Seasons on Country



Learning Intentions

I will understand how Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples observe seasonal changes

I will explore how Japanese people observe seasonal changes.

I will compare similarities and differences in seasonal observations of these cultures and my own.

Success Criteria

I can explain the differences and similarities in the seasons of these cultures and my own

I can compare how people observe nature and explain why different seasonal models exist, and how different seasonal models can co-exist.

I can create a personal, culturally respectful calendar that reflects my needs or a card to share with others.

THINK-PAIR-SHARE
How many seasons do you know?

What signs tell us the seasons are changing?

Discuss how you observe seasonal changes in your culture.

What are symbols and celebrations of seasons in your culture?

For thousands of years, different cultures have watched plants, animals and weather closely – why do you think this is?

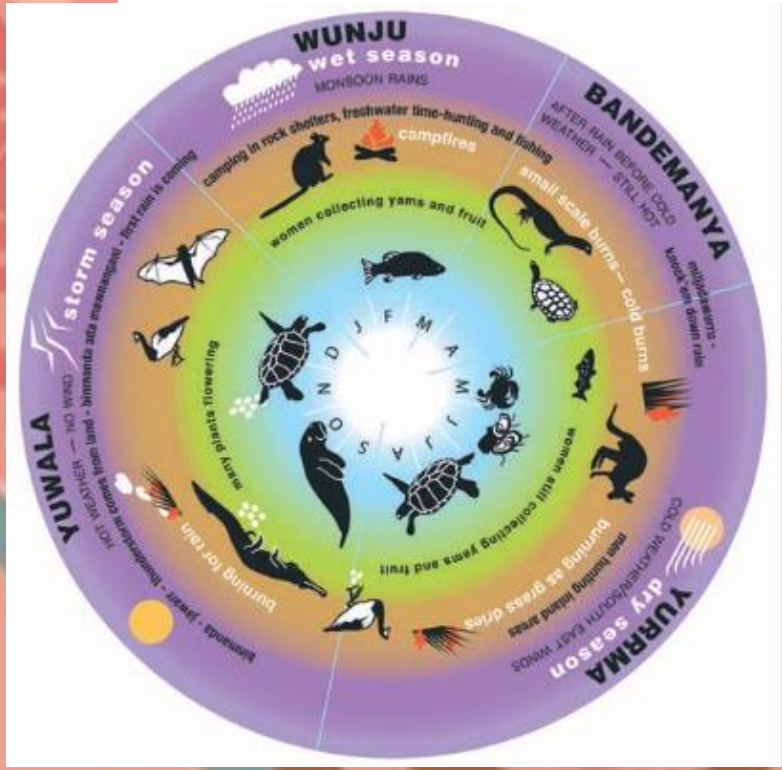
Watch – Indigenous Seasons Part 1



The Bureau of Meteorology (BOM) hosts a collection of Indigenous seasonal calendars from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities across Australia, including Dharawal (six seasons), Tiwi (three major and thirteen minor seasons), Maung (three seasons), Yanyuwa (five seasons), and many others.

https://www.bom.gov.au/resources/indigenous-weather-knowledge/indigenous-seasonal-calendars

What do you notice?







The D'harawal (Tharawal) region is around Sydney.

It is a subtropical/ temperate region of Australia – similar to SE QLD.

https://www.bing.com/videos/search?q=&view=detail&mmscn=mysv&mid=66CDC55CB7CEF95F4CAA66CDC55CB7CEF95F4CAA&FORM=SVIM01&idpbck=1



D’harawal 6 Seasons

Burran (hot and dry)

Marrai’gang (wet and cooler)

Burrugin (cold and frosty)

Wiritjiribin (cold and windy)

Ngoonungi (cool and getting warmer/spring growth)

Parra’dowee (warm and wet/summer approaching)

Aboriginal Seasons - The D'harawal Tribe:
https://www.bing.com/videos/search?q=&view=detail&mmscn=mysv&mid=66CDC55CB7CEF95F4CAA66CDC55CB7CEF95F4CAA&FORM=SVIM01&idpbck=1



Burran (hot and dry) January - March

- Gadalung Marool – hot and dry
- Male kangaroos aggressive
- Meat forbidden
- Weetjellan (lightwood Acacia) blooming
- No fires unless on sand
- Violent storms, heavy rain
- Watch out for snakes







