

# Welcome CDC Parents and Carers New Class Orientation Shinka

20121312

© Okinawa Institute of Science and Technology Graduate University 2020



## Meet the Group Leader



Yukiko yukiko.makishi@oist.jp Point of contact for concerns after speaking with the class teacher.

Creates shifts and covers the classroom when class teachers are on leave.

Formal and informal evaluation of classroom, safety checks, staff training, student class assignments, holds meetings with teachers monthly.



The age range for the children in the Shinka class is 5-6. The capacity for the classroom is 36. We are expecting 35 children in the Shinka class this coming year. Each classroom has 4 full time teachers.





## **Classroom Set Up**







## **Classroom Set Up**







## **Classroom Set Up**



### **Daily Schedule**

8:00-9:00	Drop-Off /Unstructured Free Play
9:00-9:20	Clean-up/Bathroom/ Wash Hands
9:20-9:40	Morning Snack
9:40-10:30	Morning Meeting (Morning Circle, Numbers, Calendar, Story Time)
10:30-11:30	Meet With Small Groups/Outdoor Play (This will be on-going throughout the day. The class is split into small groups for more focused study times. English and Japanese teachers will be meeting with groups during this time.) Groups who are not meeting with teachers will be playing outside. The groups will rotate from inside to outside throughout the morning.
11:30-12:00	Teacher Prepare for Lunch/Kids Clean-Up/Lunch Time
12:00-12:35	Lunch Time
12:35-1:00	Clean Up Lunch/ Brush Teeth/ Bathroom
1:00-2:30	Unstructured Free Play/Meet with Small Groups (Children will play outside from 1:00-2:00 as long as the weather permits it.)
2:30-2:45	Clean Up Time/Toilet/Drink Water
2:45-3:30	Afternoon Meeting (Two groups will stay inside for the meeting while the other two groups go outside. The groups will then rotate. If it rains all four groups will have a lesson together)
3:30-3:50	Goodbye Circle/Story Time Afternoon Snack
3:50-4:00	Afternoon Snack Clean Up from Snack
4:00-4:40	Clean Up from Snack Unstructured Free Play or Whole Class Activity
4:40-5:00	Unstructured Free Play
5:00-5:10	Toilet and Sunscreen
5:10-6:00	Outdoor Playtime or Unstructured Free Play Indoors

7

## **Supply List**

### Shinka Class

#### Everyday

Bag or backpack

Water bottle with strap

(Water or non-caffeine tea only)

Lunch/ School lunch

Plastic bags for soiled clothing

Loop towel (for hands)

# Keep at School 2-3 extra clothes Jacket (Fall & Winter) Hat Sunscreen (No aerosol) Toothbrush & toothpaste

#### Optional

- Indoor shoes
- sunglasses
- Chopsticks
- Crayons
- Kids Scissors
- Beginners pencils
- File folder

#### Water play during June-September

- Swimsuit
- Towel

 Set of clothes and underwear for after water play

Plastic bag

### \*Please write your child's name on each item.



### Circle Time:

Circle time is a when the children and their teacher talk about the theme of the week and any special events that may be taking place on that day or in the days to come. The children will also have a chance to speak freely in an open discussion time. This time allows the teacher to work with the children on their speaking and listening skills. During circle time, children also learn about the days of the week, months of the year, seasons, counting, etc. These areas will be taught using songs and interactive games. There will be both English and Japanese circle time every day.

### Group Activity:

Each day the children will have two group activity times, once in English and again in Japanese. The activities will usually be different. Activities include, but are not limited to arts and crafts, songs, dance, indoor/outdoor games, and story time.

### **Centers**

During centers, your child will have a chance to learn independently. This playtime is structured around our educational focus of the week. Some centers are play based and some are academic. Kindergartners need to work on social skills and explore the world around them. This means getting along with others, sharing, and interacting in small groups. During center time is when the teacher will work one on one with students if needed.



## **About Shinka Class**

### **Phonics**

Phonics will be taught daily as a part of English circle time.

