



Best teaching supplies to buy BEFORE you leave:

- **My computer.** I used it to create quite a few lesson activities. Open the textbook and their eyes glaze over. Close the textbook and give the exact same assignment planned, written, and photocopied by you and the kids will dig in.
- **An English dictionary and a basic English grammar book** to refer to when the teachers ask you to spell and to teach the "past perfect modal of the predicate noun"
- Visual aids like restaurant and school lunch menus, holiday decorations, magazines, photos, videos, money, etc. These were good for small conversation classes too
- Books on interactive classroom games or activity books that would have given me some ideas for games and activities to integrate into my curriculum. AJET publishes its own book called *Team Taught Pizza*.
- Scrabble! Great for English Club
- **Photographs from America, and maps of the states.** If you are a member of AAA, you can get maps for free!
- Creative ESL lesson planning - books like *The ESL Miscellany* and *Keep Talking Craft* and Activity books, stuff you would use for children's activities pictures of home.
- Vocabulary cards with pictures on them. Flash cards with letters and pictures for the elementary schools, jacks, large colored chalk for playing hop scotch, **a book on common children's games in the USA.**

- Stickers, pencils, stamps, fake money and small recognizably American items to use as rewards for class participation
- Even better – Best WEBSITE FOUND! www.edochan.com/teaching/monkeys.htm
- For teaching Japanese Teachers of English – ESL activity book: *Recipes for Tired Teachers*
- Colorful children books - remember everything should be 'easy English'
- **Stamp to mark on papers, like "Super!"**
- Music Mix CD and tapes were great background music for games and since it was music I liked, it was a good pick me up for long teaching days. The kids loved it! The more pop the better.

Useless teaching supplies:

- Books and videos that are too advanced for Junior High School level grammar
- Teaching manuals
- Paper products, markers, glue etc - all purchasable and inexpensive in Japan
- Full-length movies without sub-titles
- Comics

JET Hot Tip #4:
When you have good lesson plans, you have responsive students. If your classroom does not look like this, you are doing something wrong.

