

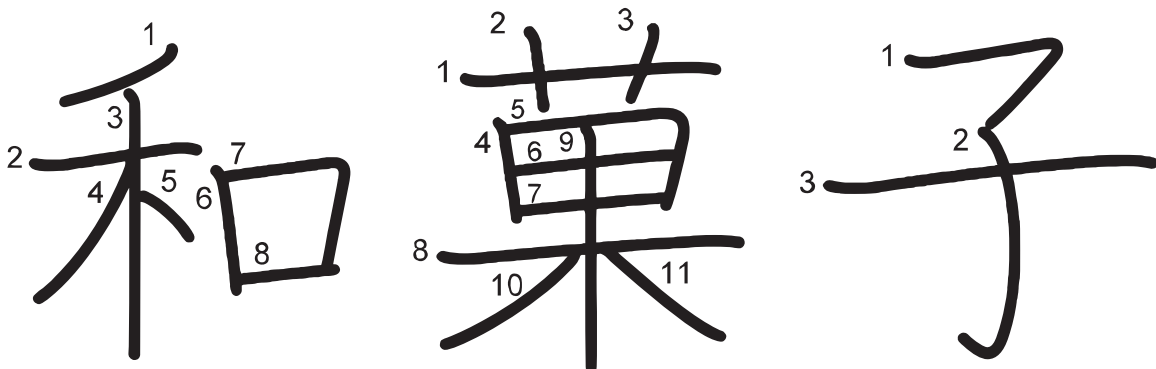


TEACHING TUESDAY

KANJI: WAGASHI

FEBRUARY 6, 2018

Traditional Japanese sweets enjoyed in conjunction with tea, wagashi 和菓子 draw on the traditional Japanese principles of aesthetic beauty and the passing of the seasons. The first character, 和, means Japan or Japanese, and was taken from middle Chinese kanji 和 meaning “harmonious” during the early 700s, replacing the previous character 倭 (wa) as the kanji name for Japan. The second character, 菓, is a cake made from plants ++ and fruits 果, which is true as wagashi are made from a variety of fruits and vegetables. The final character 子 typically means child, but also means something small. So wagashi are small Japanese sweets made from plants and fruits.



Reading: わがし wah-gah-shee

Meaning: traditional Japanese confectionery