Nihonmachi Little Friends
After School Program

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NIHONMACHI LITTLE FRIENDS
AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM

Nihonmachi Little Friends (NLF) After School Program (ASP) is a Japanese bilingual, multicultural school-age childcare program serving kindergarten through fifth graders. It is open from 7:30 to 9:00am and from 1:00 to 6:00pm, Monday through Friday, during the regular school year. Fees are in an hourly rate based upon family size and income with a set minimum charge per month.

Criteria for enrollment are:

1. Parent attendance at general meetings,
2. Parent participation in at least six activities and fundraising events (for families who choose to participate in exchange for a lower fee rate)
3. Child must be in grades K-5th.

Transportation

A limited number of public schools have designated NLF’s After School Program location (Sutter at Laguna) as a public school bus stop where the children are dropped off in the afternoon.
**The Curriculum**

The day is structured with activities that encourage self-confidence and cooperation. Japanese bilingual-bicultural activities are presented through music, stories, arts and crafts, and celebration of traditional events. The program fosters the child’s self-esteem, growth in all areas of development and emphasizes non-racist and non-sexiest ideas. Field trips are taken to parks, museums, libraries and other places in the community.

We offer:
- Arts & Crafts
- Multicultural Activities
- Exercise/Dance/Movement
- Martial Arts instruction
- Homework Assistance
- Cooking
- Science/Math
- Language Arts
- Computers

**Our History**

In Oct. 1975, Nihonmachi Little Friends (NLF) opened its first Japanese bilingual childcare program for preschoolers. As these students graduated and went on to elementary school, the need for a quality after school program similar in philosophy to the preschool-age program became apparent. Thus, a committee of parents and staff was set up in 1978 to explore this program. The After School Program, in operation since Jan.1979, is a part of the private, non-profit organization of Nihonmachi Little Friends.

**Parent Participation**

The development of NLF’s After School Program was the direct result of a group of parents who were in need of this type of program and who worked together with the Board and staff to make it a reality. We feel that it is important for parents to continue to be fully involved in the education of their children and the development of the program. Parents play a crucial role in their children’s lives and through working together with other parents and the program, parents can learn more about each other, share concerns and ideas, and gain a support network.