



Children's Museum

Museum Wharf, Boston 426-8855

**Japanese
New Year:
Sunday,
January 9**



1983 is the Year of the Wild Boar! Join the New Year (Oshōgatsu) celebration from 10 am-4 pm and welcome 1983 with a touch of festive Japanese tradition!

The Japanese people follow a zodiac cycle of 12 years instead of 12 months. Each year honors an animal whose characteristics are said to belong to people born in that year. A person born in 1959, 1971, or 1983, is said to be, like the boar, intelligent, emotional and prolific.

Families are invited to join:

Mochi -- rice pounding -- watch rice being pounded and made into small cakes. Then try a sample!

Origami -- paper folding -- watch paper being turned into animals, birds, flowers and much more.

Omocha -- toys -- play with traditional Japanese folk toys: kendama, cup and ball; koma, top; and lots more games.

Hashi -- chopsticks -- try your hand at mastering a variety of chopsticks.

Nengajo -- New Year's greeting cards -- print Japanese symbols onto cards and write wishes for a good New Year.

Kakizome -- the year's first writing -- try your hand at calligraphy.

Fuku-warai -- smiling goddess of good fortune-- play a game similar to pin-the-tail-on-the-donkey.

Haiku -- the Emperor has thought of the first line of the Haiku. You get to finish it!

Fusen -- paper balloons -- a game played by hitting paper balloons high into the air and trying to keep them there.

Gyotaku -- fish printing -- make a fish print using real fish.

Hanetsuki -- make your own battledore and shuttlecock and then play this game, which is similar to badminton.

Also:

Traditional tea ceremony demonstration by the Urasenke Tea Society of Boston.
12:00 - 1:00 pm

Traditional fencing demonstration by the Kendo Club of Boston.
1:00 - 1:30 pm

Children from the Japanese Language School will sing songs in Japanese and English.
2:00 - 2:30 pm

The children's film "Schooldays in Japan" may be viewed during the day.

The Japanese House (Kyo-no-machiya), an artisan's home from Kyoto, will be dressed in its New Year's finest: hardy pine boughs symbolizing long life, and bamboo stems for virtue and grace trim the entrance way.

The Museum thanks the Japanese Language School and members of the Japanese community for their help and participation in this festival. Also, our appreciation to Stoneham's Robin Hood School children for making the boar decorations.

Admission to the Museum is \$3.00 for children (2-15) and senior citizens; \$4.00 for adults. There's no additional charge above Museum admission for special events.

The Children's Museum is at Museum Wharf, 300 Congress Street, on Boston's waterfront. For travel information, call the What's Up Line at 426-8855.

(Voice and TTY-TDD; 426-6500)

