



JEEF News LETTER 2025

To Provide Environmental Education
That Leaving No One Behind
Activity Report



Initiatives Using Donations

2025



– To Provide Environmental Education
That Leave No One Behind –

● Overview of Donations

Spending time playing freely in nature is essential for nurturing children's sensitivity and sense of wonder. At the same time, it also provides important restorative benefits for adults, such as reducing stress and promoting well-being.

However, due to various circumstances—including household financial situations and the demands of busy daily lives—many people feel that, it is difficult to have opportunities to interact with nature. Not only economic factors, but also less visible barriers, such as limited time, emotional capacity, or mental space. We believe that everyone should be able to enjoy nature-based experiences, regardless of their age, disability, family circumstances, or where they live.

Through the generous donations we have received from everyone, we aim to increase opportunities for people to interact with nature and create an environment where experiences with nature are not only seen as 'special,' but can also felt as an ordinary and natural part of daily life.



● Why Experience is Necessary?

Experiences that engage the senses, such as listening to the sound of the wind, touching the soil, or feeling the changes of seasons, are fundamental for children to understand the world and develop their relationships with themselves and their surroundings.

A Japanese study conducted in 2022 shows that person with rich nature experiences—such as camping and river play—tend to develop autonomous behavioral habits such as autonomy, positivity, and cooperation, and have a higher level of mental health and self-esteem.

The Ministry of the Environment's website also indicates that forest bathing has benefits for both physical and mental health, such as reducing stress.

Having opportunities to engage with nature, feel it, and learn from it—again and again—forms the foundation for a better relationship between people and the natural world.



[Achievements]
 Across a total of **18** regions,
 approximately **468** people
 participated.

Kitoushi Biei Children's Camp ▶ P.6

Learning Sustainability
 in the Forest in Naruko ▶ P.15

Learning Sustainability
 in the Forest in Kiyosato ▶ P.15

Winter Camp 2025 ▶ P.8

Kasugayama
 Program

Spending Time
 in the Forest of Okutama ▶ P.3

A Mini Excursion for Adults ▶ P.16

A Well-being Outdoor
 Experience at the
 'Sacred BBQ Spot' ▶ P.17

Seven Colored Grand
 Adventure ▶ P.9

Universal Beach Project ▶ P.10

Yakushima
 Children's Camp ▶ P.11

〈Held Nationwide〉

Inquiry Based
 Workshop Caravan ▶ P.12

First Nature School ▶ P.13

〈Online Event〉

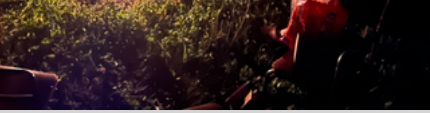
Online Wildlife Club ▶ P.14

● ... Promoting nature experience and social experience programs that are
 ... accessible to children from single-parent households, economically
 disadvantaged households, and also children with disabilities.

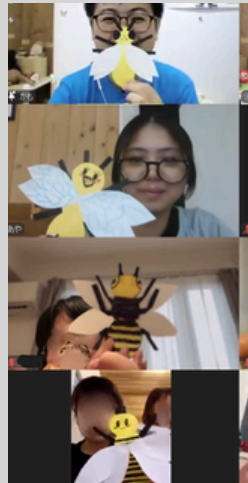
● ... Providing enjoyable learning opportunities for
 children fighting serious illnesses.

● ... Providing a relaxing opportunity for adults who work hard every day
 in a stressful society.





Activity Report



Kitoushi Biei Children's Camp

-for single-parent families-

Number of Sessions : 2 sessions
Location : Asahikawa City and Biei Town, Hokkaido
Number of Participants :
First Session : 20 participants
Second Session : 18 participants

Overview

We held a two-days, one-night camp with the aim of helping children living in the Asahikawa area to spend time in Hokkaido's rich natural environment, experience the connection between nature and people, and foster independence and cooperation. Through activities such as a campfire and making pendants from Ezo deer antlers, participants learned how to enjoy the outdoors safely and comfortably.

Over the two days, they also developed the ability to act independently while building relationships with new friends they had just met.

