



Japan Screen Topics

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KINDERGARTEN GYM

76 feet 2 min. 7 sec.

1. (SCHOOL PLAYGROUND) At Nittai Yochien, a kindergarten in the Tokyo suburbs, children are receiving a different kind of preschool education...Nittai is a school for three, four and five-year olds that is affiliated with the Nihon Physical Education University. In addition to art and other standard subjects, physical education is a major part of the curriculum.
2. (CHILDREN ON BLOCKS) These children spend much of their time each day playing with blocks...standing, sitting and lying on them. These particular exercises are especially designed to develop overall muscle tone and, hence, healthy little bodies. They are part of Nittai's systematic approach to early development of physical fitness. The school stresses the unity of physical and mental discipline. It is thier belief that physical education at an early age is indispensable to the growth of an emotionally well-balanced and well-adjusted child.
3. (WITH HOOPS) Working with these hoops is another part of the Nittai program. These activities improve balance and coordination, and help give the child a sense of accomplishment.
4. (WITH POLES) Here, bamboo pole exercises stretch muscles that children seldom use. The faculty feels that group exercises at an early age will foster a spirit of cooperation and teamwork.
5. (ON TRAMPOLINE) In this, UNICEF's year of the child, these happy children are demonstrating that a healthy body is the key to a healthy mind.

TRAINING CENTER FOR VIETNAMESE DISPLACED PERSONS

72 feet 2 min.

1. (CLASSROOM) In the old traditional city of Kamakura, just south of Yokohama, nineteen young Vietnamese displaced persons are hard at work learning the Japanese language...

The Japanese Cabinet in April 1978 approved guidelines for the resettlement in Japan of Vietnamese displaced persons. A training center known as the UNHCR-ISS Adaption Center for Refugees was set up in a quiet countryside setting under the auspices of the United Nations Commissioner for Refugees by the International Social Services and Caritas Japan, a religious foundation.

The aim is to provide those displaced persons who will resettle in Japan with the necessary background for living in the country. Language is perhaps the major problem for them. Classes are held every morning from Monday to Friday throughout the three-month training period.

2. (GIRL WITH BANDAGE) The afternoons are devoted to classes in all aspects of Japanese society from nutrition and diet to the intricacies of Japanese customs. The local municipal health center gives classes in health care...today's lesson is on practical first aid,

3. (GAMEBOARD) A shogi master teaches this traditional game of Japanese chess. Among the many traditional games that are taught here, shogi is perhaps the most popular. Not surprising, since it is very similar indeed to a Vietnamese form of the chess game, and therefore quite easy to master.

4. (VOLLEYBALL) A friendly game of volleyball at the end of the day's classes, which may also have included a field trip to places of cultural or practical importance....

In all, a three months' course which equips the newcomer for his new life as a member of Japanese society.

PAPER AIRPLANE CLUB

91 feet 2 min. 32 sec.

1. (LAUNCHING PLANE) Yasuaki Ninomiya, an engineer living in Tokyo, is a man with an unusual hobby...paper airplanes. The type of craft he flies, however, is a bit more sophisticated than what one might ordinarily imagine.

2. (DESIGNING PLANE) Ninomiya carefully designs and constructs each of his planes. They are built with lightweight, durable art paper, glue,..and meticulous attention to detail. It takes Ninomiya nearly an hour to assemble one plane...from initial design to final product. Achieving proper stabilization, he says, is the most difficult aspect of putting a craft together.

3. (TEACHING CHILDREN) Ninomiya recently founded Japan's first Paper Airplane Club. Here, he is demonstrating the principles of paper plane aerodynamics to some of the club's younger would-be-aviators. Proper alignment at launching...and altitude, he explains, are essential to a long flight. The plane must catch rising air currents if it is to stay aloft. According to Ninomiya, a plane that is properly designed built and launched should fly for over one minute.

4. (CHILD LAUNCHING PLANE) The present club record is seven minutes and 50 seconds...and that particular plane was still going when it faded out of binocular range. The Paper Airplane Club is open to anyone interested. At present, over 80 people have joined. Half of them are adults. They come from all walks of life, and include in their number architects, grocers and even former commercial airline pilots.

5. (LARGE-SIZE LAUNCHER) To date, club members have built more than 400 different models. Ninomiya originally formed his club because, as he puts it, "People don't look at the sky anymore. In this jet age, they take flight for granted. I'd like to see that change." If the enthusiasm of these club member is any indication, the change has already begun.

TRAINING FOR SAFETY

119 feet 3 min. 19 sec.

1. (DOOR OPENING) At the Japan Air Lines Emergency Evacuation Training Center, a vast 3,600 square meter complex near Tokyo's Haneda Airport, flight crews have been going through their annual passenger safety drills.
2. (CABIN INTERIOR) In this jumbo jet mock-up, an instructor is preparing the crew for a simulated emergency landing. The crew's task? To evacuate the passengers as quickly...and as safely...as possible.
3. (EMERGENCY DOOR OPENS) As the emergency evacuation siren goes off, the cabin attendants hurry to their assigned stations. They quickly deploy the emergency escape chute...and help each passenger out and down the seven meter slide. The drill goes smoothly. Within the target time of one and half minutes, a cabinful of people are safely on the ground and clear of the plane.
4. (IN RAFT) The next phase of the training is an emergency landing on water. Here, at the center's 20 meter pool, the crew is being familiarized with the life raft.
5. (PASSENGERS WITH BABY DOLLS) In this drill, actual in-flight conditions are recreated as faithfully as possible.
6. (PUTTING ON LIFE JACKET) When the alert is sounded, the flight attendants make sure that the life jacket of each passenger is securely fastened...and that everyone is in the proper seated position--head down between the knees--for emergency landing.
7. (LIFE RAFT) Immediately after "touchdown", the crew unloads the life raft...these rafts can accomodate as many as 60 people each... And then one by one, the passengers are quickly moved out of the plane. Such throughgoing training is but a small part of JAL's ceaseless efforts to guarantee the continued safety of its passengers.

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