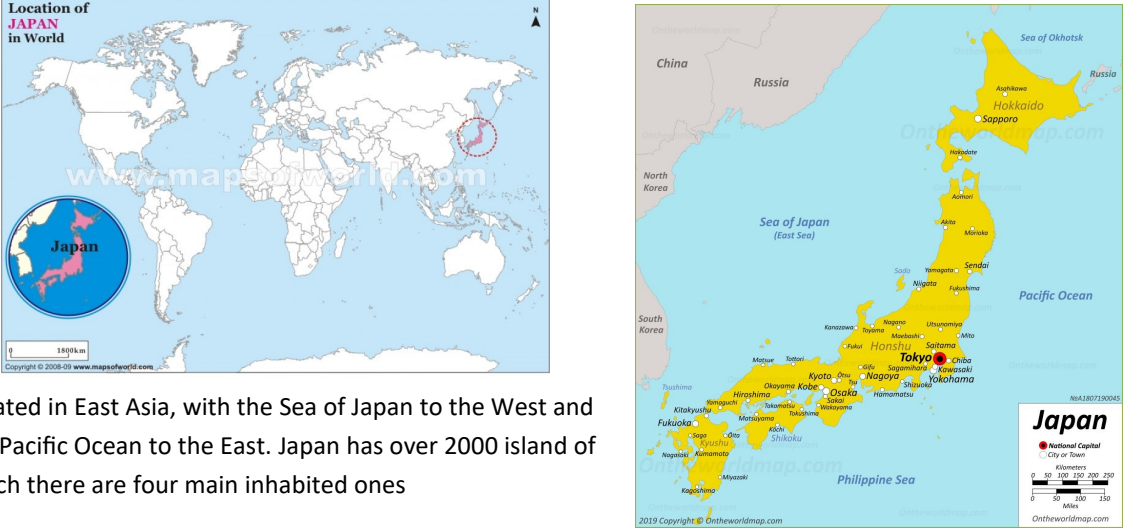


YEAR 8 GEOGRAPHY – JAPAN

1 KEY VOCABULARY		
Perceptions	A feeling people have about a place without having visited it.	
Stereotypes	An unfair representation of people or a place often based on a perception.	
Location	Where a place is in the world.	
Tokyo	The capital city of Japan, one of the largest cities in the world with 38 million people living there.	
Honshu	The largest inhabited island in Japan, home to the Capital city.	
Hokkaido	The most Northerly of the four main islands.	
Kyushu	The most southerly of the four main islands.	
Shikoku	The smallest of the main inhabited islands.	
Climate	The average weather over a period of 25 years.	
Minamata disease	A Fishing town that suffered a chemical poisoning of its seas leading to deaths	
Nintendo	One of the most successful technology gaming companies.	
Bullet train	The high speed rail network covering Japan.	

2 LOCATION OF JAPAN

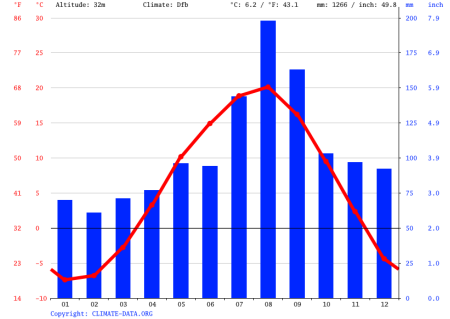


Located in East Asia, with the Sea of Japan to the West and the Pacific Ocean to the East. Japan has over 2000 islands of which there are four main inhabited ones

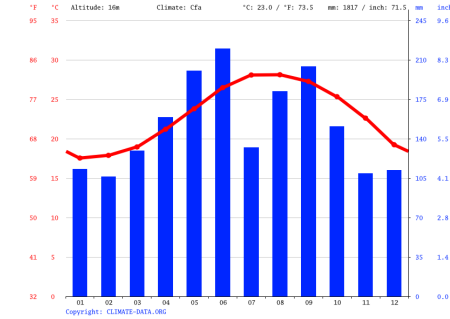
3 CLIMATE OF JAPAN

Climate graph one shows Sapporo in the North of Japan, it has a very seasonal temperature change, with very cold sub zero temperatures in the winter months. This makes it excellent for skiing as precipitation falls as snow. In summer months the temperature is mild but that can lead to evaporation and higher levels of rainfall. Climate graph two shows Naha in the South of Japan. It is sub-tropical in climate, meaning it is warm all year round and hot in the summer. The warm temperatures mean that there is a lot of rainfall all year. This means that the farming conditions are good, although due to the high population Japan still has to import much of its food.

