

2001 World Wide Children's Earthquake-Volcano summit in Oshima.Outline of activities.

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Summary

We held a World Wide Children's Earthquake-Volcano summit on July 20-22,2001 as the Seismological Society of Japan became a corporation.

Our Management policy is as follows,

Scientists tell children about earthquakes and volcanos.

Children learn not about the risks of natural disasters but about the long-term benefits produced by the activities of earthquakes and volcanos.

The children were split into several teams of 7 or 8 throughout the activities.We first pose several questions to the children and support them finding their own answers.We introduce team competition for collecting cards which are given to children presenting unique answers or ideas.

The body

We opened the Working group on June 2001 and looked for volunteer academic researchers and teachers.We invited school children from places that have suffered damage due to natural disasters.This project was held from July20 to July22.We went to observation points at Izu Oshima on July20.We learned about earthquakes and volcanoes by experiments and observations on July21.At last we went to Mt. Mihara on July22.Participants in the summit were160 Japanese children and 5 overseas children who came from Taiwan and Turkey.They were taken care of by about 60 volunteer academic researchers and teachers.Newspapers, Museum and the Board of Education cooperated with advertising. There was no cost for participation.

The schedule was as follows.

July 20

Children gathered in Takeshiba-sanbashi Tokyo and the port of Atami and left to Oshima by ship.An opening ceremony and orientation was held in the Oshima-cho town office.Then we went to Chiso-Taisetou-Danmen(The great outcrop of tephra layers), the Habunominato maar and the Fudesima neck.Finally, we arrived at the Seminar-house and stayed there for 2 nights.

July 21

Children separated into 4 groups of 40, and learned about earthquakes and volcanoes by the experiments and observations.We gathered in the Oshima Volcanic Museum in the afternoon and announced the answers to the questions that was given to the children the previous day.

July 22

We went to Mt. Mihara and observed lava, volcanic ash and topography.A closing ceremony was held in the Oshima-cho town office and the declaration was announced .

Declaration of 2001 World Wide Children's Earthquake-Volcano summit

- 1.The world view will be changed by knowledge.
- 2.We know the blessings of nature in Oshima.
- 3.Let's cooperate in order to overcome disasters.