### Japanese Language

At Tedako CDC, Japanese speaking teachers use our own learning materials while providing children with the opportunities to begin acquiring understanding of the concepts of literacy and its functions. Daily exposure to verbal and written language, through play and intentional activities, children learn to create meaning from language and communicate with others using pictures, symbols and print. The Shinka classroom environment riches with print, language, storytelling, books, and writing materials allow children to experience the joy and power associated with reading and writing, while mastering basic concepts about print. Japanese hiragana recognition and sounds will also be taught daily through reading time, songs and conversations. Once Hiragana has been mastered, the children will begin to learn Katakana.



#### **Reading**

The both English and Japanese reading programs will sometimes use leveled, guided readers. These readers start from very basic sight words and encourage the children to become proficient readers in the both English and Japanese language. We also ask that you set aside the time to read to your child every day for at least 15 minutes. This is important for their literacy development. However, which language they read, or you read to them in is not important. We are striving to create a love for reading and an importance of literature.

#### <u>Writing</u>

Throughout the year, we will focus on different letter formation, number formation, name formation, and if the children are ready, sentence structure. The children will be given various writing activities such as daily journals, along with two independent learning centers, which target writing. The centers will help them master this skill.

## **About Shinka Class**

### <u>Math</u>

We will use a hands-on approach to math, which enables children to use all learning techniques through well-thought-out lessons. We will begin with number knowledge and basic concepts. Manipulatives, games, and songs will be used. We would like the children to be able to use their five senses when learning about math. Students are encouraged to explore different ways to think out each problem as well as different ways to record the problem. As the year progresses, simple addition and subtraction will be introduced, as well as learning how to read the clock and tell time.

#### **Science**

We will engage in a variety of age-appropriate STEM related activities in the Shinka Class. STEM is based on the idea of educating students in four specific disciplines — science, technology, engineering, and mathematics — STEM integrates them into a cohesive learning paradigm based on real-world applications.

The Shinka Class will also integrate science and nature through outdoor activities like nature walks, lizard hunts, and gardening to name a few.



## **Aboust Shinka Class**

#### **Social Studies**

Learning about Japanese culture is also part of our social studies curriculum. Undokai, Muchi making, Tanabata and observing Cherry blossoms in the spring around the campus are traditional Japanese events that your child will participate in.

Okinawa has a culture that developed independently from mainland Japan. This culture has been passed down from generation to generation. We consider Okinawa your child's hometown and believe that by learning about the unique Okinawan culture, your child will not only have great memories of growing up on this beautiful island but will also connect with the cultural identity of this special place. To keep these traditions alive and open to your child's world, your child will learn about Okinawan specific language, games, music, and dance.

#### <u>Art</u>

Tedako CDC offers a variety of mediums for the children in their classroom art centers, such as construction paper, tapes, scissors, crayons, markers, stencils, paint and glue. We set up our art center nearby a table, so the children can paint, draw, and color easily. The purpose of the art center is for the children to be creative with their own art, and to enhance their imaginations through open-ended art. Teachers will also direct art and craft projects based on the learning themes. These will include Painting, Creative drawing, Collages, Printmaking, 3-D Art and sculpture, water coloring, artful science, play dough, clay and other dough, nature art, and recycled art.



## **About Shinka Class**

#### **Music and Movement:**

Songs, finger plays, and dances are used during circle time, group activities, and in preparation for special events such as our Barnyard Dance, Winter Concert, Undokai, and the Graduation Ceremony. When possible, we arrange for children to see live musicians play. OIST hosts many musical events and invites professionals to play. When possible, we arrange for the children to sit in on live performances. We also have many musically talented members of our community, including many of the teachers at the CDC who play for our classes. There is also a music center in the classroom that is equipped with various musical instruments.

### **Outdoor play**

Gross motor and outdoor play is very important for young children and we go outside for play two times each day unless there is lightning, or it is raining hard. If the temperature is warm and there are, only a few sprinkles the children will go outside. In the summer and winter months we will follow the chart set by Tedako regarding appropriate temperatures to be outside in. Your child will need to always dress appropriately for the weather. No children stay inside unless they have a doctor's note. Tedako requires that each child have a sun hat. This will protect the children from the sometimes-intense Okinawa sun. We also ask that sunscreen be provided, especially during April-October. During the summer months, we will have water play days.

