

# What are the most effective teaching materials for children learning Japanese as a second language?

Critical considerations on the development of  
teaching material for children

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## Abstract

Currently in Japan teaching material for children has been developed without discussion on rationales for Japanese language education for children learning Japanese as a second language. Based on analyzing the relationships between teaching material and Japanese language teaching practices, this paper insists that learners learn Japanese subjectively when they recognize the material as meaningful.

To make the material meaningful for learners, the material should be considered from three points of views, namely; children's development, Japanese language proficiency and practitioner's views on Japanese language teaching. Thus, this paper concludes that we should discuss material within the constantly changing and fluid relationships between teaching material and Japanese language teaching practices.

Key words: Japanese language education for children, JSL students,  
Teaching materials, Teaching practice, Subjective learning

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