

”Edible Marine Core” Outreach Program in Natural History Museum

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Museums are expected to appeal to citizens not only through exhibitions but also through academic activities such as lectures, courses, and science cafes based on curators’ research. Science cafes are effective tools for outreach activities from museums, especially when they are done interactively. We have cleared three important points for museum exhibitions or other activities: 1) move one’s body, 2) use five senses, and 3) act as someone (JSPS KAKENHI Grant Number 20605018). According to these three points, we attempted an interactive science cafe about marine cores at Kanagawa Prefectural Museum of Natural History.

Firstly, we hold a scientific lecture about marine research vessel and geological studies using marine cores. After the lecture, we provided a program to act onboard scientific researchers. Light meals and snacks were stratified in long half-cut pipes in the image of marine sediments, and participants were expected to observe and pick up their samples from ”edible marine cores” as onboard scientific researchers. This program could give deep impressions and understandings to our participants through moving their body, using their five senses, and communicating with curators and also among participants. We will develop this outreach program also for museum exhibitions, in classroom, etc.

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