Marrai'gang (cooling) April – June

- Bana'murrai'yung – wet becoming cooler
- Quolls seeking mates
- Lilly pilly ripens – when they fall it is time to mend cloaks or make new ones
- Move to the warmer coastal areas





Burrugin (cold/frosty) June - July

- Tugarah Tuli – cold, frosty, short days
- Burrungin (echidna) seeking mates
- Burringoa (forest red gum) flowering – collect nectar for ceremonies
- Shellfish forbidden
- Dingoes are hungry







Wiritjiribin (cold/windy) August

- Tugarah Gunya'marri – cold and windy
- Lyrebird building mounds
- Marrai’uo (gossamer wattle) flowering
- Bull sharks in the rivers
- Gentle spring rains







Ngoonungi (spring growth) Sep – Oct

- Murrai'yunggory – cool, getting warmer
- Flying foxes appear
- Ceremonial time
- Miwa gawaian (waratah) in flower
- Eagles hunt





Parra'dowee (warm) Nov – Dec

- Goray'murrai – warm and wet
- Summer heat starts, weather is stable
- Kai'arrewan (coast myall wattle) blooms
- Eels make their way down the rivers to the ocean









Japan’s Ainu People

The Ainu (meaning ‘people’) are native to the northern regions of Japan such as Hokkaido. For the Ainu people, observing the seasons was important for survival in a harsh climate









Japan’s 72 microseasons

Japan’s culture is deeply influenced by the seasons. Even today seasonal change is observed in many practices such as food, attire, home décor, seasonal greetings and ceremonies.

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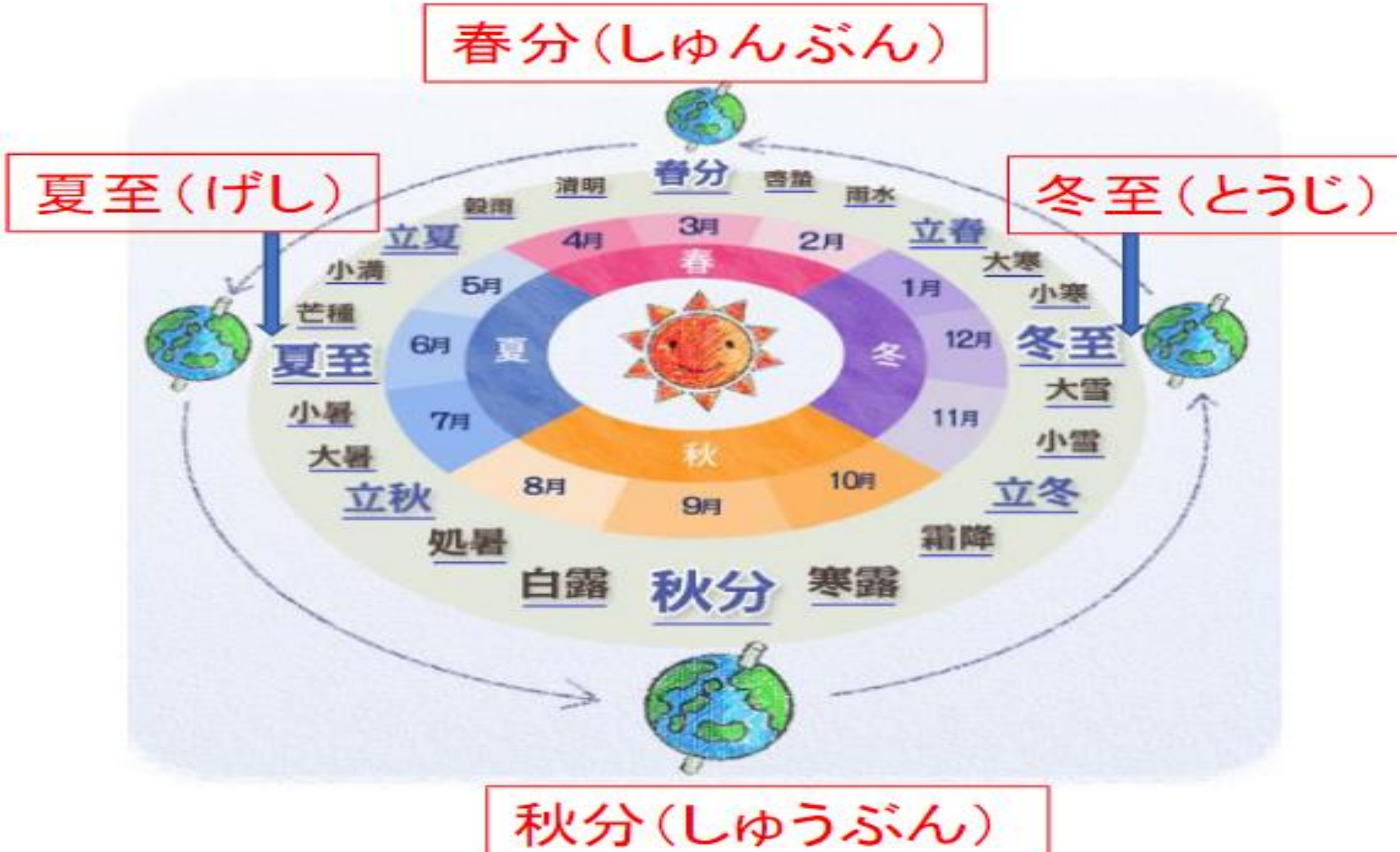
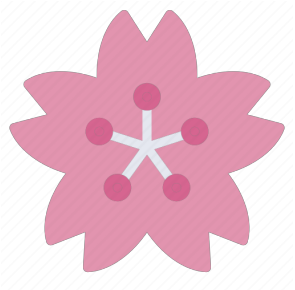
Japan’s 4 seasons are split into 24 ‘sekki’ which are 15 days long