## **Thematic Learning**

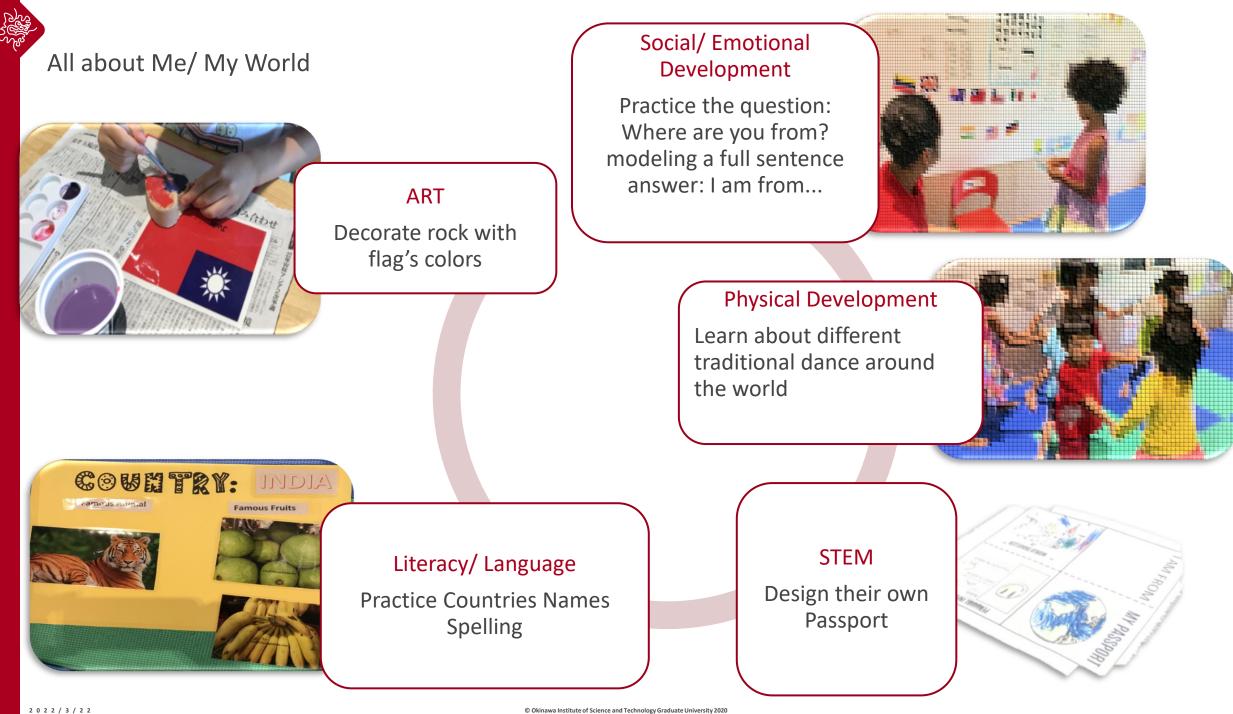
- Thematic teaching starts with identification of a theme the underlying concept that allows for the structure and organization of specific content across discipline.
- The theme is the topic of interest that provides the core for group activities.
- It helps learners see meaningful connections across learning subjects.
- These themes could be developed also in social and emotional development, literacy, language, music, art, and physical education, and STEM concept.
- The dynamics of interactive teaching can produce themes that are meaningful, interesting and cohesive.
- Thematic means that the same topic is used to develop the teaching plan ( content and instruction) for each of the different subjects in which children are enrolled.
- Teacher uses the following steps in planning instruction.
- Select a suitable topic or theme
- Select suitable specific learning objectives
- Detail the instructional procedures
- Provide for developmentally appropriate materials for instruction
- Plan for assessment of children learning



## **Themes Chart**

	Spring										Summer								
	April				May				June					July					
E: English J: Japanese	J	E	Е	J	J	Е	Е	J	J	Е	Е	J	J	Ε	Ε	J	J		
Date	5-	12-	19-	26-	6,7,10-	17-	24-	31-	7-	8-	4-	21-	28-	5-	12-	20-	26-		
Shinka	Class room Rules Maners		All About me		My Family		My World My community		Teamwork, Working Together		Nature		Wa	ater	Sea A	nimals	Summer		

