

Front cover: craft "Baby sea turtles run toward the ocean"  
 When the tiny turtles tottered down the rock they jumped into the ocean one after another!  
 It seems like they are enjoying the beautiful sea for the first time while being surrounded by the waves.  
 They look adorable with their faces filled with wonder.  
 If you look closely you'll see every turtle is different.

Let's enjoy  
 coloring!



Speaking of turtles...  
 One of our phonics characters is "Tired Turtle".  
 He doesn't like to stay in one place so he always tries to explore.  
 There are so many different places to meet new people.  
 He can get along with anyone, anywhere!

Please share 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...

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

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**Hirakū**

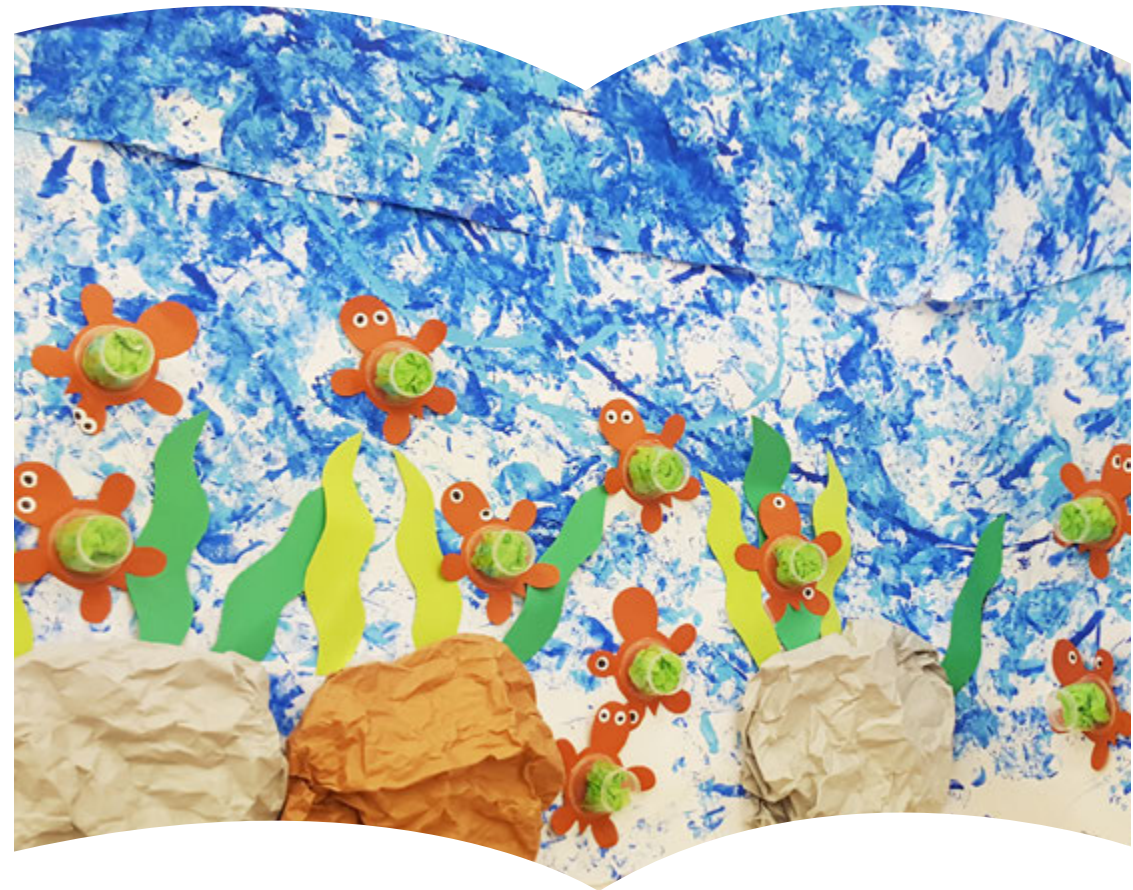
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Expanding future possibilities

# Hirakū

4



What is the best education system for developing dynamic children?

EIKEN test admission starts soon!

"What you need to know about the EIKEN test"

Japanese Spirit with an International Future. Kinder Kids inc.



## An education system to cope with "first-grade challenges at elementary school"

### How can we ensure a smooth transition for children from preschool to elementary school.

There are a number of challenges facing children as they make the transition from preschool to elementary school. In partnership with parents, we strive to educate children in an enjoyable and constructive way to help them feel prepared and confident when making the transition.



### Difficulties children face when entering elementary school.

Adjusting to unfamiliar surroundings, new routines, new teachers and peers is a challenge for any child. Time schedules in preschools or nursery schools are generally not so rigid but in elementary school there is a daily schedule to follow and children are required to be independent for basic life skills.

Depending on the child, this can be a cause of some stress and can take some time to get used to.