せっき　二十四分（十五日間）



These 24 ‘sekki’ are named after characteristics of the season

立春 Birth of Spring

雨水 Rainwater

啓蟄 Insects awaken

春分 Spring equinox

清明 Pure and clear

穀雨 Grain rains





立夏 Beginning of Summer

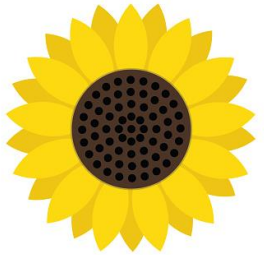
小満 Lesser ripening

芒種 Grain beards and seeds

夏至 Summer Solstice

小暑 Lesser heat

大暑 Greater heat







せっき　二十四分（十五日間）

立秋 Beginning of Autumn

処暑 Manageable heat

白露 White dew

秋分 Autumn equinox

寒露 Cold dew

霜降 Frost falls





立冬 Beginning of Winter

小雪 Lesser snow

大雪 Greater snow

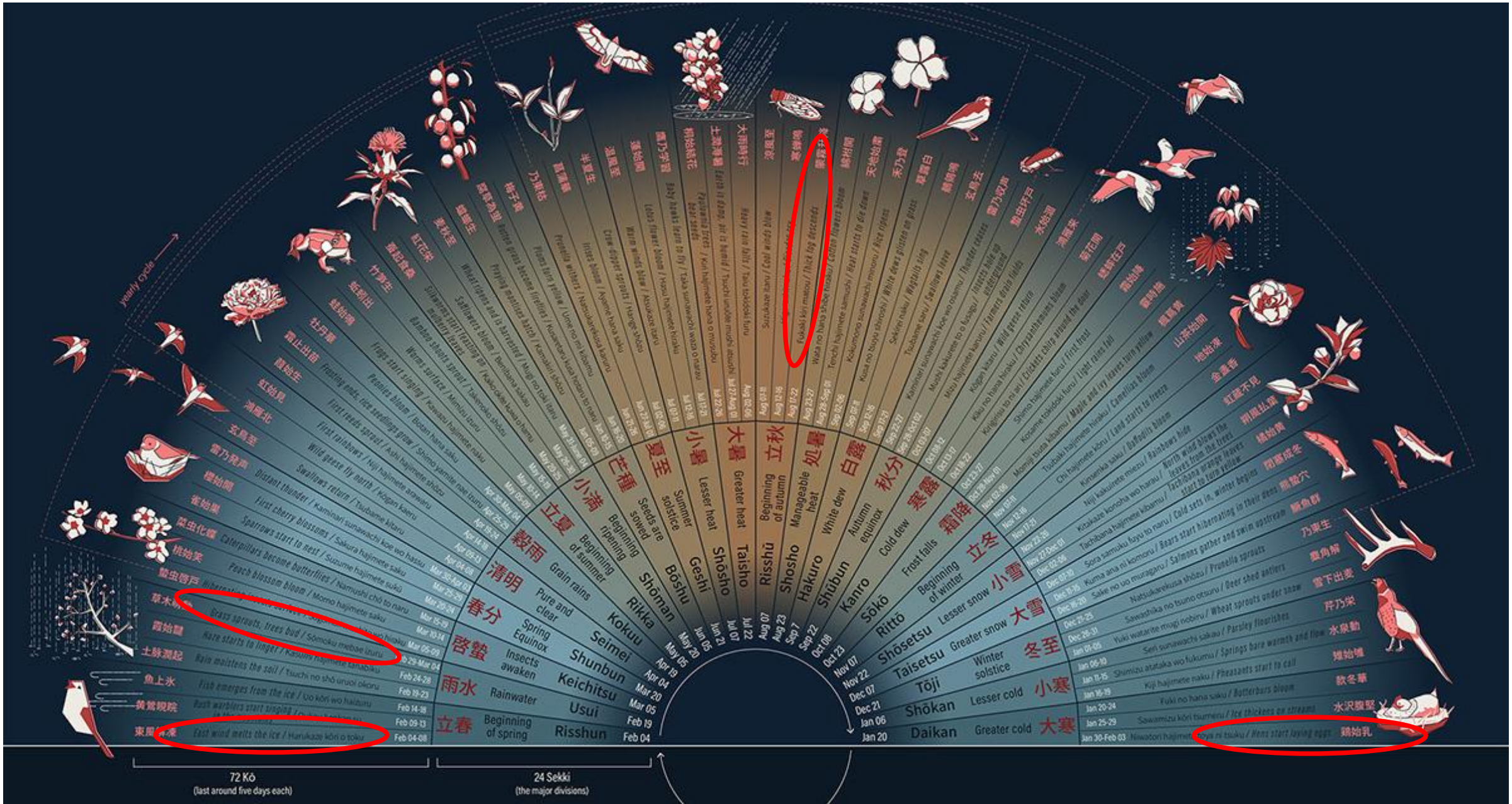
冬至 Winter Solstice

小寒 Lesser cold

大寒 Greater cold



