solid piece, but is broken up into large, rocky slabs known as tectonic plates.
<b>Tokyo</b>	The capital city of Japan.
<b>tsunami</b>	Unusually large sea waves caused by earthquakes, seaquakes or underwater volcanic eruption.
<b>typhoon</b>	A powerful, spinning storm that forms over warm ocean water, similar to a hurricane but specifically occurring in the western Pacific Ocean.

## What is the country of Japan like?

Japan is an archipelago, or string of islands, on the eastern edge of Asia. The capital city is Tokyo. 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. The highest peak is Mount Fuji. Although a small country by Area, Japan has a large Population of 126.2 million; double that of the UK.



## Currency

The Yen is the official currency of Japan and is one of the most traded currencies in the world.



## The Bullet Trains

Japanese bullet trains, known as Shinkansen, are super fast and reliable! They travel at speeds up to 320 km/h, connecting major cities in Japan. They are known for their punctuality, safety, and comfort.



## Geological Dangers

Japan is located in the north-western Ring of Fire on multiple tectonic plates and is prone to earthquakes, tsunami and volcanoes because of its location. As many as 1,500 earthquakes are recorded yearly.

