

# Application for Participation

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

Outline of the way the Project(s) will be implemented in the institution  
(please use extra sheets if necessary)

## **Description of the Project** (プロジェクトの概説)

In this school, "A shining smile on children" is targeted and educational activities are aimed to be carried out in a safe environment with a presence of definite support system. Activities making use of varied life experiences incorporating children's ideas and creative thinking, together with the effective use of community resources are put into practice. This is to the development of healthy children who love their own hometown.

The school currently reconsiders the advancement on environmental education, welfare, and history based on the perspective of growing leaders of a sustainable society. It also intends to design an educational system for the whole region for the purpose of tightening the collaboration of school and community, and to foster a climate in which local people are further involved in rearing our children. It also broadens learning activities in order to ensure the promotion of more in-depth faculty teachers' training through ESD as well as the cultivation of "heart, mind, and action" which are considered essential in bringing up children who love and value their hometown.

## **Objectives of the Project** (プロジェクトの目的)

This school aims to strengthen the collaboration with the community through ESD in terms of "environmental protection", "the history and life of the community", and "welfare and living in the region" nurturing leaders for a sustainable society. By examining the history, life and environment of our own region, it is also targets to cultivate the ability and attitude so as to instill the pride for their hometown in achieving a sustainable future.

Here are the goals of the three (3) activities enumerated below.

### 1.) Environmental Protection Learning Through the Traditional Industry – Persimmon Cultivation

Look closely at Tamagawa school district natural environment and the industries which use them as well as appreciating the blessings of nature to instill the sensibility to we must protect and take good care of nature for the benefit of future children.

2.) Welfare Education, the Core of Exchange Activities Focusing on the Elderly

Raise the awareness on available local services and human rights to cultivate the attitude of “eagerness to serve voluntarily” for the socially vulnerable.

3.) Studying the History of the Hometown

Deepen the love for their local community by close investigation of human existence and their way of life since ancient times as well as to have a right perception for one’s own native province.

**Execution** (プロジェクトの実施)

(e.g. through a specially designed course, through an existing course(s) or as an extracurricular activity)

This institution as described above, supported by ESD aims to nurture competencies from the stand point of “environmental protection”, “life and history of the region”, and “life and welfare of the region”. Investigative study of our local natural environment and history as the focal of learning are presumed to bring out development of children who are solution finders and who hold pride for their region which are essentials in creating a sustainable society.

4.) ESD Continuing Program of Activities ( Grade 5: Prototype)

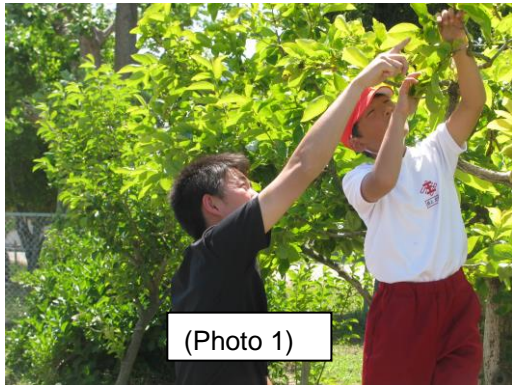
Subject Area	Apr.	May	Jun	Jul	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar
Social Studies	Our Country		Life and Food Cycle							Life and Environment	
Science	Life Connections (Plants)		Life Connections (Killifish)		Life Connections (Seed)		The River and Our Lives		Living Things and The Seasons (Winter)		
									Water in Nature		
Integrated Studies		Flower Picking		Fruit Thinning		Harvest	Selling	Presentation ( Exhibit)		Turn Over Program	Fertilization
Event(s)		Zero-Waste Campaign					Tamagawa “Kids” Presentation				

5.) Environmental Protection Learning Through the Traditional Industry – Persimmon Cultivation

This school borrows persimmon orchards from the local residents, and persimmon cultivation has been continued for more than 30 years now. In particular, the fifth graders through fruit thinning, fertilization, and weeding develop rich hands-on experiences with the local nature and persimmon farmers. (Photo 1)

In October, persimmon presentation ceremony is held to pray for the success of in-coming Ishimaki Junior High School students. Moreover, in November, pupils and parents also take active roles in selling persimmons. (Photo 2)

These activities lead to fostering high sensibility towards valuing local nature and instilling high hopes to live together in harmony with the people of the local community people.



### 1.) Welfare Education, the Core of Exchange Activities Focusing on the Elderly

In “*Himawari*” Class (Special Educ.), the calendar of activities for next school year is created and distributed to school district preschools and home for the aged institutions. In addition, performances outside school are held depending on the type of “*Taishogoto*”, musical launchings are



also conducted which are geared toward connecting hearts and soul. (Photo 3)

### 2.) Studying the History of the Hometown

Entitled "Explore Tamagawa Historic Sites", these are research and exploration activities on ruins and artifacts in Tamagawa school district where sixth graders play the key role. For children who are beginning to study Japanese history, the ruins and ancient tombs found in the school district are fascinating. Children having a great interest learning on this conduct an on-site investigative study of Magoshi ancient



crematory and Miyanishi tombs by utilizing the Period for Integrated Study class, (see Photo 4). Moreover, listening to the community elders’ talk and reading the local materials, children continue to identify solutions to their own set problems. In addition, pupils realize that the name “*Takai*”, Imperial Palace, and “*Tama*” (ball) - a river name are originally dated back in The Southern and Northern Dynasties.

Through learning the history of the region and investigation of the existence of historical facts and artifacts which are deeply related to the center of its history heighten the pride for the hometown from its historical perspective and deepen the affection for the region.

**Type of materials to be used**(使用する教材)

- Persimmon Trees ( Orchard)
- "Taishogoto", Japanese Harp with three to five strings
- "History of Tamagawa School District ",

Ref: Tamagawa School District Edition, Executive Committee, 2006

**Is there any type of evaluation to examine the effects of the projects on students' comprehension and attitudes?** (プロジェクトに対する生徒の理解と姿勢の評価方法)

- Carry out a self-evaluation whenever necessary in activities related to the project to put importance to children's individual
- In persimmon cultivation activities, evaluate the attitudinal attribute towards the significance of Tamagawa tradition in addition to raising the awareness on environmental and industrial aspects of the community.
- In welfare exchange, evaluate the growth of synergy cognition so as to promote the understanding of oneself and other people.
- In studying the history of the region, assess the scale on pride for the hometown and the growing affection for the region related to the center of history through the discovery of historical facts.

(本学校を代表して、ユネスコA S Pの参加申請をし、少なくとも2年間は上記概要にそってA S Pに貢献する活動を行うことを確約します。また、毎年A S Pコーディネーター(※日本の場合は日本ユネスコ国内委員会)に活動のレポートを提出します。)

March 31, 2014

**Date**

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**YANAKA TOMONORI**

Principal

Tamagawa Elementary School