These 24 ‘sekki’ are then split into 72 ‘kou’ which are 5 days long



こう七十二分【三倍の五日間】

Taking hemispheres into account, there are striking similarities…if you know where and when to look!

During Risshuu (Beginning of Autumn): 深霧升降 (Fukaki kiri matou)
Thick fog descends

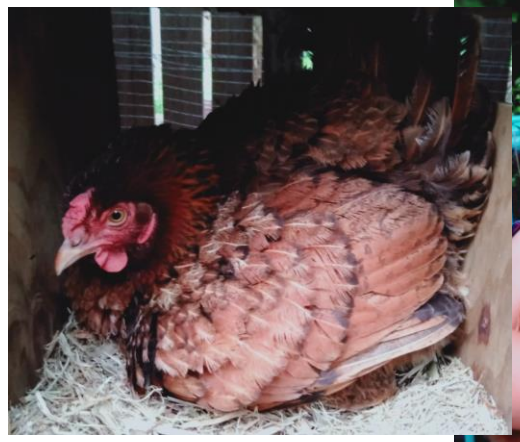




View of Brisbane city from Mt Coot-tha (Kuta) in June

こう七十二分【三倍の五日間】

Toward the end of Daikan (Greater Cold):
鶏始乳 (Niwatori hajimete toya ni tsuku)
Hens start laying





Molly and Dawn and the Ekka winds in August

At the beginning of Risshun (Beginning of Spring):
東風至 (Harukaze itaru)
Spring wind blows