		S	Summer			Fall													
	August					September				October				November					
E: English J: Japanese	Е	Е	J	J	Е	J	J	J	Е	Е	J	J	Е	Е	J	J	Е	Е	
Date	2-	9-	16-	23-	30-	6-	13-	21-	27-	4-	11-	18-	25-	1-	8-	15-	22-	29-	
Shinka	Summer	er (Mammals)		Inse	Insects		Lifecycles		Fall/ Trees		Transportation		On the Farm		Food and nutrition		Helth & Safety		
						Winter								Spi	ring				
	December					January I			February				Ma	ırch					
	J	J	Е	Е	J	J	Е	Е	J	J	Е	Е	J	J	Е	Е			
E: English J: Japanese	6-	13-	20-	27-	12-	18-	25-	١-	8-	15-	22-	Ι-	8-	15-	22-	29-			
Shinka	Music	usic Winter S		Spa	ace	e Dinosaur		Birds Reptiles		Friendship		Sports		Spring					



## Tedako CDC: What is Phonics?

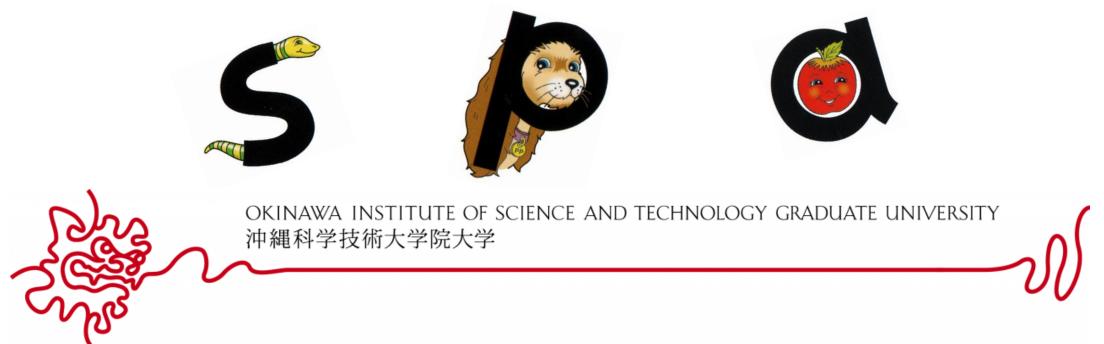
## What is Phonics?

Phonics is the recommended first strategy to help children learn how to read and write an alphabetic language. It is taught by demonstrating the relationship between the letters of the alphabet, the graphemes, and the sounds they make, the phonemes. By breaking words up into their individual sounds, children are able to learn how to read and write phonetically spelt words.

Phonics when combined with a high frequency sight words program form part of the core literacy skills learnt in early childhood.

## Tedako CDC Approach

The Tedako CDC uses the Letterland Phonics program in the early years as the basis for learning phonics and eventually reading. The Letterland Phonics program combines fun and bright characters with easy to remember names, songs with simple tunes which use the target phonetic sound multiple times, and character actions which further helps children remember the phonetic sound and associated letter.



## The Steps to Learning

2.

#### 1.

The children are introduced to the Letterland characters, the words in their names corresponding with their letter sound.

### The children learn the characters action trick, which is taught along with their sound, linking the character name, letter sound and action together.

**3.** The children sing the characters song, which combines the character name, letter sound and action trick which further strengthens the bond between the three aspects with an easy to remember tune.

The children practice word building, first using segmenting and isolating the sounds in CVC words, which then expands into more advanced phonetic sounds.



## Meet Clever Cat

She says "c"







## Initial Learning Outcomes

The initial learning outcomes are for the children to:

Be introduced to the characters and the basic phonetic sounds.

To practice making these sounds to the best of their ability while having fun.

To begin to recognize and link the letter (grapheme) and the sound (phoneme).

Additionally, building vocabulary, while practicing starting sounds.



## Examples in the Classroom

Let us watch some videos of teaching in the classroom.

