

Expanding future possibilities

Hirakû

22

Frontpage: "Dancing summer veggies"

Colorful summer vegetable friends full of energy

Basking in the summer sun, Jumping with all their might! Jump! Jump!

The expressions of the vegetables jumping out of the basket are so cute!

**We look forward to
your ideas!**

"Hiraku" provides useful information
and the latest news related to
English and childhood education.

- Your recent interests
- Topics you want us to cover
- New content etc etc...

If you have ideas to contribute,
please share these with us!

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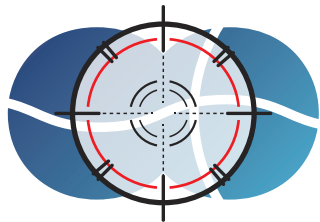
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- ★Infinity Global Elementary School Report
- ★Interview with a Kinder Kids graduate
(IELTS score 7.0/ pass EIKEN Grade 1 as a sophomore in high school)
- ★Staff interview
(1st prize for 2 years in a row in the English test for Japanese staff)
- ★Grad Club British Hills Event Report



日本の心と、英語の力。Kinder Kids inc.



FOCUS!
INFINITY GLOBAL SCHOOL

Infinity Global Elementary School Project-based learning

In this issue, we would like to introduce
the Elementary School's project-based learning
"Lemonade Stand Project"



Head Teacher
Akifumi Nakayama

First of all, what is project-based learning? It may be a little difficult to visualize, so let's think about the learning which is not connected to society. When you were in junior high and high school, you learned factorization in math class. When you were learning about factorization, you must have been thinking, "Why am I learning this?" "Where can I use this?" This is "learning that is not connected to society. It is just rote learning, cramming in knowledge that you don't know where or when it will be used.

On the other hand, in project-based learning, when you are learning about factorization, you think of it this way: "Selling lemonade" is a project. In the project, you factor customers into male/female, age and income categories. By learning through real-life experiences in a project, you become aware that what you are learning can be useful in society, which makes learning fun and easier to retain what you learn. This time, the purpose of this lemonade stand project was to learn about money and society through selling lemonade to local people.

"Lemonade Stand Project", cross-curricular activity

Chemistry **Making lemonade**
How much sugar is just the right amount?



Arithmetic **Cost accounting and price setting**
How much does it cost per glass?
To make a profit how much should the selling price be to sell a lot?



Communication **Marketing research**
Surveying people around you to find out what price they would be willing to pay.



Expressiveness **Making handouts**
Making handouts using online design tools



Shapes **Making chairs**
Making cardboard chairs for customers



Communication **Selling lemonade**
Selling Lemonade to family and friends, and calculating the change and the total sales.



Social studies **Thinking about how to use the profits**
This time there was a suggestion to donate the profits



Students can learn their subjects through projects. They can feel that what they are learning in each subject will be actually useful in society. We hope that through project-based learning, they will experience the joy and importance of learning together with their friends and teachers as members of society.



Please check the elementary school HP or Kinder+ for 2023 application guidelines.
1-2-22 Karasugatsuji, Tennoji-ku, Osaka-shi, Osaka
(Located on the ground of the Kinder Kids Academy Tennoji Yuhigaoka School)

HP



Kinder+





My Stepping Stone (File3)

The starting point was Kinder Kids. Let us introduce a graduate who is taking on new challenges in the field she is passionate about.

Passing the EIKEN Grade 1 & achieving IELTS 7.0 score

I want to live abroad and work on environmental issues in the future.

Memories at Kinder Kids

My most memorable experiences at Kinder Kids were the various events and field trips. I always looked forward to going on monthly excursions such as grape picking, playing in the snow, and so on.

I have fond memories of not only Christmas, Halloween and other international events, but also Japanese events such as New Year's, Setsubun and Hinamatsuri. I always had fun with my friends while making crafts and drawing pictures that were related to those events.

Learning English after preschool

I attended elementary, junior high and high schools that did not focus on English. But by attending Grad Club once or twice a week, I was able to prevent losing my English skills. Talking with native English speakers and taking grammar and reading comprehension classes greatly helped to maintain my English skills. I also watch SNS, such as YouTube and TikTok, in English, and rather than just studying English, I also read and listen to English every day to keep up with world affairs and other information.

※Osaka Global Juku
This is Osaka Prefectural
Government's Overseas Education
Support Program for High School
Students.

Questions that I found difficult in EIKEN Grade 1 test

I found the vocabulary questions particularly difficult. The Eiken Grade 1 test contains technical words and quite formal expressions. When I first looked at the past questions, no matter how familiar I was with English, many of the words were unfamiliar to me. I concentrated on preparation for about a month before the exam, particularly focusing on vocabulary. Even when I was playing with my friends, I memorized English words whenever I had a chance.