During Usui (Rainwater):
草木萌動 (Soumoku mebae izuru)
Grass sprouts, trees bud





Budding persimmon and mulberry in September/October

YARNING CIRCLE　Movement Break

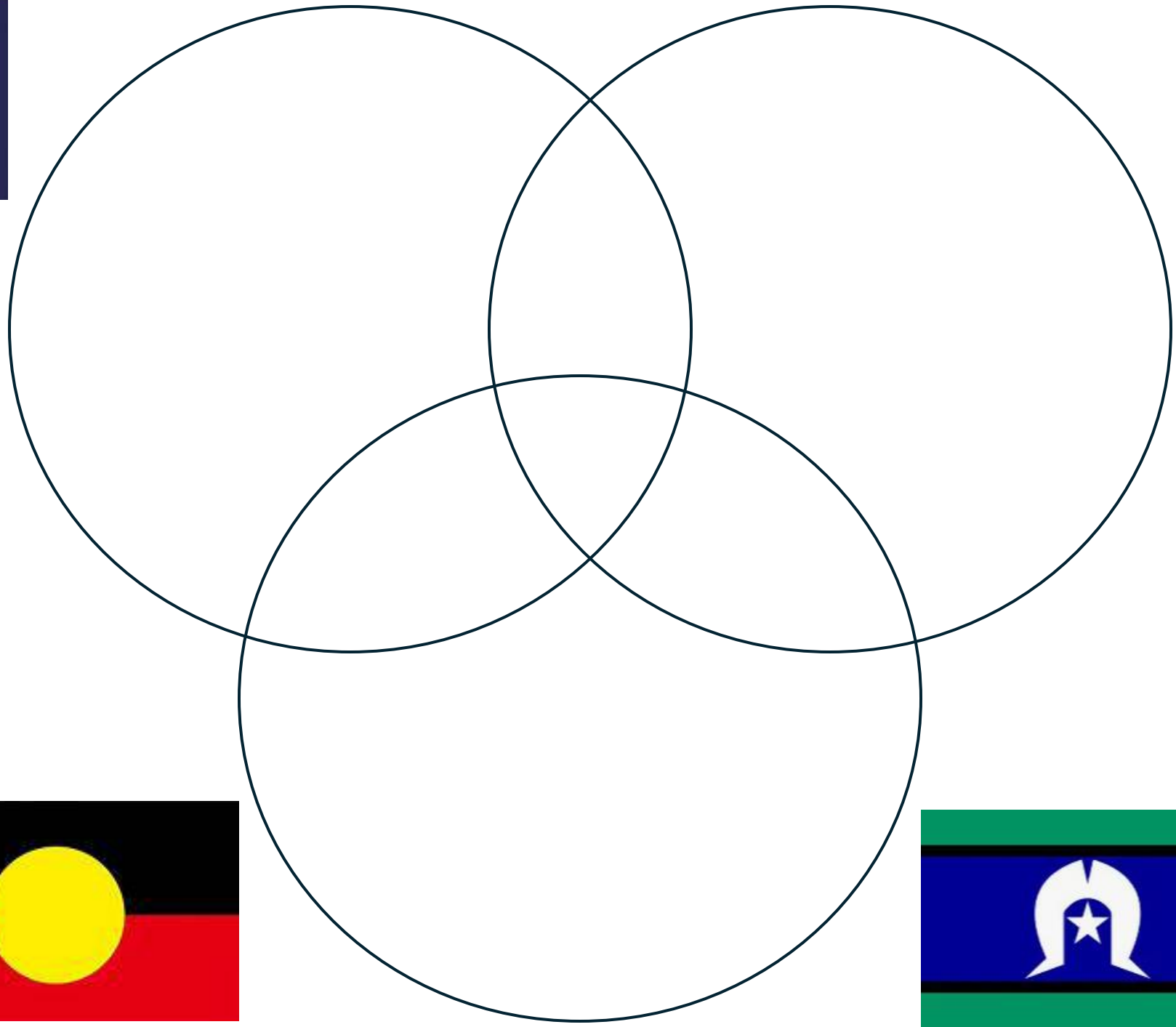
わたし　も！ゲーム

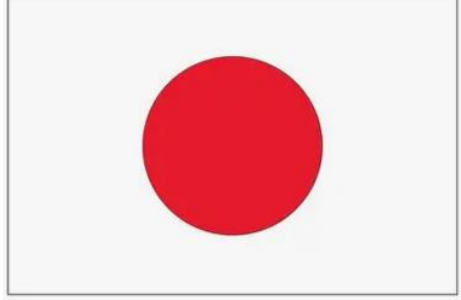
Watashi mo! Game



1. Sit in a yarning circle
2. The first person has the ball of yarn and says (or teacher says) a statement such as:
“夏、ビーチに行きます。Natsu, bi-chi ni ikimasu. In Summer, we go to the beach”
3. If someone in the circle also does this, they say
“わたしも！Watashi mo! Me too!”
4. The first person keeps the end of the yarn and throws the ball to that second person
5. Repeat until we are all connected!







THINK-PAIR-SHARE

Does a 4 season calendar work for where you live?

Is there a better model for SE QLD? If so, what would that look like?

