

Dictation Contest (PRJr, 初級) No. 742

Hello, everyone! Welcome back to PR Junior.

Today, we will hear a story titled *Feed the Ducks*. Let's begin!

Beth went with Grandpa to feed the ducks. She had a bag of bread for the ducks.

Beth saw a little mouse. "You look hungry," she said. She gave a piece of bread to the mouse.

Then she ate a piece, too.

Beth saw two birds. "You look hungry," she said. She gave two pieces of bread to the birds.

She ate a little piece, too.

Well, let's stop here for today. See you next time, bye-bye!

Dictation Contest (PR 1, 中級) No. 742

Hi, guys! Welcome back to PR1.

Today, you are going to listen to the history of the cherry blossom festival in the U.S. Let's begin.

Not only Japan, but also the U.S. has a cherry blossom festival. Since 1935, they have held it every year in Washington DC. Washington DC is the capital of the U.S. These cherry trees came from Japan in 1912. The city of Tokyo gave 3,000 cherry trees to Washington DC. Most of these trees were planted along the Potomac River. The idea came from an American woman named Eliza Scidmore. In 1909, she wrote to the president's wife about the beautiful trees. The festival is a celebration of the two countries' friendly relationship. Many people go on a picnic by the Potomac River.

That is all for today. Bye-bye!

Dictation Contest (PR2 上級) No. 742

Hi, there! Welcome back to PR2!

Today's movie is the second part of the text about the importance of touching for understanding the world. Let's get started.

Awareness of touch can bring a new feeling to the most commonplace experiences. "I have just touched my dog," wrote the young Helen Keller in her diary. "He was rolling on the grass with pleasure in every muscle. I wanted to catch a picture of him in my fingers, and I touched him lightly as I would cobwebs. But, to my surprise, his body turned toward me and moved into a sitting position, and his tongue gave my hand a lick. He pressed close to me as if he intended to put himself into my hand. If he could speak, I believe he would say that paradise is attained by touch."

The sense of touch is capable of extraordinary development. Expert millers can recognize any grade of flour by rubbing a little between thumb and forefinger. A cloth expert can identify the coloring used in a cloth by the difference it makes in the texture. The blind botanist, John Grimshaw Wilkinson, learned to distinguish more than 5,000 species of plants by touching them lightly with his tongue.

We are aware today of how important touch is to complete understanding of anything, and there are now museums that, instead of the old "Don't Touch" signs, offer children the chance to touch.

This is all for today. See you in the next movie! Bye-bye!