

## A Window in to the Arts: Tea in Japanese Culture Outreach Suitcase

*"Thanks for an awesome resource that generates enthusiasm for learning!"  
—Special Education Language Arts Educator*



### ABOUT THE SUITCASE

This suitcase explores the tea culture that is closely associated with the art and culture of Japan. The objects in this suitcase are reproductions or original tools, art, images, and more intended to help students understand Japanese society through the evolution of its culture of tea drinking. Using the objects and activities in this suitcase, students will be able to discuss how specific artistic practices are linked to larger cultural patterns in Japan and worldwide.

Book this suitcase online at <http://www.seattleartmuseum.org/programs-and-learning/schools-and-educators/education-resource-center/outreach-suitcase-reservation>.

### LOOKING QUESTIONS

Encourage your students to look closely at the objects in the suitcase and images from SAM's Collection with questions like:

- What have you learned from history? How did you learn it?
- How does a culture pass on information through objects?
- How do you pass down your cultural or family traditions?
- What are some of your favorite objects and what do they say about you, your family, and your culture?

## WHAT'S IN THE JAPAN OUTREACH SUITCASE?

### Educator Resource Guide

- A list of relevant objects in the suitcase
- A list of images on the CD and prints that relate to these objects
- Looking prompts
- Background information on the objects
- Questions to consider
- Activity ideas
- Related resources and glossary
- Relevant Washington State, Common Core, and National Core Arts Standards

### Objects in the Suitcase (Pictured on Front)

- Tea bowl
- Tea whisk
- Tea scoop
- Water ladle
- Child's red flower kimono
- Tea caddy
- Floral tea tin
- Ukiyo-e print
- Tea kettle
- Ochaken plush tea dog dolls
- Books, maps, and DVD

### Supplemental Images from SAM's Collection (on CD and 11 X 17" Prints)

#### Theme: Identity

#### Objects: Bowl, Whisk, Scoop, Ladle and Kimono

- Ryokusuian (Arbor of Green Reflecting Waters), Urasenke Foundation, 1991
- [Tea bowl, "Winter-Blossoming Red Plum,"](#) early 17th century, Donyu or Nonko (Raku III), Gift of Dr. Masatoshi Okochi, 52.67
- [Tea bowl \("Fuji"\),](#) 1811-1834, Ryonyu (Raku IX), Japanese, 1756-1834, Gift of the Arvidson family in honor of the Honde family, 2006.101

## SAMPLE ACTIVITY: TEA DOGS

- Ask students if there is a beverage that they drink every day. Why do they drink it every day? Then examine the Ochaken toys in the suitcase and ask students why they think Japanese people love these tea-themed dog toys so much. How could you incorporate your own favorite beverage or food into a toy? Have students work in groups to design their original toy animal based on a favorite food or drink.
- Extension: Have students complete the "A Zoo Mug 3-D Ceramic Vessel" Visual Arts Classroom-Based Performance: <http://www.k12.wa.us/Arts/PerformanceAssessments/default.aspx>.

- [Raku Tea Bowl and White Camellia](#), 1615-1868, Eugene Fuller Memorial Collection, 39.213
- [Kimono \(furisode\)](#), ca. 1800, Gift of Mrs. John C. Atwood, Jr., 58.41
- [Kimono](#), 1875-1935, Gift of the Christensen Fund, 2001.604
- [Child's kimono](#), late 19th-early 20th century, Gift of the Christensen Fund, 2001.635

#### Object: Tea Caddy

- [Tea storage jar](#), 15th century, Gift of Drs. R. Joseph and Elaine R. Monsen, 75.60
- [Tea caddy](#), ca. 1759, Gift of Martha and Henry Isaacson, 76.95
- [Tea caddy](#), 1760-65, Dorothy Condon Falknor Collection of European Ceramics, 87.142.69
- [Tea caddy](#), 1753, Phillips Garden, Paul de Lamerie, Purchased in memory of Julia Lee Knudsen with funds from the Mary Arrington Small Estate Acquisition Fund, 90.59
- [C12 Weighing Tea](#), ca. 1865-1910, Kusakabe Kimbei, Gift of Mr. and Mrs. John Putnam, 86.43

#### Object: Ukiyo-e Print

- [Poem Scroll with Deer \(Deer Scroll\)](#), 1610s, painted by Tawaraya Sotatsu, calligrapher Hon'ami Koetsu, Gift of Mrs. Donald E. Frederick, 51.127, Photo by Seiji Shirono, National Institute for Cultural Properties, Tokyo
- [Plum branch in winter](#), 18th century, Ki Baitei, Margaret E. Fuller Purchase Fund, 74.19
- [Writing box \(suzuribako\)](#), early 17th century, attributed to Hon'ami Koetsu, Gift of Mrs. Donald E. Frederick, 50.67
- [Three actors in an interior](#), 1853, Utagawa Kunisada (Toyokuni III), Gift of Capt. D. W. Carpenter, 53.131

#### Objects: Tea Kettle and Ochaken Toys

- [Boxwood Model of a Badger-Teakettle \(bumbuku chagama\)](#), 19th century, Partial and promised gift of the Robert B. and Honey Dootson Collection, 91.201
- [Illustration to "Tanuki Teakettle,"](#) ca. 1850, Eugene Fuller Memorial Collection, 39.200