

Enjoy the Tales Of Old Japan

One day, a boy named Urashimataro was walking on the beach. He saw some ruffians bullying a turtle. Urashimataro helped the turtle. In the evening the turtle came back to the beach to thank Urashimataro.

Urashimataro rode on the turtle's back and dove into the deep sea. They arrived at the gate of Ryugujo, an underwater castle. A beautiful woman called Otohime welcomed them. They treated Urashimataro very kindly. Urashimataro stayed with them at Ryugujo for quite a while until one day, he remembered his family and wanted to go back home. The turtle and Otohime bid him farewell and Otohime gave him a big treasure box. But she told him not to open it.

Urashimataro returned home. He wondered what was in the box, so he opened the box anyway. Then he became an old man in an instant.

Although Urashimataro had thought he had only been gone a few days, it was actually many years. Otohime had kept his old age in the box.

Once upon a time there was an old man and an old woman. One day, the old man went to the mountain and the woman went to the river to wash clothes. Just then, she saw a peach running with the current in the river.

The old woman brought the peach home. She cut the peach in half. Suddenly, a boy jumped out of the peach!

His name was "Momotaro" or, the Peach Boy. He grew up to be big and strong. One day, demons invaded his village. The entire village was very troubled.

Momotaro had an idea. He asked his mother to make "kibidango."

"I will go to Onigashima to fight the demons on their own territory!" he said. He took the kibidango his mother made for him to eat along the way.

A dog, monkey and pheasant accompanied him to Onigashima. They ate kibidango along the way.

When they arrived in Onigashima, the dog bit the demons, the pheasant pecked the demons and Momotaro fought against the demons with his sword. Finally, the demons gave up and Momotaro and his small army won! They went back to their village victoriously.