▼Details



Co-hosted by
Certified NPO
Daisetsuzan Nature School



Aiming for the top of the treehouse



Receiving fire from the Fire God!



Crafting with deer antlers

Spending Time in the Forest of Okutama

- for single-parent families -

Number of Sessions : 1 session

Location : Earthmanship Field
(Okutama Town, Tokyo)

Number of Participants :

9 parent-child groups(19participants)

Overview

For children who have limited opportunities to experience nature due to various circumstances, we organized a camp in the water source forest of Okutama for single-parent families leading busy daily lives.

At Earthmanship's Okutama Field, participants enjoyed preparing meals together and sleeping in tents. In order to protect the local natural environment, we practiced a “low-

impact camp” approach that to minimizes environmental impact.

For children, these two days provided a rich nature experiences away from Tokyo, while the adults were able to enjoy a relaxed and leisurely time.

▼Details

Co-hosted by
Certified NPO
Earthmanship



Such dynamic nature that makes you forget you're in Tokyo!



Searching for living creatures with serious expressions



Lighting a fire using a match for the first time.

Winter Camp 2025

-for single-parent families-

Number of Sessions : 1 session
Location : Osaka Prefectural Youth
Osaka Prefectural Youth Nature House
(Kaizuka City, Osaka Prefecture)
Number of Participants :
28 participants

Overview

For children who have limited opportunities to experience nature due to various circumstances, we organized a one-night, two-day winter camp for children from single-parent families in the Kansai region.

The program included experiential activities such as a walk rally, outdoor cooking, a campfire, hiking, and crafts. The camp was designed specifically for children while also aiming to provide parents and guardians

with a temporary opportunity for respite and relaxation. In addition, through this project, we are conducting evaluation and research on the effectiveness and significance of efforts to eliminate disparities in experience.

▼Details

Co-hosted by
Osaka University of Health and
Sport Sciences
Outdoor Activities Club



Hot dogs cooked by using a milk carton.



Camp leaders from Osaka University of Health and Sport Sciences.



Singing and dancing around the campfire.

Neurodiversity Nature Program: Seven Colored Grand Adventure

Number of Sessions : 1 session
Location : Northern Foothills of Mount Fuji, Shizuoka Prefecture
Number of Participants : 8 parent-child groups (22 participants)

Overview

“Nanairo no Daibōken (Seven Colored Grand Adventure)” is a nature-based experience program that values individual developmental differences as strengths and supports children and parents in discovering new aspects of each other through nature program. This program held year-round at the base of Mount Fuji, offers day-trip activities such as cave exploration,

forest walks, river play, campfires, and Satoyama walk rallies.

▼ Details

Co-hosted by
Certified NPO
Whole Earth Nature School



Everyone cheered on their hard-working friends!



Learning how caves are formed inside the cave.



Learning about plants found in the forest.

Universal Beach Project

Number of Sessions : 2 sessions
Location : Kirishima-Kinkowan National Park theShigetomi Coast (Aira City, Kagoshima Prefecture)
Number of Participants : 13 participants

Overview

We carried out the “Universal Beach Project” at the Shigetomi Coast in Kirishima-Kinkowan National Park. This initiative aims to ensure that everyone can safely enjoy the sea, regardless of whether they have disabilities.

By using specialized equipment such as beach mats and amphibious wheelchairs, wheelchair users were

able to enter the sea from the gently sloping sandy beach. Families, friends, and supporters were also able to enjoy playing in the sea together.

▼Details



Co-hosted by
Certified NPO
Kusunoki Nature Center



Enjoyed by people with visual impairments.



Supporters joined in too, together!



Excited to play in the sea together as a family.

Yakushima Children's Camp

Number of Sessions : 2 sessions
Location : Yakushima and Tanegashima
Number of Participants :
First Session: 11 participants
Second Session: 9 participants

Overview

We held a one-week camp for children who have limited opportunities to experience nature are limited due to various circumstances. A special participation slot was created for children from single-parent households in Yakushima Town, allowing them to join the camp alongside other children. The participants stayed in tents, prepared their own meals, played in the sea and mountains, observed sea

turtle eggs hatching, and learned about space on Tanegashima, home to a rocket launch site—fully immersing themselves in the great outdoors. Over the course of the week, the children grew remarkably stronger and more confident, transforming almost completely from who they were on the first day.

