An Afternoon in Ueno Park (Part 16) Tadashi Ishida

This is the sixteenth in a series of articles in which Tadashi Ishida, an English teacher at a community center in Taito Ward in Tokyo, describes a language-learning activity that he conducted with his class. After considerable research and preparation, the learners toured Ueno Park with a foreign visitor, Mrs. Fitzwater, explaining to her the highlights of the park and answering her questions. After the tour, the learners wrote their own combination text and guidebook based on this experience.

Mrs. Fitzwater looked at the origami exhibit with Ms. Nihongi.

- F: Can every Japanese do origami? When do you learn it?
- N: My mother taught me when I was little.
- F: Several people have tried to teach me in the past two weeks, but I have a little trouble with it. I've tried a little, and I have been shown how. I've got books and paper, and so I'm going to go back and let my Japanese students teach me at home.
- N: This is a crane. The crane symbolizes a long life. Do you know how to make this bird?
- F: No, I don't.

フィッツウォーターさんは折り紙の展示品を観ました。

- フ:日本人は誰でも折り紙が出来ますか?あなたはいつ習いましたか?
- 二:私が小さい時、母が教えてくれました。
- フ:何人かの人が過去2週間私に教えようとしました。しかし、 ちょっと困っています。私は少しやってみましたし、どうやる のかも見せられました。本と紙も買ったので、戻ってから、私 の日本人の生徒に家で教えてもらうつもりです。
- 二:これは鶴です。鶴は長寿を表します。この鳥をどうやって作る かわかりますか?
- フ:いいえ。

Miss Nihongi tried to teach Mrs. Fitzwater how to make an origami samurai helmet. Since Miss Nihongi is a kindergarten teacher, she has had a lot of experience teaching origami.

- N: Do you know how to make a samurai helmet?
- F: No. I don't.
- N: Let's try to make the helmet of a samurai.
- F: We can try.

二本木さんは兜を作る方法をフィッツウォーターさんに教えようとします。二本木さんは幼稚園の先生なので、折り紙を教えた経験が豊富です。

- 二:兜を作る方法を知っていますか
- フ:いいえ。
- 二:では兜を作ってみましょう。
- フ:そうしましょう。

Mrs. Fitzwater finally completed the helmet and put it on her head.

フィッツウォーターさんはやっと兜をつくり、頭の上にのせました。





