

Survey on Observations and Experiments in Junior High Schools

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We have conducted the survey on observations and experiments in Junior high schools in 2007. The survey consists of 20 questionnaires, such as execution rates of each experiment or observation appeared in the science textbook in junior high school. As a result, 63% of observations and experiments in the fields of biology and geology are carried out, although, 83% of those of physics and chemistry are carried out in average. Moreover, only 48% of experiments and observations in the field of geology are conducted in average. The results of PISA (2007) or TIMSS (2007) show that the average score of Japanese students is relative low in the field of geology compared to the other fields. It may relate to the execution rates of observations and experiments in geology in junior high schools in Japan. Support programs, in particular in geology field, should be necessary in elementary and junior high schools.