

Have you ever hosted your own birthday party yourself? I have not. Not only me, but also many people in Japan don't really have the tradition of inviting friends to their houses to celebrate their birthdays. Most of my friends in Canada plan their birthday parties with their family. That's why I decided to host my birthday party this year. Since I know how to cook Japanese food, I wanted my friends to try Japanese food as well as my host family. One of my friends and I made a bunch of food that used *dashi*, which is made from dried fish flakes to make it taste good. *Dashi* is essential when you make Japanese food. As a result, the party was successful. I was glad that my attendees told us that the food was awesome. We did some fun activities such as board games, watching movies and *karaoke*.

Another thing I experienced this month is powwows, which are indigenous people's traditional dancing and singing. It has multiple types of dances like fancy dance and chicken dance, and we can participate some of them called intertribal. The most interesting form of dance I think is potato dance. It invites people to come into the powwow circle and hold a potato between their heads while dancing to a song and if the potato drops, they must leave the circle. If I go to a powwow next time, I would join this potato dance.

April was over before I knew it, I only have two months, which is not acceptable. Since I have to go back to Japan in two months, I'd like to spend time making at least one goal every day even if it is small. I tend to do things at last minute, so to make sure that doesn't happen, I want to start organizing and packing my stuff.

