

## SATSUKI KINDERGARTEN

This is a Satsuki Kindergarten's relocation project. Satsuki kindergarten, which has continued unique child care making use of natural environment such as companion animal partnership, ninja club and upland cropping, moved to the hilly area twenty minutes away from the central of Fukuoka city by subway. . Three hundred children, teachers, "Shinkansen", bullet train and animals moved to this mountain side from the old site eight hundred meters away because of close quarters by the neighboring development. Site overlooks the islands of Hakata bay and has mountain and mountain runoff behind. We planed wooden building linking inside and outside space, taking good care of good view and wind flow to make a space for fostering children's dream and enriching parents' heart.

This site was originally a rice terrace and land was developed three levels taking into account the children's movement and height according to the age from two to five. The focus is on the open space for each age classroom surrounding court. Rooms are surrounded by one meter high walls and storage furniture to make an open space at topside as much as possible. By this design, not only children can feel the outdoor air even in the comfort of room, but also teachers can look over the classrooms and easily communicate with each other. The importance is to produce calm environment and safety kindergarten for children.

Under the huge roof, interior and exterior become one space. The corridor under the big eaves becomes a part of classroom, too. After various review, the solution of how to show huge roof lightly and how to blend wooden columns expanding span with the forest scenery is branched column supporting grate beams. Two or three four branches fit naturally into children's small body. Children's living environment is maintained by natural light and ventilation from top light.