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あか たんじょう ねんかん でんとうてき いわ ぎょうじ
赤ちゃんの誕生から 1 年間の伝統的なお祝いや行事

Traditional celebrations and events for babies from birth to first birthday.
Fiestas y eventos tradicionales de los niños hasta cumplir un año.

あか う けんこう げんき そだ かぞくぜんいん ねが
赤ちゃんが生まれて、健康に・元気に育つことが家族全員の願いです。

にほん でんとうてき いわ ぎょうじ
日本では、どんな伝統的なお祝いごとや行事があるのかしら？

We all want our baby to grow up healthy and strong. Are there any special days or events for wishing babies well in Japan?



Es el deseo de toda la familia que el niño crezca sano y saludable, ¿qué fiestas y eventos tradicionales tenemos en Japón para desearlo?

はっこうもと
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Traditional celebrations for babies from birth to first birthday

From birth to their first birthday, there are many traditional celebrations and events for wishing for babies' healthy growth. The birth and healthy development of a baby is a source of joy celebrated by family members. Such celebrations and events in Japan originated as regional family customs or religious practices at temples and shrines. Nowadays, they have become rather simplified, but they are still a good opportunity to get know Japanese culture and customs.

Birth



※Today, it is not necessary to stick to the exact number of days.

7 days after birth

The 7th night / the name-giving ceremony
celebrates the healthy development of a baby and is also held to announce the baby's name. Grandparents, uncles and aunts are invited.

30th days after birth

A Shrine visit.

To celebrate their baby's birth, around the 30th day after birth, parents take their baby to the local shrine to greet the local god and pray for healthy development.

100th days after birth

Weaning ceremony.

With parents hope that a baby will never need to worry about food in their lifetime, their baby is made to pretend to eat a meal.

How to write a naming poster.

Use paper, around size A3. Display on a wall or a pillar. You can write it in your own language.

Sato Taro The
Hanako Eldest
Named Akiko
December 13, 2014 birth

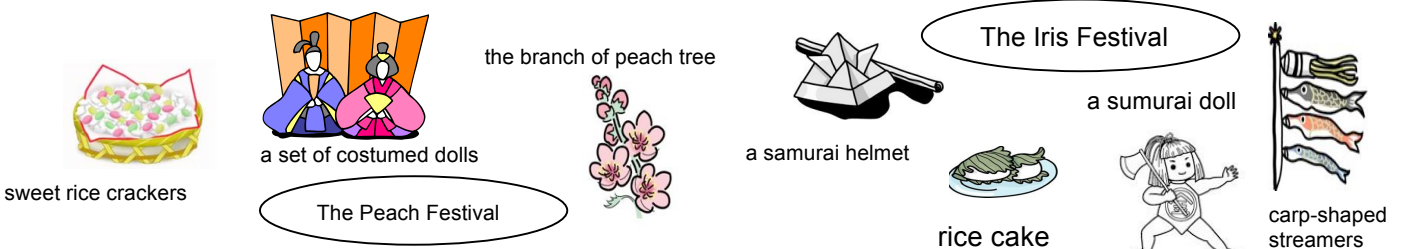
First birthday

Your baby has grown. Time to celebrate! 'Hatsu tanjo' means 'first birth' and celebrates the baby having made it safely to their first birthday. There is a traditional custom where the baby is made to wear 'omochi', rice cake, on his/her back to express their wish for the child to grow up healthy and strong. Today, people also include a birthday cake with a single candle.



'Hatsu zekku' First seasonal festival

This is the first seasonal festival, March 3rd or May 5th, after the baby is born. March 3rd is called the Peach Festival or Doll Festival and is a day to pray for girls' health and happiness. 'Hina nigyo', a set of costumed dolls are put out as decorations and 'hina-arare', sweet rice crackers, and peach branches are offered. May 5th, is called the Iris Festival or Children's Day and is a day to pray for boy's hope to grow up strong and courageous. People display 'kabuto', a samurai helmet, 'satsuki ningyo', a sumurai doll, 'koinobori', carp-shaped streamers and irises on this day. People also eat traditional sweets, 'chimaki', rice dumplings wrapped in bamboo leaves and 'kashiwa mochi', rice cake wrapped in an oak leaf on this day.



Doll Town, Iwatsuki

Iwatsuki is has been famous nationwide for its production of dolls since the Edo period. Why don't you visit historical Iwatsuki with your family and buy hina-ningyo or gogatsu- ningyo for the celebration of your baby's first festival!