Watch: BTN – First Nations Seasons
https://www.abc.net.au/btn/classroom/first-nations-seasons/105669308?utm_campaign=abc_btn&utm_content=link&utm_medium=content_shared&utm_source=abc_btn

Symbols of the seasons in Australian and Japanese cultures, including the indigenous cultures of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and the Ainu people.

Can you find more? Research and share.









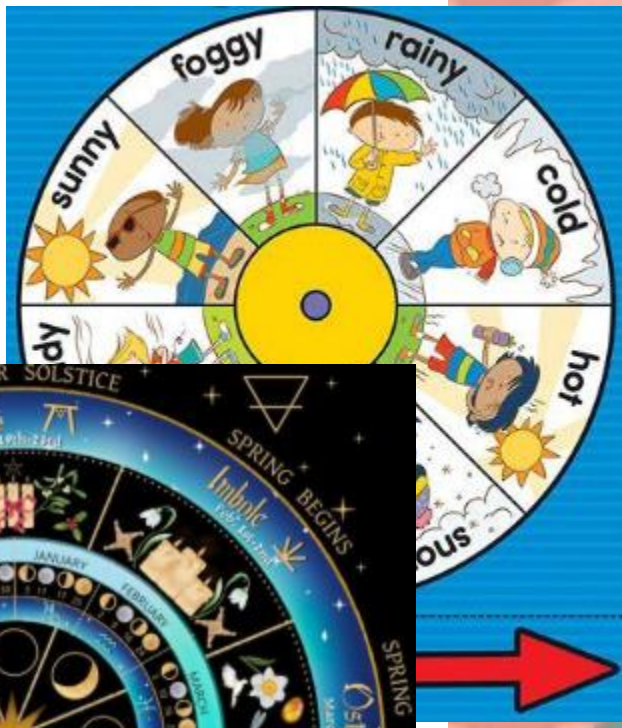


Activity 1:
Make a calendar that suits your needs. You may choose to use symbols from one of the cultures or a combination. Please use these symbols respectfully.

https://youtu.be/jJ2Q_okqh7w?si=F9vtHeyDvVMoTrx5





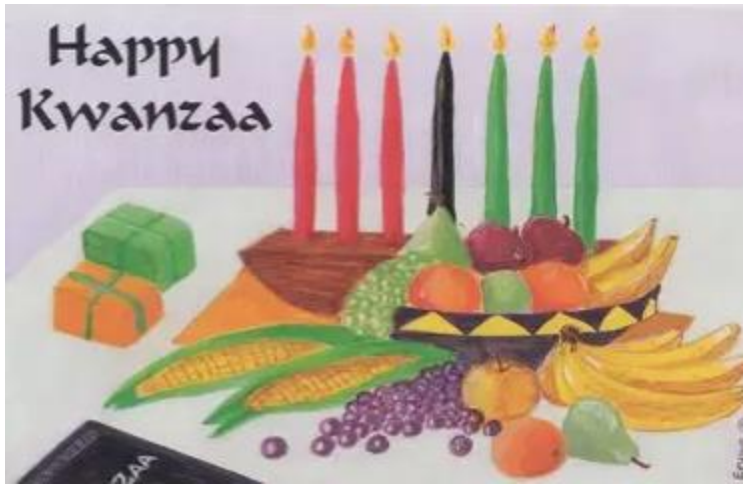




Activity 2:

Make a seasonal card. You may choose to use symbols from one of the cultures or a combination. Please use these symbols respectfully.















References:

https://www.bom.gov.au/resources/indigenous-weather-knowledge/indigenous-seasonal-calendars

https://www.bom.gov.au/resources/indigenous-weather-knowledge/indigenous-seasonal-calendars/dharawal-calendar#bom-anchor-list__item-d-harawal-seasons

https://www.nippon.com/en/features/h00124/

Clip Chats (Movie Talk)

Comprehensible Input – top 3 must-haves for success

1. Deskless room!
2. Brain Breaks
3. Clip Chats

- https://growingwithproficiency.com/clipchat-magic-engaging-students-with-stories-they-watch/

- https://senorachase.com/2023/09/16/movie-talk-what-why-how-part-1/

- https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLKhH5MAAh6FpSBBumo6Cv8lG_iS8Q9Lpz
- https://m.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLKhH5MAAh6FpSBBumo6Cv8lG_iS8Q9Lpz&ra=m
- https://www.littlejandbigcuz.com.au/watch

Clip Chat - Expectations

- Be actively engaged
- Signal when Sensei is unclear
- Be ready to show me what you understand

Lucky Undies

- https://www.sbs.com.au/ondemand/tv-series/little-j-and-big-cuz/season-1/little-j-and-big-cuz-s1-ep1/923034691604

Target language:

Nani - what

Dare - who

Doko - where

Naze - why

Ureshii – happy

Okotteiru - angry

Tabetai – want to eat

Nani o shimasuka? What are they doing?