Graph 1—Sapporo (North Hokkaido)

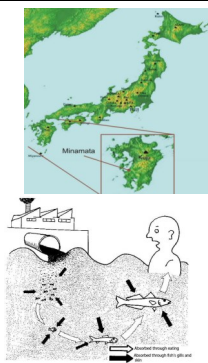


Graph 2—Naha (South Kyushu)



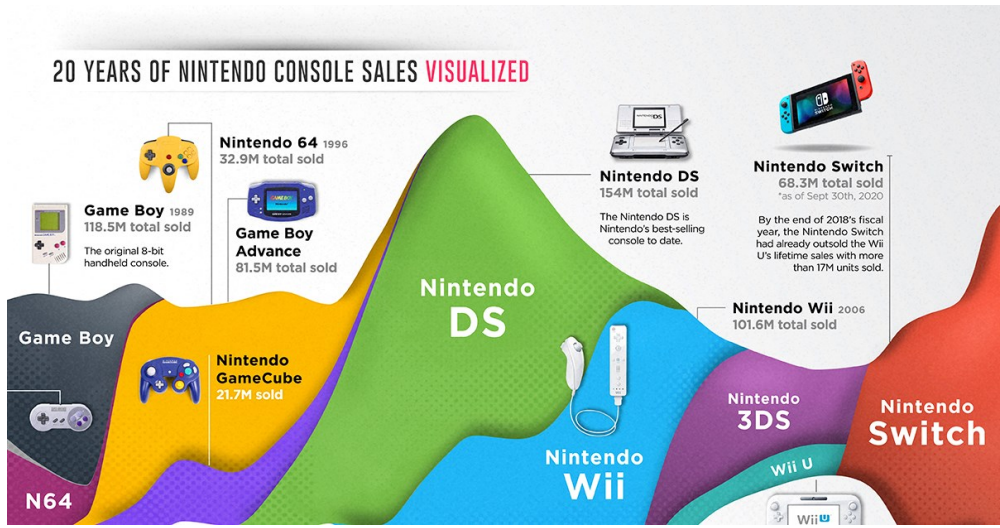
4 MINAMATA DISEASE—HUMANS IMPACTING ON THE ENVIRONMENT.

In the 1930's a chemical factory called Chisso were unknowingly releasing Mercury into the seas, this was being eaten by the fish and then when the fish were caught for sale they were passing the Mercury into humans. This led to birth defects and poisonings. After the second world war Japan's economy was devastated and the government tried to get factories up and running as quick as possible. Chisso warned that their process was damaging but the government felt that the economy was more important than the environment.

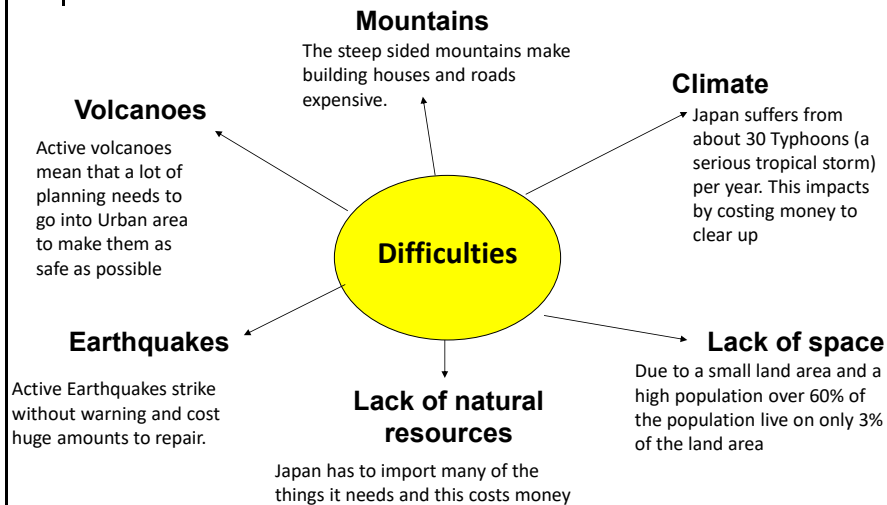


5 NINTENDO AS A GLOBAL COMPANY.

Nintendo is one of the technological success of Japan. Started in 1889 as a playing card company, Nintendo has constantly joined up with other manufacturers to be able to offer exciting games. In the 1960's it worked with Disney, then in the 1970's it worked with Mitsubishi to develop the first electronic game, using donkey kong. In 1986 they developed a games console to plug into your TV at home. In 1989 they developed the first hand held games console and in 2004 Nintendo introduced touch screen technology. In 2006 the Wii was the first motion sensitive game. By constantly using hi-tech inventing technology Nintendo have remained one of the most profitable companies in Japan.



6 PROBLEMS AND SOLUTIONS OF LIFE IN JAPAN



Solutions to the lack of land.

Japan has created new land in Osaka bay by removing material from mountainous regions inland and then transporting the material by conveyor belt to the sea. The material is then transported by boat and dumped in the ocean. Having done this many times over the last 30 years the Japanese have created new flat islands to be able to build on. This process continues today.

