

Current geological education program at Aso Geopark, Japan

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Curators at Aso Volcano Museum, one of the base facilities of Aso Geopark, have developed a unique variety of geological education programs for elementary to high school students in the area of Aso Geopark. The museum staff supports school educational activities through lectures and field trips, using unique geological and topographic features around the school, as well as natural bounty and disasters. Teachers and students work closely to develop an educational curriculum that encourages students' interests, and stimulate their ideas on regional resources and their preservation. At the end of this educational program, students organize a symposium to present and share their work with students from different schools.

These programs increase students' attachment to the regional resources, and provide a chance to learn and discover Aso's precious nature through sharing ideas with other students. At the same time, the student's messages also deliver huge impact to adult's ideas concerning their local communities.

Apart from these museum educational activities, learning about grasslands is also delivered through Aso Geopark activities. A variety of subjects related to the regional geological resources tend to widen to this educational program.

Presented in Theme 3