Although scrolls came first, the book form as we know it was introduced in China and Japan around the 13th century. Books offered increased ease of use and protection against insect damage. They also introduced an opportunity to create beautiful bindings using beautiful Japanese papers.

As more and more people became literate, more and more books were produced on many subjects. Once the printing press was in use, book production methods changed and now “sewn” books are objects of beauty first and foremost. They are, however, an important part of Japan’s past and artistic culture. In this workshop, participants will be given a digital presentation on the history of the book in Japan. They will then make their own book using one of the several forms of sewn bindings. These workshops can be tailored to be age appropriate for almost any age group.