③ <u>Urashima Taro</u>

Urashima Taro was a kind fisherman. One day he saved a turtle and put it back in the sea.

A few days later, the turtle returned.

'Thank you for saving me,' he said to Taro. 'If you want, I can take you to the palace of the Dragon King.'

Taro sat on the turtle's back and they went down to the bottom of the sea.

At the palace, Taro ate many delicious foods and watched the fish dance. He had a wonderful time. But after a few days he remembered his mother. He wanted to go home.

'Please stay here,' said the princess Otohime.

'No, I must go,' said Taro.

'Then take this box,' said the princess. 'It is a gift. But don't open it.'

A turtle took Urashima Taro home.

'Where is my home?' he said. 'Where is my mother?'

Everything had changed. In fact, three hundred years had passed. He was very sad and opened the box. Suddenly, white smoke came out. His hair became white and he became an old man. Princess Otohime had put his old age in the box.

The End.   (186 words)