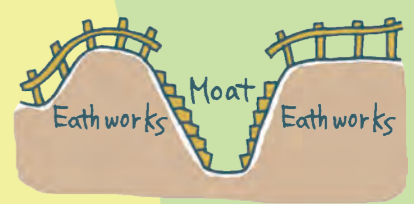
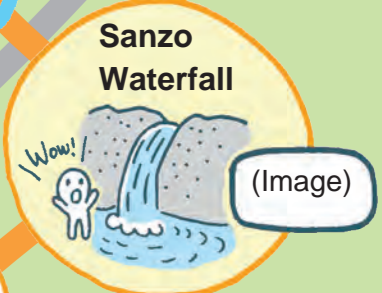


Izumi Shokanzeon Shushoin Temple **P**
START



There used to be a castle here. You can still see the earthworks and moat!



Sanzo Waterfall
 (Image)
Quiz!
 How high is this waterfall?
 1. 37m, 2. 3.7m, 3. 0.37m
 Go and see it for yourself to find the answer!

Izumi Sakashita Site
 Find *Izumi*, the Jar with a Human Face! Warp to Hoshinomiya Shrine to wash off the mud from the dig!

Izumisakashita
Site Walking Snakes and Ladders Game
 (Shimomurata - Kamiwase → Nemoto → Izumi)

Welcome to the Izumisakashita Site!

Focusing on the Izumisakashita Site, this is a roughly four-kilometer walking course that passes along the Ezeki Iwazaki Water Channel, constructed in the Edo period. A full 5,000 years of the history of Hitachi Omiya City, from the Jomon period to the Edo period, is packed into this one-hour walk!

! HOME! You're home!
 The pond where Sesson (a famous painter) washed his paintbrushes
 The water here is so good!
 In olden times the water here used to be used with inkstones (for calligraphy)

We cross the National Route here
 Take care as you carry on
 A car honked at you. Go back to Kasuga Shrine

Kasuga Shrine
 Meet a sky-blue frog in the cool and shady grounds.

Step on a sweet chestnut burr! Jump two spaces in surprise.

Hoshinomiya Shrine
 Wash your hands in the cool spring water. Feels good!

See fish in the water channel. Rest one turn while you relax watching them.

Goshoko Shrine
 Very good view! Take a deep breath and change places with someone (who has not already reached the goal)

This Iwazaki Water Channel flows for more than 20 km, as far as the south of Naka City, providing water for the wet rice fields along the way.

It was constructed in the Edo Period.

What?! Amazing!
 I'm hungry

Izumi			Glue	Megalodon			Glue	Sesson			Glue	Kannon-Sama			Glue
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Make personal pieces!
 Cut them out and glue the base together to make the pieces!



Time Travel



5000 years?!



There are many historic spots along this course, covering more than 5,000 years from the Jomon period to the Edo period!

Let's have a look at the main sites along the way!

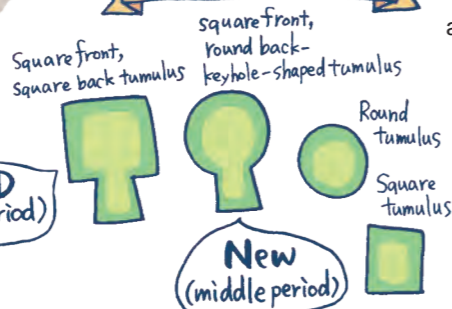


The Tumulus Period

Grave of the family that ruled in the area of Omiya around 1,600 years ago? The Fujiyama Tumulus Group, around the Goshoko Shrine, stands at the tip of the plateau of Omiya and includes the oldest square front, square back tumulus (Fujiyama No.4 Tumulus) in the prefecture. It has almost disappeared, but the keyhole-shaped tumulus just above Goshoko Shrine is in nearly perfect condition.



Various shapes of tumuli



Jomon Era



Large jade beads

Lots of Jomon period remains below the surface of the earth!