IELTS Exam and Test Preparation

In order to check the progress after one year of lessons at "Osaka Global Juku"®, organized by Osaka Prefectural Government, I took the IELTS exam. Test preparation lessons were part of the classes which were held once a week for 3 hours. I also had many practical lessons such as writing and speaking English.



Meeting with the former Osaka school manager for the first time in 11 years

Osaka School Graduates

R.A

Osaka prefecture
Private high school
Senior



【Profile of R.A】

She graduated from Kinder Kids Osaka School in 2011. Passed EIKEN Grade pre-2 test in the first grade of elementary school and Grade 2 test in the third grade of elementary school. 3rd place in the Grad Club's 1st English Speech Contest. 2nd place in the Grad Club's 2nd English Speech Contest. Was a child actor in "Gekidan Himawari" and appeared in Kinder Kids Mirika School's VP in 2012.

In her second year of high school, she was accepted into "Osaka Global Juku 2021" run by the Osaka Prefectural Government.

Improved her English communication skills through discussions, debates and presentations and attended remote lectures from the University of Leeds in the U.K. Passed EIKEN Grade 1 & IELTS scored 7.0 last year.

Study and Work in the future

In the future at university, I want to major in economics and study how the economy works. I have deepened my interest in environmental issues through discussions with international students at "Osaka Global Juku," so I would especially like to major in "Environmental Economics" and learn how environmental issues and the SDGs are generating economic benefits. After graduation, I would like to work overseas, making use of my English skills and the knowledge I acquired at university, to work for a company that works on environmental problems, and someday I want to start my own company.

Message to Kinder Kids students

When you enter junior high and high school, you may feel confused because English education in Japan is completely different from the education you have received at Kinder Kids. However, I believe that the most important thing is not to neglect your studies just because English is too easy at school, but to always be **humble and learn new things, and above all, to enjoy and make English a part of your life.**

From R-san's mother

I believe that the basis of my daughter's personality was nurtured at Kinder Kids

What made me decide to enroll my child in Kinder Kids was how the teachers treated children. They praise the children to the fullest, whether expressed in words or with their entire body.

When the teachers said "Perfect! Great!" and hugged the children, I felt that they were bringing out the best in the children with love.

My daughter felt confident that she was loved, and worked hard to get more praise. She had an energetic school life.

It has been more than 10 years since she graduated from Kinder Kids, and I am once again grateful that she enrolled in Kinder Kids and nurtured qualities such as high English proficiency, independence, leadership, and gaining a global perspective with the Japanese mindset.

Interview

1st place for two years in a row in the English test for Japanese staff !

Osaka Bay School **Mai Shirotzuki**

— Congratulations on achieving 1st place for two years in a row in the English test for Japanese staff! Please tell us how you feel about this achievement.

Thank you very much. I am grateful for the warm support I have always received from everyone around me. This award has inspired me to keep up the good work!

— How have you studied English since joining the company?

I talk and communicate a lot with my class partners and the staff around me, and I still talk frequently with my friends from when I lived in the U.S. I also often watch English videos and movies on YouTube and Netflix.

— Please tell us about your English-related childhood memories.

When I was in elementary school, I had opportunities to play with a girl from Australia who was staying at my friend's house, and that was the first time I came into contact with English and foreign culture and became interested in it. We kept exchanging emails after she returned to Australia.

— What made you decide to join Kinder Kids?

I love to interact with children. When I was in university, I worked part-time as an afterschool staff at an elementary school and also worked at an international school summer program. I thought that Kinder Kids was a perfect fit for my desire to fully utilize my English and the linguistics I had learned while studying abroad.

— Is there anything you keep in mind at work, and what do you find rewarding?

Since I am taking care of precious children, my first priority is to create a safe environment. I also try to be attentive to the children's feelings so that they can spend their time in a relaxed and safe environment. I also believe it is important to talk a lot with the children to learn about their interests. It is very rewarding to see children grow, such as children who always used to cry, start to laugh a lot or learn to be able to do something they could not do before. I am very grateful for the many things I learn from their parents and the warm support I receive from them.

— Are there anything you would like to try in the future?

Starting this year, I am joining the English lesson team for nursery staff. This is a new challenge for me and I would like to motivate the staff to learn English as much as possible.



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We could learn a lot about the history and culture of the United Kingdom through many activities for two days at British Hills.

Unfortunately, it rained on the first day, but the fog around the building made it feel as if we were really in England.

We made our own original tote bags using the traditional painting technique "Fabric Painting", also learned table manners and practiced them during dinner.

Cricket, a traditional British sport, was a new experience for us and, even though we struggled, we had a lot of fun as a team.

We also enjoyed the world of Harry Potter by wearing the original British Hills cloak, and had a great time!