Elegant Elephant

Exited Fox

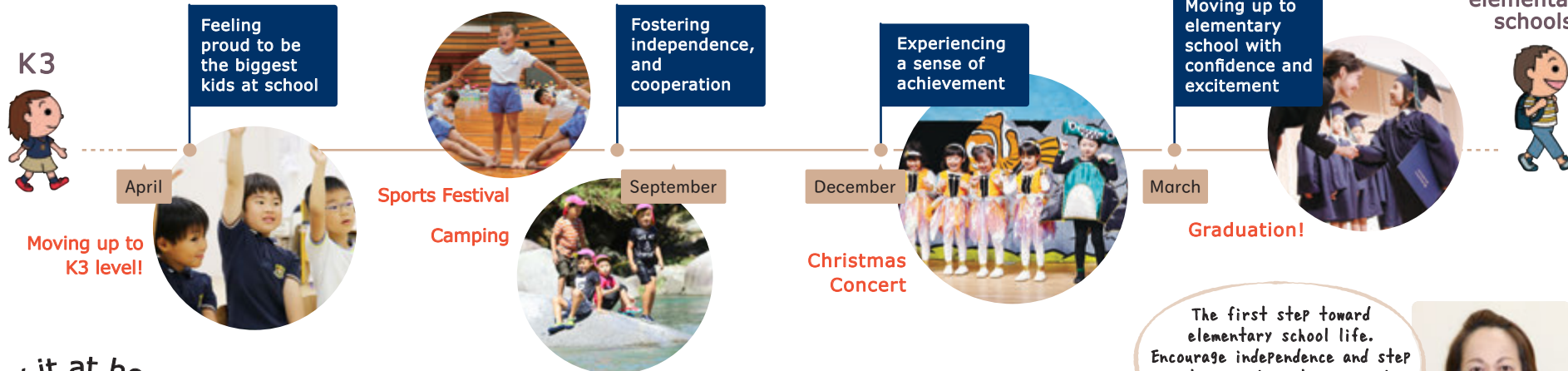
### How to prepare for elementary school.

Preparation for elementary school can start from nursery level when a child first experiences parent-child separation. At Kinder Kids we encourage students to enjoy being able to do things by themselves. Children gradually learn how to look after their belongings, dress and feed themselves, be considerate of their friends, share and work in teams. In every grade skills are built through our curriculum, children develop life and social skills and become more independent.

As students progress into K3, there is more emphasis on respecting friends, communicating and interacting with each other. Learning to take turns and cooperate with classmates, as well as developing their motor skills and literacy helps children feel more confident and more prepared to graduate and move up to elementary school.



elementary schools



### Try it at home!

Preparation for elementary school enrolment



It is expected children will need to be in school around 8 am and to be able to sit and focus on their lessons for 45 minutes periods. Our schedule at Kinder Kids prepares children well for this as they experience longer periods of concentration through workbook and journal activities. There is also a good range of skills practiced each day, from numeracy to making craft,

through to theme discussions and outdoor play. Our reading programs help to develop their vocabulary and the process of discovering new words is a skill that transfers across languages. We recommend that children read as many books as possible and encourage you to talk about the stories as a family.

The first step toward elementary school life. Encourage independence and step into new elementary school life with confidence!



Jyuku and Gakusy Department  
Kumiko Shinoda



School	Osaka	Grade at the exam	k3
Test date	2019 January (the third exam in 2018)		
Grade	Pre-2		

### How I studied vocabulary

I used a book that contains Pre-2 grade past exams and solved the problems as best as I could.  
Two weeks before the test  
I really focused on studying.



Studying	Word	Studying	Writing
I studied with my mother and when I came across difficult English vocabulary she explained how I could use it in a sentence.		Whenever I had Journal homework, I tried to write as much as possible each week. When my mother checked and corrected it for me, I would read it again and try to remember it.	

How I understood the questions	Family support
I asked my mother then she explained to me in a way that I could understand. I completed the past exam book then got used to the questions and became able to understand more and more.	I (Mum) worked with my son worked on his kinder kids homework, preparation for show and tell and also past exam questions. When he didn't know the answer, we thought through it together and I tried to make him feel confident to take the EIKEN test.

What do you like about Kinder Kids	Next goal
Because I learned English at kinder kids, I enjoy talking with my native teacher in English lessons at my elementary school.	I want to Pass EIKEN Grade 1 one day. I hope I can Pass Grade 2 and Pre-1 by elementary school Grade 4.

## Our overall results

## Kinder Kids

Test date	January 27th 2019 (The third test in 2018)	Test takers	K3
Passing rate of Grade 3	76%	Passing rate of Grade pre-2	5 out of 14 test takers

86% of test takers from Kinder Kids K3 who are taking the EIKEN course pass the EIKEN test!

