Famous People of Japan

**Purpose:**
Become familiar with some Japanese people.

**Target Grade Levels:** 4-12

**Essential Questions:**
1. Who are some famous Japanese people?
2. What did famous Japanese people contribute?

**Rationale:**
Students will learn how the United States has benefited from famous Japanese people.

**Materials:**
- Who's Who of Japan book (Amazon.com)

**Activities:**
1. Teacher introduces and makes students aware of selected Japanese people.
2. Students investigate famous Japanese contributions and how they have affected the United States.
3. Students present findings in reports done in skits, group work, role playing or written reports.
4. Class discussion and teacher’s feedback on reports and notes taken during presentations.
5. Students write a question on a famous Japanese person for a test.

**Assessment:**
Rubric, discussion and test
Relationship to Social Studies Standards:

Grades 9-10, People in Societies, Benchmark A

Analyze the influence of different cultural perspectives on the actions of groups.

Literature, Politics, Film, Television, Sports, and the Imperial Family (p.35)

Tezuka OSAMU (p.40)

Katsushika HOKUSAI (p.47)

Tetsuko KUROYANAGI (p.54)

The lessons on Famous People of Japan were developed by Theresa A. Bica, Supervisor of Elementary Student Teachers, Kent State University, Kent, Ohio; Sylvia Linda Cotter, Teacher, St. Mary Elementary School, Columbus, Ohio; and Nancy DgDung, Teacher and Reading Specialist, St. Mary Elementary School, Columbus, Ohio.