Please note these videos are from a different class of a different level at a different time of the year and may not reflect what your children are doing in their class. Also, many of the lessons now happen in blended learning environments with children at home learning online at the same time as children in the classroom.

Finally, the educator being filmed apologizes for being a terrible singer.



Introducing the character, sound and action.





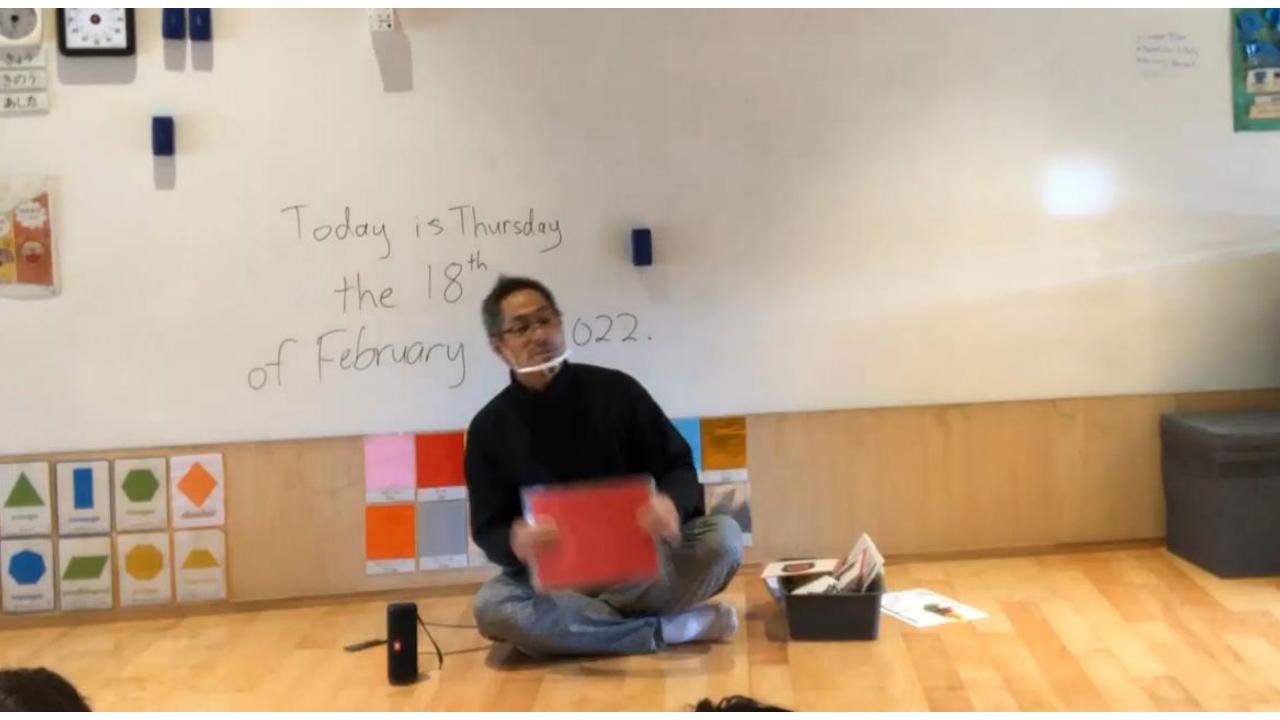
Singing the song.