On the plateau above pond where Sesson washed his paintbrushes is the Tsuboiue Site, a Middle Jomon period (about 5,000 years ago) site.

Enough earthenware jars to fill a classroom were found there in the archeological survey that was carried out before what is now Shimomurata Shopping Center was built. This is where eight, the largest number found in one place in Japan, large jade beads were unearthed. Lots of Late Jomon period (about 2,800 years ago) earthenware jars have also been unearthed at the Izumisakashita Site.



Yayoi Era



Jomon earthenware

A jar with a human face that is full of riddles! Middle Yayoi period (about 2,300 years ago) reburial grave remains were discovered at the Izumisakashita Site. Jars containing human bones were put into these graves, which is very unusual. It is also rare to find a jar with a human face. Why does only one jar have a human face? Where did the people who dug this grave live? What kind of people were they? There are still so many riddles to solve!



Izumi, the Jar with a Human Face



The Edo Period

The 22-km long water channel has passed down to the present day from 300 years ago.

This water channel was built by Moemon Nagata and his son at the time when Mito Komon was alive.

It is a construction work that brings water from the Kuji River to local wet rice fields. It is now made of concrete, but it runs along exactly the same course as it did when it was built.



The Iwazaki Water Channel

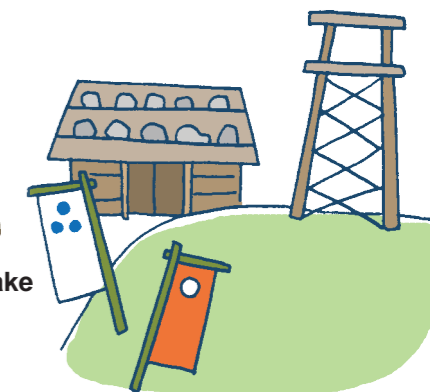
...and on to the present day!

The Warring States Period



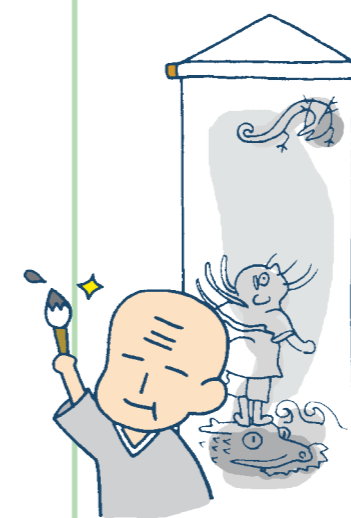
The castle of the warrior Satake family!

You can see the ruins of the Warring States period (around 400 years ago) castle, known as Maegoya Castle. There is no building there anymore, but you can easily see the remains of the moat and earthworks that were used to defend the castle from enemy attack.



Appearing in the GOAL of the Snakes and Ladders Game...

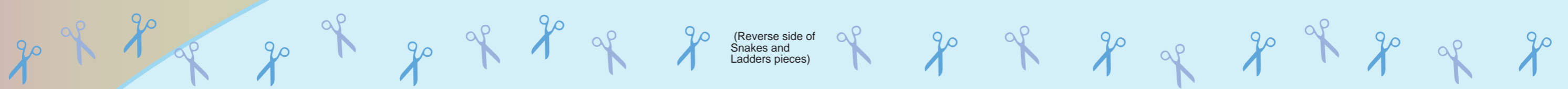
Sesson – what kind of person was he?



A very famous ink brush painting artist who was active in the Muromachi period. He was also very popular with well-known Warring States period feudal lords such as the Ashina family of Aizu and the Hojo family of Odawara!! Born in Hitachi Omiya City (when it was known as Hetare), after undergoing ascetic Buddhist training at Shoji Temple in Hitachi Ota City he was active in many places around Japan, and lived in Miharu, Fukushima Prefecture, in his later years.

- Quiz!** What was the other occupation of the great painter Sesson?
- 1) Natto (fermented sou bean) seller
 - 2) Buddhist priest
 - 3) Paper maker

See reverse side for the answer!



(Reverse side of Snakes and Ladders pieces)