



Pathfinder:
Ancient Japan
This is a pathfinder to help
with your research for
Ancient Japan.

Search tools: When you are in the library you can use one of our two catalog lookup stations to find books that you need. From any computer in the high school you can use the same catalog by using the following URL 10.1.9.75:8080

Introductory Materials: Encyclopedias are a great way to start your research if you are not familiar with your subject. This will give you a quick explanation and other terms and ideas to expand your search terms.

Terms and Keywords: Use Alexandria, our on-line catalog, to look for your book sources. You may try specific words to find your subject like 'samurai'. Remember to think beyond what your subject is to a larger, broader picture. So instead of just 'samurai' try searches such as 'martial arts', 'swords', and 'warriors'. Use the index in the back of the book for your specific, more detailed subject. These are some broader terms you can use:

- Japan
- Japanese mythology
- Haiku-Japanese poetry
- Japanese food and recipes
- Japanese art

Dewey Numbers: We organize our books according to the Dewey Decimal System. These are some of the areas you will find books for this project.

- 299.56 Japanese Mythology
- 641.5952 Japanese Food
- 895.6 Poetry from Japan

Reference Materials to Use: The books reference stickes on them *cannot* be checked out, however, you may make copies of the pages you need in them. Don't forget to copy the title page to use for your works cited page. Here are just a few of the books we have in the reference section that could help you out.

- REF 641.3 JUN *Junior Worldmark encyclopedia of foods and recipes of the world*
- REF 950 HIG *Encyclopedia of ancient Asian Civilizations*
- REF 355.8 COE *Swords and Hilt Weapons*

Internet Resources: When you google a topic you can literally get millions of websites. It is difficult to know whether you have a reputable website. Most websites with the suffix .edu and .org are reliable. Make sure the .com sites are credible, if they are from wellknown entities like historychannel.com or newsweek.com they are fine to use. Here are a few good sites.

- <http://www.facts-about-japan.com/ancient-japan.html> discusses time periods throughout history
- www.samurai-archives.com/ The Samurai Archives: Japanese History Page.
- www.japan-guide.com/e/e641.html History of Japan.
- http://www.tokyo-top-guide.com/Ancient_Japanese_Culture.html Japanese culture and history

Additional Reading:

- *Across the Nightingale Floor* by Lian Hearn. Tales of the Otori series.
- *The Samurai and the Long-nosed Devils* by Lensey Namioka. *A Zenta and Matsuzo Mystery.*
- *Ancient tales and folklore of Japan* by Gordon R. Smith.
- *The Samurai's Garden* by Gail Tsukiyama