

# Giving Thanks for Our Families

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My grandson lives between two countries; the United States and Japan. His mom works full time in the United States while his dad works full time in Japan. The value of having parents in two countries is that my grandson is able to live and appreciate his cultural heritage as a descendent of the Japanese culture and a fifth generation American.

## Favorite Activities in Japan

When my grandson visits his father in Japan, he enjoys:

- going to baseball games
- playing at amusement parks
- visiting indoor children's discovery museums
- exercising at indoor gymnastics activity centers
- attending entertainment centers

# Family Comes First

When I completed my first trip with my grandson in Japan, friends and family would ask about his favorite activity when visiting his dad. Without hesitation, my grandson responded that he loved just spending time with his dad. It did not matter what activity they were pursuing; he just valued the one-on-one time of being with his father.

As we enter the holiday season, we must consider how important our family members are when planning for holiday celebrations and the importance of time for sharing.

May you family have time to share in the beauty of the season!

Joyce

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