

# Mottainai Baasan and *Furoshiki* Wrapping

-Living with the Environment in Mind-

## Section A: Let's watch a video of Mottainai Baasan

Have you heard about Mottainai Baasan (Mottainai Grandma)? Mottainai Baasan appears out of nowhere when we are doing something wasteful, and shows us how to change our habits.

Watch a Mottainai Baasan video in Japanese and answer the following questions.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=x5Wz7FCW9Zk>

(If you want to watch the English version to answer the questions, go to: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KdKr-JSMJP4>)



1. What do you think “mottainai” means in English? \_\_\_\_\_
2. What are the 5 mottainai things that the boy did in the video? What is Mottainai Baasan’s advice for each action?

	Mottainai things that the boy did	Mottainai Baasan’s advice
1		
2		
3		
4		
5		

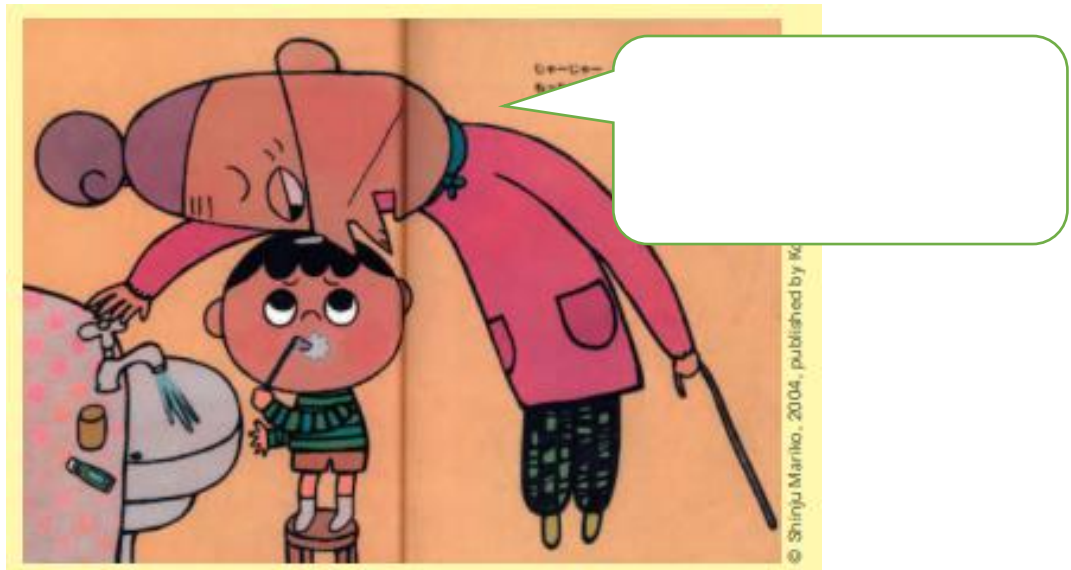
3. Do you keep the water running or stop the water while brushing your teeth? Which do you think is better for the environment? Why do you think so?

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4. What do you think Mottainai Baasan is saying in the picture below? Write in English in the speech bubble.



5. Think of other situations in your everyday life where Mottainai Baasan would appear. List five situations. What advice do you think she would give you for each situation? You can discuss with your friends.

	Mottainai things we do	Mottainai Baasan's advice
1		
2		
3		
4		
5		



Mottainai is the word used as a kind of protest against waste.  
Let's learn this word and be active to protect our environment!

もったいない!

## Section B: Let's dance the Mottainai Baasan Ondo



Let's dance the Mottainai Baasan Ondo.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KINDI0f9Mm0>

Naru, Itchii, and Mottainai Baasan are showing how to dance the Mottainai Baasan Ondo. Ondo is a traditional Japanese style of music. Usually, the main singer sings the whole song, and the dancers sing the chorus.

Dance to the song and sing along with the chorus!

For those who are interested in the meaning of the song, the lyrics are provided below.

Japanese lyrics	English meaning of the song
<p>Chorus:            もったいないこと してないかい            Mottainai koto shite nai kai            もったいないこと してないかい            Mottainai koto shite nai kai            もったいない もったいない            Mottainai Mottainai            もったいないこと してないかい            Mottainai koto shite nai kai</p> <p>おさらのうへのたべのこし            ちゃわんについたごはんつぶ            わたしがたべてもいいのかい            ぱくぱく ごくごく ぺろぺろりん</p> <p>じゃあじゃあ おみずのだしっぱなし            かみをまるめて ぽいぽいぽい            みかんのかわも すてるのかい            もったいないばあさん くるよ</p>	<p>Chorus:            Are you doing anything Mottainai (wasteful)?            Are you doing anything Mottainai (wasteful)?            Mottainai, Mottainai            Are you doing anything Mottainai (wasteful)?</p> <p>The leftovers on the plate            The grains of rice stuck in the rice bowl            Is it OK if I eat them?            Paku paku goku goku pero perorin (sounds of eating)</p> <p>Jaa jaa (sound of water running) Do you keep water running unnecessarily?            Do you scrunch and throw away paper wastefully? Poi poi poi (sound of mindlessly throwing something away)            Do you throw away mandarin orange peels too?            Mottainai Baasan will come and get you!</p>

## Section C: Let's practise using *furoshiki*

*Furoshiki* are used in traditional methods of wrapping or bundling in Japan. These square cloths come in different sizes, and can be tied in various ways to carry items of assorted sizes and shapes. *Furoshiki* can be folded flat when not in use. They are receiving renewed attention because they are both handy and reusable.



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Let's practise using *furoshiki*. Follow the instructions to wrap two bottles with one *furoshiki* in a way that allows you to carry it like a bag. Use a square cloth such as a scarf (about 70cm x 70cm is best).

### 風呂敷で瓶を2本包みましょう【手順】

1 Place two bottles in the center of the *furoshiki*.



2 Fold the *furoshiki* diagonally.



4 Fold it in half.



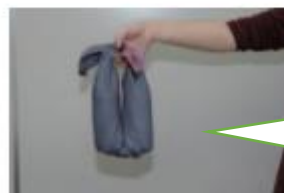
3 Roll up the bottles with the *furoshiki*.



5 Tie the ends together.



6 Done!



If you want to learn other ways of using *furoshiki*, you can watch the following video:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pnLZOj5V-f8>

Show it to your friends and family when it's done! You can teach them how to use one, too!