

GSC020-08

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Secrets of the scene of Hagi City: The 10th Schoolchildren's Summer Course in Seismology and Volcanology

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We held the schoolchildren's summer course of seismology and volcanology on August 8 to 9, 2009 at Hagi City, Yamaguchi Prefecture. This program aims to give an opportunity of direct communication between schoolchildren, and seismologists and volcanologists and to let children recognize not only risks of natural disasters but also great benefits resulted from the activities of the earth.

The theme of this summer course is understanding the secrets of the scene of Hagi City which has been built by the volcanism continued from 100Ma to present. The participants were 37 children from Tokyo, Kanagawa, Chiba, Saitama, Hyogo, Okayama, Fukuoka and Yamaguchi Prefectures, and 44 staffs. Children separated into 8 groups and challenged to solve the four questions through observation of the topography and volcanic deposits, and experiments using the materials obtained easily (Kitchen Volcanology). Questions are 1) How was the beautiful scene made? 2) How were the small hills and islands made? 3) What do the benefits from the volcano in Hagi City have? 4) How should we live together with volcanoes? Lastly, children announced the answers to the above questions at the forum open to citizens.

Keywords: schoolchildren's summer course, earthquake, volcano, Abu volcano group, Hagi City