[▼Details](#)



Co-hosted by
Certified NPO
HUB&LABO Yakushima



Working together to create PET bottle rockets.



Some children even jumped right in!



Arriving at "Taikoiva" and taking in the view.

Inquiry Based Workshop Caravan

Number of Sessions : 10 sessions
Location : Aomori, Miyagi, Tokyo, Aichi, and Mie
Number of Participants :
About 150 participants

Overview

There are children who find it difficult to participate in outside events due to reasons such as their family's financial situation, belonging to a large family, where they live, staying in hospitals or children's care facilities, or concerns about bothering others. There are also siblings who hold back themselves to accommodate these children.

At the ELMS Center (※), we collaborate together with local instructors, to offer workshops where all children are able to discover the joy of learning and to develop greater hope for their future.

※ An inquiry-based learning center within JEEF

▼ Details



Co-hosted by
ELMS Leaders from
Across the Country



Kids eagerly engaging in new kinds of inquiry.



Observing stones and finding a favorite one.



Children experimenting with liquids

First Nature School

Number of Sessions : 6 sessions

Location : Aomori, Nagano, Fukui,
Tochigi, Kanagawa, Mie

Number of Participants :
88 participants

Overview

We implemented one-day nature experience programs across Japan for children who have limited opportunities to engage with nature due to various circumstances. The programs were operated by six nature schools and offered a wide range of nature-based experiences and environmental education activities, including river play and catching Ayu(sweetfish) in the clear waters of the Miyagawa River, parent-child nature experiences, campfire activities and meal preparation led by young people, as well as an at-home

program known as the “Home Nature School.” Through this project, we are conducting evaluation and research on the Effectiveness and significance of efforts to eliminate disparities in experience.

Co-hosted by

- Greenwood Nature Experience Education Center (Nonprofit Organization)
- Sankakusha (Nonprofit Organization)
- Osugidani Nature School (Nonprofit Organization)
- Tsugaruno Nature School (Nonprofit Organization)
- Tochigi Children’s Nature Experience Activities Network

▼ Details



Playing among swirling ginkgo leaves.



Observing fish in cases.



Gathered around the campfire.

Online Wildlife Club

Number of Sessions : 6 sessions

Location : Online

Number of Participants :

Approximately 20 registered participants per year

Overview

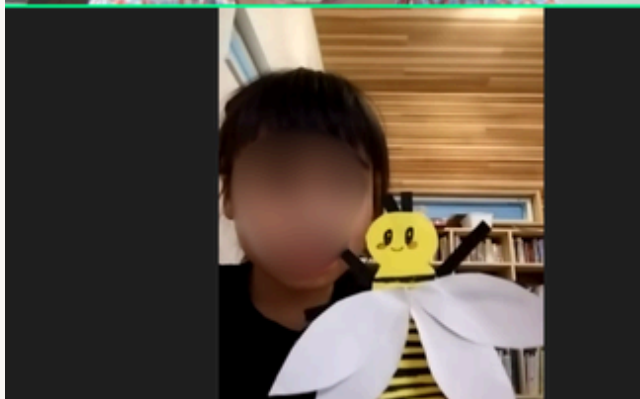
Children battling serious illnesses like pediatric cancer have weakened immune systems, making it difficult for them to interact directly with nature and animals, which limits their opportunities to play outdoors. Furthermore, during long-term medical treatments, some children have fewer chances to play and socialize with peers their own age. This program provides an online

learning and interactive community where these children and their siblings can participate together, meet peers in similar situations from across the country, and discover the wonders and charms of living creatures.

