During the holiday season, we talked about Christmas in Japan and what a typical meal is like on Christmas Eve there. Then I had students tell me about what they eat on Christmas Day. Following that, I did a presentation on the custom of New Year cards. In the lesson, they learned about New Year’s greeting words, how to write an address in Japanese, the meanings of common motifs that Japanese people use on new years cards, and facts about the East Asian zodiac. At the end of the class, they created their own New Year’s card with rubber stamps that I’d prepared.

In a presentation on Halloween, I told students about Japanese monsters and had them compare the monsters they know and Japanese monsters.

In a presentation on lucky charms, I told students about Japanese charms and had them tell me about lucky charms they know.

Prior Supervisor’s Comment:
After watching her presentation to West High students, it was clear to me that Hiromi is able to engage and relate to high school students in a very positive way, making the cultural content of her presentation relevant to their own lives.

Coordinator’s Comment:
Even in a language class, I believe if a teacher includes more cultural ideas in a lesson, that lesson will be more memorable.
2. To Provide Opportunities for Japan-related Outreach to University Students

- **Target Learners:**
  - Japanese learners at UW-Madison
  - Japanese exchange students at UW-Madison

- **Learning Target:**
  - To learn more about Japanese culture and share that knowledge with other people.

- **Aim of Outreach:**
  - To provide opportunities for Japan-related outreach to University Students.

When I work at an event, I need the help of volunteers, especially when I teach origami to small kids, so I ask university students to help out. Students who are studying Japanese language at UW-Madison and university students from Japan happily help me as volunteers. In the case of Japanese learners, these students are already interested in Japanese culture, so it is a chance for them to add to their knowledge about Japan and learn how to teach others about it.

Many of the Japanese exchange students I meet at the UW-Madison are looking for opportunities to participate in cultural events. Some of them are even interested in giving presentations as I’m doing at schools. They want these opportunities as valuable experiences, and also for writing reports to their universities in Japan. Once, I helped a Japanese exchange student give a presentation at a high school. I helped decide the content and create slides. After his presentation, I gave him an evaluation of it. I like this outreach style because I can get a chance to coach presenters.

- **Supervisor’s Comment:**
  It is great to see Hiromi bringing UW students into her outreach activities since developing a culture of outreach will have lasting benefits to the University and the state. Hiromi has shown real skill as a coach.

- **Coordinator’s Comment:**
  As above, taking university students to events have a great benefit for both kids in the audience and volunteer university students.
3. Real Experiences and Hands-on Activities for Small Children

■ Target Learners:
- children from kindergarten to the middle grades of elementary school

■ Learning Target:
- To learn to make Japanese crafts, such as origami.
- To learn about the country of Japan.

Once I showed kindergarteners dolls from the Japanese doll festival and had them tell me what they noticed. They told me that the doll's dress and hairstyles are different from what they are familiar with. Then, one of the students asked me about the hair color of the dolls because all of them had black hair. I liked this question. On that day, they learned what color hair Japanese people traditionally have. They also learned that when people got older, any color of hair would turn white.

■ Aim of Outreach:
- To have children learn to carry through on projects, and not to give up easily.
- To teach children about cultural diversity in the world.
- To teach children the sameness of people in the world.

When I make lesson plans, I like for students to experience an activity. I do not want them only to listen to me, but to experience something as well. I believe that is good for the education of kids. Many children ask me for help when I have them try to do something. It is not bad that they ask for help. However, I want them to struggle and carry through even though the finished piece may not be perfect. For example, when I teach origami to kids, I help them by giving instructions and demonstrating step by step. I don’t help them by doing it for them. Since many of the kids here are not familiar with origami, sometimes it is difficult for them, so both the kids and I need to be patient. However, When the kids finish making their piece, the all smile with a sense of fulfillment. To give children a chance to feel a sense of fulfillment through my work is one of my goals.

■ Breun-sensei’s Comment:
Naka sensei does a great job researching to find appropriate materials for class. She chooses a variety of activities that make each class interesting. Each activity is unique but all are connected in some way to the subject of the lesson. Naka sensei is attentive to each student and does her best to make sure everyone understands the lesson.

■ Coordinator’s Comment:
There is an idea of education at the base of my outreach activities. I’m trying to cultivate children’s awareness of international culture, including Japanese culture and the Japanese language.