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PHOTOS BY RICH MORALLO



Elementary School Children Tour the City on Metro

By RICH MORALLO



(Jan. 29, 2004) More first-time users experienced the safety, convenience and value of the Metro Rail System when 70 teachers, parents and students from Middleton Elementary School in Franklin Heights toured Metro last, Jan. 24.

"Our destination was Chinatown and we learned so much about the rail system," said teacher Gonzalo Bayardo, as he described how the group boarded at the Metro Blue Line Florence Station, switched over to the Metro Red Line subway and traveled to Union Station.

"For many of the families, that was the first time to ride Metro," Gonzalo said.

Escorted by Community Relations staff and Los Angeles Sheriff's deputies, the group took a walking tour at the east portal of Union Station, received a bus and rail safety presentation, and then caught the next Metro Gold Line train

headed to Chinatown to participate in the Chinese New Year activities.

"This is just like an adventure," said third-grader Virginia as she marveled at how fast and easy it was to travel to Chinatown from Franklin Heights.

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