Japan Geoscience Union Meeting 2010
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GSU011-11 Room: Exibition hall 7 subroom 2 Time: May 23 16:09-16:22

An easy method for classifying landforms that can be used by non-experts, through a geographical approach

Takemi KOGURE[1*]

[1]Kawagoe Girls' highschool, [2]saitamachigaku.jp

Saitama Prefectural Kawagoe Girls' High School(KGHS) was designated as among the Super Science High School (SSH) in 2006. As a part of its SSH project, the Earthscience and Astronomy club has been studying environmental changes by analyzing plant opal in Kawagoe.

1.Class examples and results of the SSH project at KGHS
1)Class examples
*Have the students read scientific papers and articles.
*Have the students classify various landforms by analyzing aerial photographs.
*Have the students learn how land usage has changed by examining old maps and old aerial photographs through a geographic approach.
*Have the students go on fieldwork and collect samples by drilling.
*Carry out advanced experiments in collaboration with universities.
*Give the students an intensive course in making scientific presentations.

2)Results
*The students showed a greater interest in landforms, sediments and the environment.
*The students become able to think scientifically.
*The students become more consious of copyright.

2.A new method of classifying landforms
An easy method for classifying landforms has been successfully created. This new method enables any person to classify different kinds of landforms without expertise.

This method has the following four advantages.
1) Does not require a 3D Model of the terrain.
2) Focuses on land shape and the flow of rivers.
3) Shows how uneven land is by looking at land usage.
4) Gives suggestions on where to look for special types of land formation.