

Application for Participation

*Associated Schools Project (ASP)
for Promoting International Education*

Documentation: Language preferred

ENGLISH FRENCH SPANISH ARABIC

Name of Institution

Chuo Elementary School

Address

1-10-35 Nagamachi, Kanazawa City, Ishikawa, Japan

Telephone No

+81-76-262-8560

Fax No

+81-76-261-3779

Type of institution

Primary

Email

chuo-ed@kanazawa-city.ed.jp

Name of Principal

Hirohisa Ikehata

Name and position of persons who will direct the ASP in the school

Wataru Yoshida (teacher)

Number of students in the institution

559

Age range of students

6-12 years old

Number of teachers

33

Outline of the way the Project(s) will be implemented in the institution

Description of the Project

We wish to encourage the students to think about an environmentally-friendly lifestyle, and to deepen their understanding and appreciation of their relationship, their bond, with the environment. In order to do this, we will conduct environmental education and education in traditional culture. We will also provide opportunities for learning about the two water channels in our school zone, our hand-made biotope, and the local cultural and historical heritage. In addition, we will promote activities of the Students' Committee in our school, such as activities to encourage ecological thinking and sustainable society, as well as greeting and volunteer work, thereby strengthening the bonds between all students.

Objectives of the Project

Our objectives through activities researching the natural environment, discovering our traditional culture, and school events which are planned by students, are as follows:

1. Principally the first and second grades:

Cultivating students' interest in and sensitivity towards nature and the environment by coming in to contact with people who have lived in the area for a long time, and by investigating the local environment, institutions, and cultural heritage.

2. Principally the third and fourth grades:

Increasing students' pride in their hometown and their attitudes toward the environment and traditions by means of research into traditional culture, arts, and special products of Kanazawa, and by contact with people who are involved in these areas.

3. Principally the fifth and sixth grades:

Increasing students' interest in the local environment and cultivating their sensitivity towards nature by researching local history, the local environment, and the creatures that live locally.

Execution

The First Grade: 'Traditional Play in the Chuo School District'

The curriculum is designed to have the students appreciate some good aspects of Japan and Kanazawa through experiencing traditional play and pastimes of the Chuo school district.

The Second Grade: 'We are Maidosan'

The students will become knowledgeable about the region they live in, by researching Omi-cho market, Tamagawa park, Tamagawa children's library, and the nature and characteristics of the area, and passing on the results.

The Third Grade: 'Let's find out some secrets of Kaga vegetables'

The students will research the vegetables of the Kaga region and listen to the thoughts and opinions of those who cultivate and cook them, and in doing so will not only enhance their awareness of their hometown but also develop a positive attitude towards nature and the environment.

The Fourth Grade: 'Traditional Culture of Kanazawa'

This workshop aims to have the students deepen their understanding of traditional culture in Kanazawa and develop in them a desire to preserve and pass it on.

Activities:

1. To visit the Dentokogeikan museum and see some traditional craftwork.
2. To try applying gold leaf assisted by craftsmen from the Kanazawa Buddhist Altar Manufacturers' Association.
3. To decorate art works using traditional ceremonial paper cords guided by artisans from a specialist shop.
4. To make a strap with a Kaga fishing lure.
5. To experience playing the Koto.

The Fifth Grade: 'Researching Local Water Channels'

The students will research the two water channels in the Chuo school district, Onosho Yosui and Kuratsuki Yosui, and examine the water quality and aquatic life. They will actually enter the water channel, where students are usually banned, in order to investigate the living things and the water at first hand. The aim is to have the students appreciate the significance of the surrounding environment and moreover, become acquainted with the local water channels, and in so doing develop a desire to preserve them in their present restored state.

The Sixth Grade: 'Let's explore some of the historical secrets of Kaga-Hyakumangoku'

The sixth graders will visit some historical sites within the Chuo school district in order to investigate them and organize the collected information into a guidebook for further discussion among the students. We have a number of historical sites in the Chuo school district and by visiting those sites themselves we hope the students will realize the existence of people who are making efforts to pass on history through the generations, and will strengthen their bond with the local area.

For all grades: 'Participation in the UNICEF activity'

The Students' Committee will call for all students in the school to collect aluminum cans to convert into donations to UNICEF. Through this charitable activity, the students will become aware of their bond with people around the world.

Type of materials to be used

The following are the main teaching materials for the designated activities in each grade:

First Grade: Traditional pastimes & toys

Second Grade: The parks & historical facilities in the school district

Third Grade: Kaga vegetables, cultivators, & cooks using Kaga vegetables

The Fourth Grade: The Dentokogeikan museum, people in the field of traditional crafts, & traditional craftwork

The Fifth Grade: The local water channels & living creatures

The Sixth Grade: The historical sites in the school district related to Kaga-Hyakumangoku

Is there any type of evaluation to examine the effects of the project on students' comprehension and attitudes?

The projects will be evaluated by not only checking their state and progress, but also by surveying the changes the students undergo:

Students' understanding of the project and local environment.

Students' interest in and attitude towards the project they are involved in.

Students' impressions and opinions reported during the project.

Results of the projects such as works or practical sessions.

On behalf of my institution, I apply for participation in the UNESCO Associated Schools Project and give the assurance that this institution will make an active contribution to the Project, as outlined above, for a minimum period of two years. At the end of every year, I shall submit a report of the Project to the ASP National Co-ordinator of my country.

.....
Date

.....
Hirohisa Ikehata
Principal
Chuo Elementary School