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Learning of 'geological formation' for elementary schoolchildren by the Geological Museum, AIST: Overview and Drawing worksheets

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The Geological Museum (located in Tsukuba City, Ibaraki Pref.) is designed to introduce the results of the activities of the Geological Survey of Japan through display of samples, models, panels etc., and to disseminate the fruits of geosciences to the public. The total number of attendees from April to December in 2008 was 39,647, including 19 elementary schools (2,372 students and teachers) who visited here as one part of off-campus school activities. The Geological Museum has some educational activities. The experiments of sedimentation processes, lectures and worksheets are designed to help for students to understand 'structure and change of earth'. The worksheet has initially been designed to find stripes related to geological formation. It is difficult to do before experiments of sedimentation processes. So, revised one is prepared for schoolchildren to find the most favorite display in the Museum and express it with haiku. Writing haiku is useful for them to watch displays carefully. We advise students not to use the adjective as 'beautiful' when they are impressed by beauty. They have to find other words to express the favorite one. First, we wanted to show experimental method and technique to teachers, because we believed that it would help them to do at school. Unfortunately, many teachers want us the experiments to be shown to their students here. It is a great gap between teachers and us. We also have to consider that many teachers face to the difficulties not to find out the outcrop of geological formation around their schools.