

What do I need?

Copy of page 3 printed onto A4 white card

Paper plate

Pink & green tissue paper
(you can use two shades of pink for contrast)

Glue

Scissors

Twine



What do I do?

Look at page 2 to learn about the Japanese flower festival Hanami.

Use your scissors to remove the inside of your paper plate so that the outer rim forms a ring. This will be the base of your wreath.

Cut and stick pieces of your green tissue paper onto the wreath shape until it is completely covered.

Now, cut out the blossom templates on page 3. You don't have to use all of them if you don't want to.

Decorate the blossom pieces with pieces of your pink tissue paper. If you are using two shades of pink, make the centre of the blossoms darker than the outside to make them look more realistic!

Once you have finished decorating all of your blossom pieces, stick them around your green wreath so that they are spaced equally.

Tie a length of twine at the top of your finished wreath so that you can hang it on display on a door or in a window for everyone to enjoy!

Sakura Hanami

Hanami, or *Sakura Hanami*, is the Japanese tradition of going to view the cherry blossom when it blooms in springtime. The word 'Hanami' literally means flower (*hana*) viewing (*mi*), while 'sakura' is the Japanese word for cherry blossom.

The cherry blossom emerges in spring when the temperature begins to warm, with the flowers lasting anywhere from 4 to 10 days. Friends and family meet in parks to enjoy the beautiful blossom, often sharing food and drinks under the cherry trees while petals softly fall around them.

The *sakura* has great significance in Japanese culture, as the blossom represents the beauty and fragility of life. Since the blossom only lasts for a few days, it reminds people that time is precious and that they should cherish every moment of it! As the festival follows the cold winter months, the *sakura* also signifies new life, warmth and the prospects of the year to come.