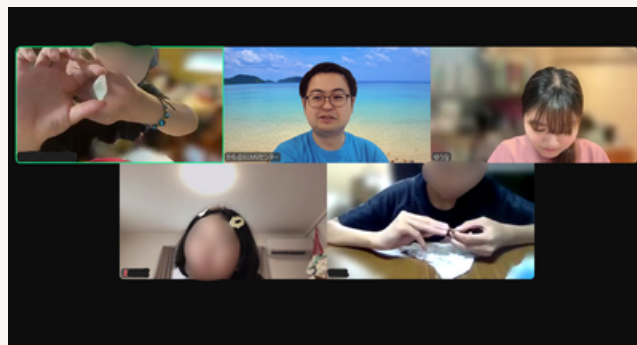
▼Details



Co-hosted by
Certified NPO
Shine • On • Kids



Creating your own 'bee' craft.



Polishing yakōgai shells to make pendants.



Identifying sea turtles with an expert.

Learning Sustainability in the Forest

Number of Sessions : 2 sessions
Location
Number of Participants :
Naruko, 10 participants
Kiyosato, 17 participants

Overview

This program is designed for adults who work hard every day in an extremely stressful society. It offers an opportunity to immerse themselves in the forest, restore their physical and mental balance, and reflect on what it means to live in harmony with nature. Through forest bathing, participants refresh themselves and learned about the restorative power of the forest. They also took part in forest conservation activities, such as experiencing the felling of large trees and maintaining walking trails.

Each participant explored practical insights and ideas for realizing a more sustainable lifestyle after returning to their daily lives.

Naruko



Co-hosted by

- Naruko, Miyagi Prefecture: Shinrin (NPO)
- Kiyosato, Yamanashi Prefecture: Keep Association (Public Interest Incorporated Foundation)

Kiyosato



A blue sky revealed after forest thinning.



Making forest-scented air fresheners with fir leaves.



Time for dialogue around the campfire.

A Mini Excursion for Adults

- Flowers, Game Meat, and Sustainability -

Number of Sessions : 1 session

Location

Kawasaki City, Kanagawa Prefecture

Number of Participants :

20 participants

Overview

With the wish to be kind to both the Earth and ourselves even amid busy daily lives, we held an event for adults focused on learning about and reflecting on lifestyles in harmony with nature. The program included hands-on experiences at an organic flower farm filled with seasonal blooms, as well as a BBQ workshop at a nature experience field featuring game meat products. Through these activities, participants considered concrete environmental actions that can be

taken through everyday choices such as consumption, purchasing, and participation in events. By sharing thoughts with one another and refreshing themselves in a natural setting, the participants spent a meaningful day reexamining their own ways of living.

[▼Details](#)

Co-hosted by

Certified NPO

National Outfitters Training School



Easy conversations, even among first-time participants.



Experiencing work in a flower garden.



Learning about cultivation and living in harmony with nature.

A Well-being Outdoor Experience at the 'Sacred BBQ Spot'

Number of Sessions : 2 sessions

Location :

(Kurokawa Youth Outdoor Activity Center)
Kawasaki City, Kanagawa Prefecture

Number of Participants :

23 participants

Overview

This program was implemented with the aim of providing opportunities for healing and refreshment through nature-based experiences for adults who work hard every day in a highly stressful society.

The participants engaged in outdoor activities unique to the settings, such as lighting campfires, enjoying BBQ, and roasting and brewing coffee. By doing all the activities with their own hands and using all their senses, they deepened their learning.

Through these experiences, participants enjoyed the pleasure of trying things by themselves and made new discoveries, while natural interaction and emerged among

participants.

The program focused on well-being, offered opportunities for mental and physical recovery and encouraged participants to approach their daily lives with a more positive attitude.

▼Details



Co-hosted by

Certified NPO

International Nature School Japan



Checking temperature with the palm of the hand.



