

Making up a Geosite Map in a Fun and Interesting Way with Local Elementary School Students

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We often use these words, "easy to understand for an elementary school student" and "enjoyable and interesting" when it comes to a Geopark. But it seems that few Geopark guides can talk in such a way.

Generally speaking, Geoguides or academic members are usually called "teachers" and students are just passive "students", although developed areas have recognized the important role of the Geopark in school education and have achieved good outcomes (TAKENOUCI *et al.*, 2014). However, it is natural that Geoguides should be taught by local children who were born and raised around the Geosites. By doing so, Geoguides will be able to help children learn about geology, topography, climate, creature, history and culture of the region through a program of Geopark studies.

Then, we make a suggestion of this activity to develop a technique for guiding with the idea of elementary school students.

Nankikumano Geopark consists of a city, 7 towns and a village in the southern part of Wakayama. This is a new member of the Japan Geopark Network from 2014. This area consists of three kinds of geological conditions formed by a series of plate movements, namely accretionary prism, forearc-basin sediments and igneous rocks. On these grounds, we can see various features of geological formation, vegetation, ecosystem, culture and history, and their value has already been recognized in the world (YAMAMOTO & TANIWAKI,2014). Therefore, some areas are overlapped with the World Heritage Site, a wetland under the Ramsar Convention and Yoshino Kumano National Park. That is why we already have many guides such as a storyteller and a tourist guide and also have a variety of guide maps and picture maps.

In contrast, Arahune-kaigan Geosite is different from others. Most people don't know about this site: a natural coast on the south of the Uragami peninsula across Kushimoto-cho and Nachikatsuura-cho and a part of Yoshino Kumano National Park.

This presentation tells you the process and effects of making up a Geosite map with local elementary school students in the period of comprehensive learning.

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