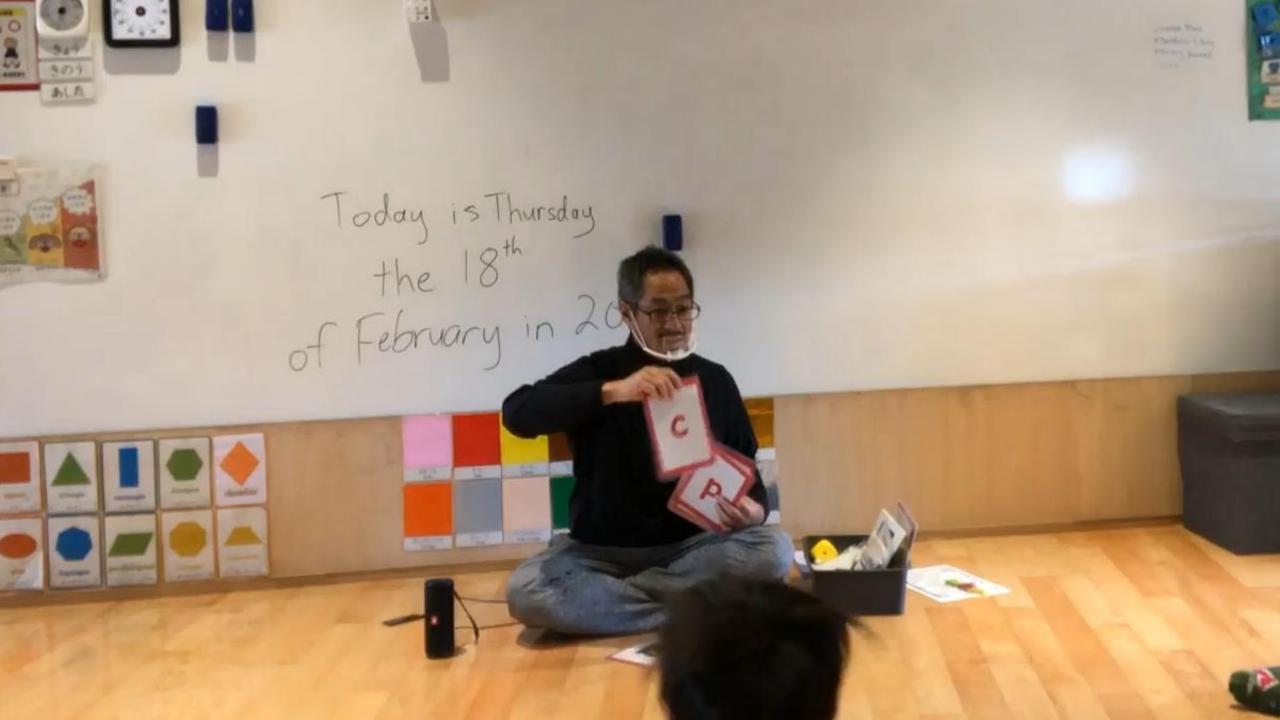
Learning the vocabulary.





Decoding CVC words.





## **Closing Remarks**

We hope that you have enjoyed watching this short video, and have a better understanding of what phonics is, why we teach it and how we teach it in the class.

For more detail about what your child is doing in their class, feel free to talk to your child's educator who can give you more information.

You can find many useful resources on the Letterland website.

Thank you for joining us!



## Assessment

#### •Assessments:

•The purpose of assessment of children's development and learning is to inform planning of day-to-day curriculum and to ensure that the program is addressing each child's individual needs.

#### •Assessment Tools:

- Developmental Checklist
- Portfolios

#### **Parent-Teacher Conference:**

• Held twice a year, June and February

## **Supervision of Children and Discipline**

### **Guidance and Discipline**

- Preschool is an important time for children to learn appropriate behavior in a social or group setting. Teachers will model and teach basic principles such as sharing, personal space, following directions, and respect for others. Our goal is to reinforce your child's positive behavior.
- CDC teachers never use any type of physical punishment or humiliation. The child will only be restrained when it is necessary to protect the safety and health of the child or others.
- If the child's behavior is dangerous to the child or other children, a meeting will be called for teachers, parents, and the Director. This will be an opportunity to discuss any issues surrounding the child's behavior and develop a plan for improvement. If a child needs to be restrained, has repeated aggressive behavior or repeated discipline issues expulsion of children from the CDC pre-school will be at the discretion of the director. Every effort will be made by the teacher and director to work with the children and parents to prevent this.



## Reminder

### Sick ChildPolicy

https://groups.oist.jp/cdc/health-and-safety



### **Medication Policy**

https://groups.oist.jp/sites/default/files/imce/u774/Medic ation%20Authorization%20Form\_0417\_EJ-1.pdf



### **Sun Protection**

https://groups.oist.jp/sites/default/files/imce/u372/5.%20 Sunscreen%20Authorization%20Form%20%28EJ%29%2005 14.pdf



Thank you!