Approach of Educational Activities in Hakusan Tedorigawa Geopark

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The Hakusan Tedorigawa Geopark which was certified as a Japanese geopark in 2011 sets the theme “the journey of water” (water circulation seeing the Tedorigawa River) which is generally easy to understand. The geopark highlights the sites related to earth sciences, nature, people’s lives and culture such as fossils, debris flow, an alluvial fan, brewing industry and “haiku” (Japanese poetry).

We have been utilizing these sites for children’s education since the beginning, and promoting the activities in school education to popularize the geopark to children. Our aim is also on sustainable local activities.

Although it is said that teachers which don’t have the know-how to teach children in the fields have been increasing, the new educational government guidelines given notice in March 2008, show that teachers need to teach children in the nature and daily lives. The activities of the geopark correspond with the guidelines, and it seems that we need to assist the teachers who have less time to study the new course. Study Supporters, who are retired science teachers, have been supporting teachers in the geopark. We aim to teach children in the fields only by in-service teachers.

Keywords: Hakusan Tedorigawa Geopark, educational activity, school education