



Activities in Science and Technology



From Japan

Cheering on the scientists of the future

To nurture “scientific thinking” in the minds of children who will be responsible for our society in the future, Olympus has been supporting the Natural Science Observation Contest*, which for more than 50 years since 1960 has been giving awards to outstanding science projects by elementary and junior high school students. Some of the award winners and participants in the contest were inspired by the contest and went on to become real scientific researchers. Now in its 57th year in 2016, it has received 12,514 entries from 794 elementary and junior high schools nationwide.

*Natural Science Observation Contest (Shizekon) is held by the Mainichi Newspapers, and the Society of Scientific Photography and sponsored by Japan’s Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology



Education in science and mathematics is extremely important in building “scientific thinking” in children—enhanced sensitivity to wonders and the ability to explore through trial and error, think deeply and make decisions without depending on instructions. By entering the Natural Science Observation Contest, I hope that these students from elementary and junior high schools can try as hard as possible to achieve their dreams and realize some unexpected discoveries.



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From Japan

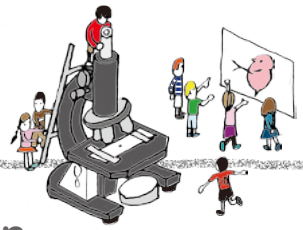
Science exchange between Olympus researchers and children

Wakuwaku Project, a voluntary organization of Olympus employees, has conducted Wakuwaku Science Workshops for children on a roughly quarterly basis since 2003, in the hope of conveying the joys of science. A variety of experiment and workshop programs have been held for elementary and junior high schools near the Olympus Technology Research Institute in Hachioji City. Both the researchers and the children thoroughly enjoy this unique opportunity for hands-on interaction in

teaching and learning science.



Photo courtesy of Tama Municipal Tama Dai-ichi Elementary School



From the Americas

Dream collaboration between the Smithsonian and Olympus



©Brittany M. Hance, Smithsonian

Olympus Corporation of the Americas (Group company in the US) offers a wide range of support for Q?rius, a science education space at the Smithsonian's National Museum of Natural History, including donating more than 50 microscopes, training and other assistance services. Here, visitors are able to discover through hands-on learning how to interact with science and what the skills necessary to become a scientist are, as well as how to acquire them. They can also receive explanations and advice from Smithsonian scientists and volunteers on how to use the equipment available.



From Japan

The history of scientific progress found here

Zuikodo, the Olympus Technology Museum, displays all the products that Olympus has created since its establishment, showcasing the technological advances and changes that have taken place and the contributions these products have made to social development. The museum also accepts tours by students from elementary schools to universities and hosts microscope observation workshops for children during the summer vacation. In 2016, 555 students from 29 local elementary and junior high schools, as well as from universities, vocational schools and high schools nationwide have visited the museum.



Photo courtesy of:
Fukuoka Prefectural Kurate High School
Hachioji Municipal Tate Elementary and Junior High School
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