Local vegetables and fresh meat ▶

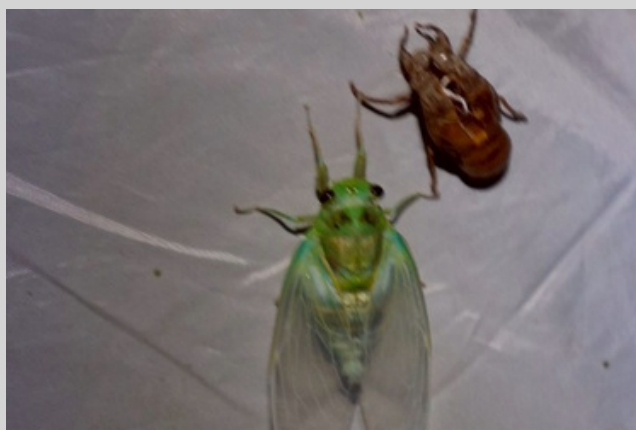
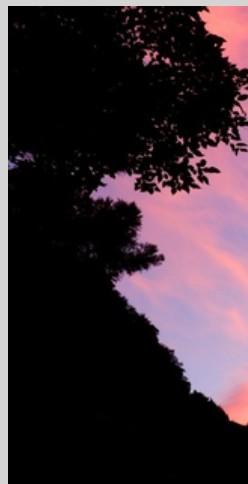
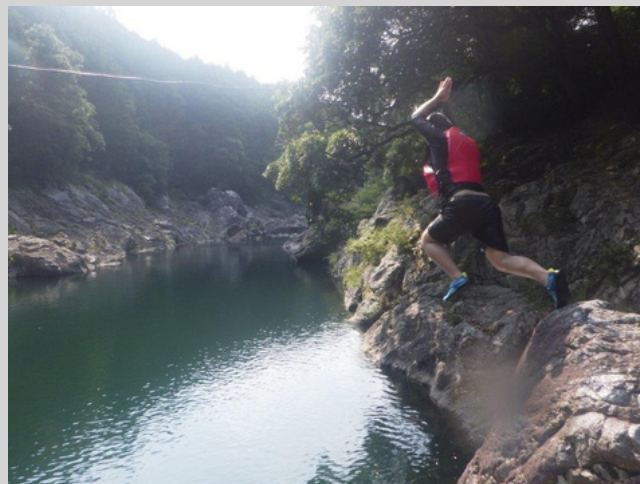


Perfectly roasted coffee beans.



According to the results of survey, more than 90% of adults expressed a desire to provide children with opportunities to nature-based experiences. However, various factors make it difficult to put this into practice. As a result, opportunities for children to interact with nature are decreasing across Japan.

Your generous donations will be used to directly support each of these experiences and help create valuable opportunities.

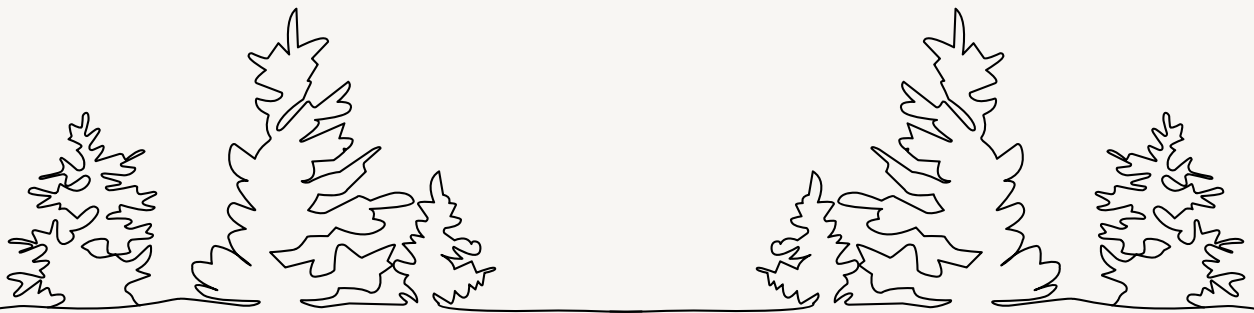


Investing in People, Transforming the World.

人を育てる、世界を変える。



Your donations support these activities.
We sincerely appreciate your continued support and cooperation.



Creating sustainable society through environmental education.



公益社団法人
日本環境教育フォーラム
J.E.E.F Japan Environmental Education Forum



Contact us

E-mail: charity-m@jeef.or.jp

Donation Coordinator : Mariko Nakano, Emiko Tarumi (JEEF)