Questionnaire conducted by: General Research Ltd. Survey period: February 22-25, 2019  
Survey method: Internet Survey summary: Comparison of services offered by 10 English focused pre-schools  
Survey participants: 1048 Japanese adults M/F aged 20-50



## Get to know EIKEN!

Four things you should know when your child is taking the EIKEN test



Test admission starts soon!

2019

Applications start:  
At the end of July~  
Mock test: September 15th  
First Stage: October 6th  
Second Stage: November 10th

For more details, visit our Kinder or Grad portal site

### 1 EIKEN test first timers What grade is recommended for first time EIKEN test takers?

We recommend starting with Grade 4! Firstly, it is important to be familiar with the format of the EIKEN test, filling in the mark sheets correctly and to build a sense of achievement when passing the test. Then try a higher grade.

Take it step by step to reduce tension and build confidence when taking the EIKEN test.

On the website for the EIKEN Foundation of Japan, You can find a page called "for kids!" You can see the details of the test. Past exam questions are available for your preparation. There is also a description of how to fill in the mark sheet, and what to expect on the test day etc..

Please take a look with your child!

英検 Kids

### 2 Which is better?

Public test sites are established by the EIKEN Foundation of Japan. Usually your test site will be located in the region you request when you apply.

Group test sites are operated at 4 Kinder Kids schools in Shinagawa, Nagoya, Osaka and Nishinomiya.

### 3 Which are better? Public test sites or Group test sites?

It depends on your child's age and personality. Benefits of taking the test at a group test site are that participants are comprised of similar ages and the test supervisor is familiar with the kids. We aim to create test sites where children feel more relaxed.

Public test sites will include older participants and it will be held in a classroom at a university. Depending on your child's preference, different and less familiar surroundings may bring better results.

### 4 Filling in Mark sheets

Children are required to fill in personal information such as their name and address on the mark sheet.

A parent can remain in the test room until 5 minutes before the test begins so a parent can fill in the name and address on behalf of the child if needed.

## Providing an English learning environment for Kinder Kids graduates

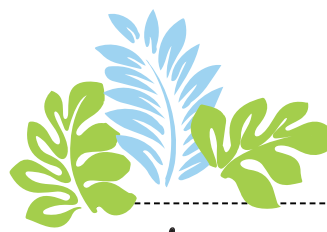


Grad Club Department Kumiko Yamashita

I have been working at Kinder Kids for 14 years. I started working as a member of the Grad Club from this spring to assist with expanding our services. Now Kinder Kids graduates number more than 3000 students with more and more joining each year after graduating. We aim to continue providing a fun curriculum for children and to expand our Kinder Kids family connection around the world. For the first step, we will provide more opportunities for graduate students to come back to Kinder Kids more casually. Currently we provide opportunities for graduate students to come back to Kinder Kids such as a work experience program for junior high school students, summer school volunteering for high school students, part-time jobs at our Kobe Seaside Club and internship programs for college students. We will make sure that information is available to as many graduate students as possible in order to provide more opportunities for them to participate in these events. Also we will introduce updates about graduate students and encourage them to reconnect and network. We value graduate parents' opinions, suggestions and concerns. I'm raising three kids in elementary school and junior high school and all of them are Kinder Kids graduates. Like you, I struggle every day with bringing them up so I truly understand your point of view. Please feel free to tell me what you think about Grad Club, what you expect of us, any feedback, or anything else you want to talk to me about regarding your child's English improvement.



Implementing parental feedback into our service



Topic

## Kobe Seaside Club

Only for summer weekends !  
"Kobe Seaside Club" is open this year again !  
Kobe Seaside Club is a facility that is attached to Kobe Seaside School in Suma. It is exclusive to Kinder Kids' students and their families. There is an outdoor pool overlooking Suma beach, we serve meals and drinks plus provide entertaining activities for children. You will feel like you are in an overseas resort but with the comfort of knowing the environment is safe and exclusive. Come down and enjoy your time with us at Kobe Seaside Club !

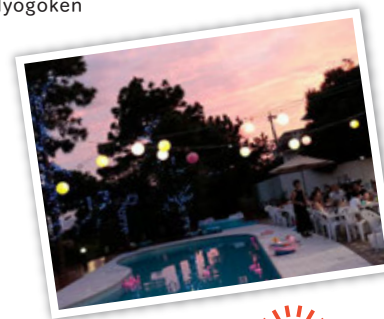
HP



Facebook



2-1-31 Sumauradori, Suma-ku Hyogoken



Delphina

The proceeds from the charity event will be used to support our Cambodian school project.



Always popular!



Tritan



Coral

Kobe Seaside Club



### Charity Night Carnival

For our final event of the season at Kobe Seaside Club, on August 24th, we will hold the charity night carnival this year again! This year, we will have a spectacular Ninja performance!



Captain Kip