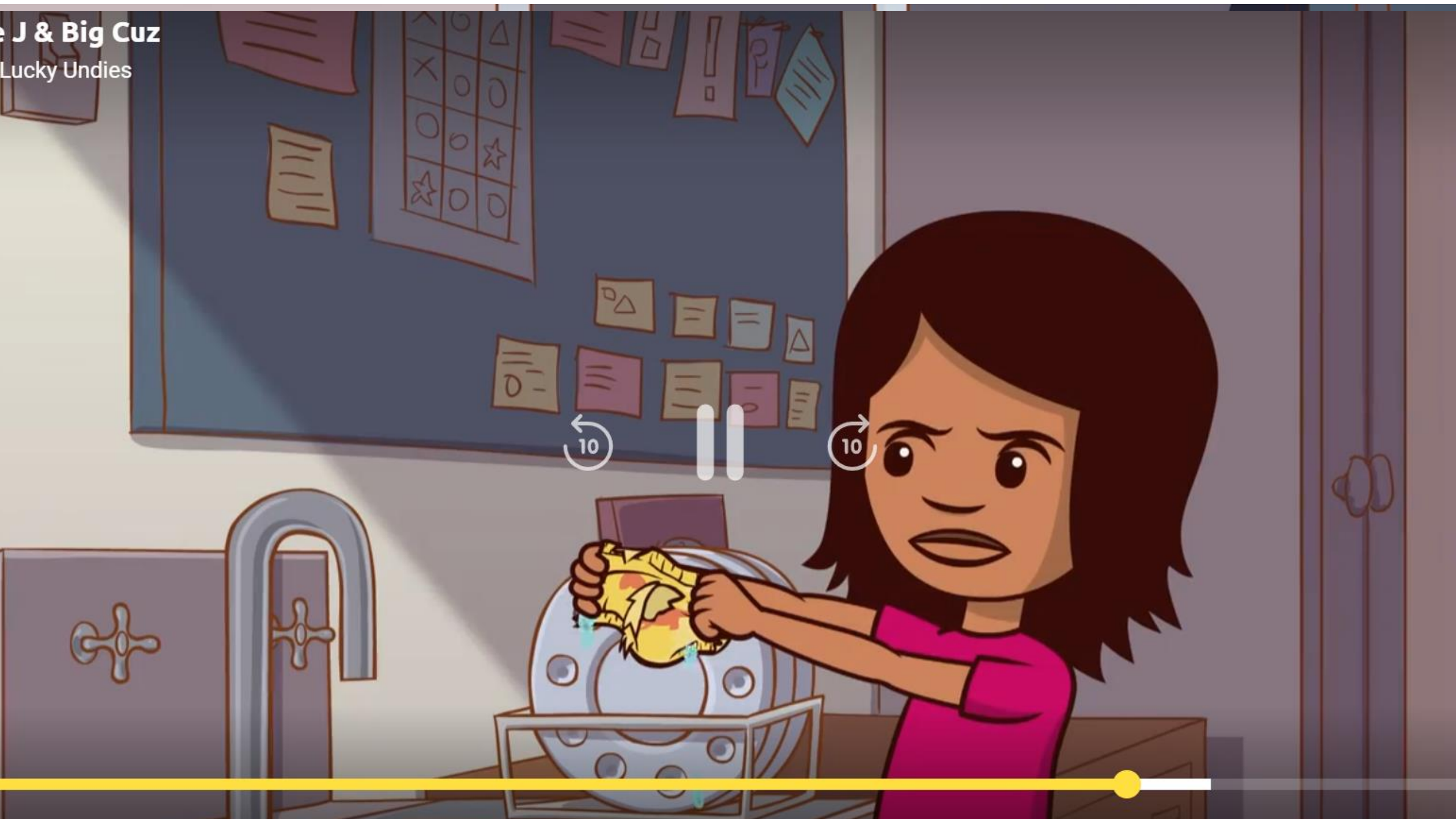







Little J & Big Cuz
S1 E1: Lucky Undies

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Little J & Big Cuz
S1 E1: Lucky Undies