

Activities of the Committee for School Education, Seismological Society of Japan: Communicating with educators

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The Seismological Society of Japan (SSJ) started various outreaching activities following the 1995 Kobe earthquake. As a component of the activities, the Committee for School Education was formed aiming to communicate with educators for delivering updated knowledge in seismology and solid earth science through school education. The committee members consist of both researchers and school teachers.

The committee has been trying to build communication networks among researchers and school teachers so that they can provide and exchange information on earth science and science education. One of major activities is annual summer school for teachers and university students, which has been held since 1996 at various places visiting sites of geophysical/geological interest. In 2009, the committee also started to conduct teaching certificate renewal courses, lectures and practices which school teachers must take in order to renew their certificates every ten years. Courses are held at about ten sites in cooperation with SSJ members. In conjunction with the SSJ Fall Meeting, two kinds of classes on earthquakes have been given since 2014. One is for children to make simplified seismometers and the other is for school teachers to learn about teaching materials related to earthquakes.

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