

# Application for Participation

## *Associated Schools Project (ASP) for Promoting International Education*

“An education for Yoshidagata Junior High School students to live strongly,  
gently and cleverly in the future.”

~ With Toyogawa River ~

### **Outline of the way the Project(s) will be implemented in the institution**

(please use extra sheets if necessary)

#### **Description of the Project**

This school was opened as the third junior high school in the west part of Toyohashi city in 1947. The next year, it was renamed Yoshidagata Junior High School. Now it is 67 years old. The following are the three points of educational activities conducted at this school that are related to ESD (Education for Sustainable Development).

#### 1. Toyo River Cleanup and Canoe Experience

This school has engaged to educational activities which are related to Toyogawa River, a river near this school, for twenty years now. The Toyogawa River cleanup was started in 1984. It has been carried out by Toyohashi city and Yoshidagata Elementary School as well, with the help of PTA and the local association for upbringing the students to be a better citizen. Moreover, canoe experience was started in 1990. It is held every year. These are the traditional school events at present.

#### 2. Career Education

This school was asked by the Toyohashi City Board of Education to organize a career education from 2007 to 2009. It was commended by the Department of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology, and regarded as one of the great career education schools in 2010. Since then, the school's curriculum was revised from the viewpoint of career education, and this school has studied it to develop student's personality at present.

#### 3. Prevention and Reduction of Disaster

This school is over 1 meter above sea level. There is a worry that this school might liquefied and attacked by a tsunami when a big earthquake occurs. After *Higashinippondaishinsai* - the great eastern Japan earthquake - occurred, the school manuals such as Crisis Management and Safety were amended. In addition, disaster drills for the worst situations and lectures about natural disasters are conducted.

## Objectives of the Project

This school wants to continue ESD on three main points: the relation to nature and environment protection, career education, and prevention and reduction of disaster. In particular, it includes “Toyogawa River cleanup”, “canoe experience”, “career survey”, “disaster drills” and “lectures about natural disasters”. Specifically, educational activities such as Toyogawa River cleanup and canoe experience have been continued for a long time and they became the tradition of this school. Canoe experience is known as one of the school’s great events in its area nowadays. Toyogawa River cleanup is also known as one of the events held with elementary school students and people in this community. In the future, these educational activities will be developed in the community. Last year, the student council launched a volunteer organization called “*Yoshidagatacleandaisakusen*” which means volunteer activities to clean Yoshidagata school area. It seems that students can send their thoughts for an environment protection to their community and strengthen a relationship with the community through this activity. At the same time, it seems that this activity can develop autonomy and a sense of responsibility for students.

## Execution

### (1) Activity plan(2013~2014 7<sup>th</sup> grade)

Subject	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.
Overall Study	Paddle Lecture River Accident Prevention Lecture Practice at the pool Toyogawa River cleaning Practice at Toyogawa River About Toyogawa River About own future About own course after graduation Career Questionnaire Career questionnaire											
Events	Fire Drill Disaster Prevention Lecture (2 times) Canoe Experience Toyogawa River Cleaning School Area Cleaning Cleaning Earthquake and Tsunami Drill Drill for suspicious person School Area											

### (2) Activity for Nature Related and Environmental Preservation

7<sup>th</sup> grade students have a canoe experience in June every year. These are the preparations and activities:

- Paddle lecture - How to wear a life jacket and how to paddle
- River accident prevention lecture - reality of the accident and how to prevent it
- Practice at the pool - ride on a canoe at the pool
- Toyogawa River cleaning - cleaning the boarding place and the lavatory
- Practice at Toyogawa river - ride on a canoe at Toyogawa River

We have the Toyogawa River cleaning with 6<sup>th</sup> grade students of Yoshidagata Elementary School for about an hour once a year. We obtain cooperation from Parent-Teacher Association and local community. On the opening ceremony, members of Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism tell us about Toyogawa River. Since last year, we have cleaned our school area with some volunteer students. We might change the method, the form, and the counts to make this activity better.



2013 A canoe experience  
(row a canoe with the pair)



2013 Toyogawa River cleaning  
(with the 6<sup>th</sup> grade students)

### (3)Activity about Career Education

“The career education” is a project to have integrated study of career education and its viewpoints in every educational activities to develop student’s career enhancement. In everyday classes, we concentrate on student’s ability to develop their career enhancement. As a result, we do the career questionnaires for all the students, by year level and by gender, twice a year and verify their personality and self development.



9<sup>th</sup> grade science class  
“Think about Chemical Cell structure”  
(Group work; thinking with the group members)



8<sup>th</sup> grade  
“A lecture to learn about jobs”  
(14 lecturers came to tell about their jobs)

#### (4)Activities about Disaster Prevention and Reduction

We have drills for disaster on April and September every year. After the earthquake in Tohoku, we held a drill for tsunami as well. The drill on September has the parents involved in picking their child up from school after the earthquake advisory is announced. In this year, we have a drill for a suspicious person, too. A lecture for the disaster prevention is held by specialists for the students and the teachers.

Our school is 1 meter above the sea level. If earthquake occurs, liquefaction happens inevitably. Hence, we keep doing the drills for the disaster prevention and having lectures in cooperation with the kindergarten, nursery school and some locals.



2013 Tsunami Drill  
(At the pool)



2013 Disaster Prevention lecture  
(To make provision for the earthquake of the Nankai trough)

#### **Type of Materials Used**

- *Junior High School Career Education Handbook* - The Ministry of Education, Culture, Sport, Science and Technology, March 2011
- *Career Education Notebook* - A notebook to find and make your dreams come true, Aichi Board of Education (WEB version)
- *Brochure of Environmental Education* - The National Institute of Education, March 2007
- *Aichi Environmental Education and Basic Policy* - Ecology program for 7,200,000 people in Aichi prefecture”
- *Aichi Study Handbook*
- *Aichi green wave campaign enlightenment DVD*
- *Donguri Seminar* - learn about nature and protect it

**Is there any type of evaluation to examine the effects of the project on students' comprehension and attitude?**

Teachers observe students' attitude in daily life and check their diaries to understand them better.

Teachers evaluate students' worksheet after each project.

Teachers also understand them for next year through the following:

- We hold a career survey to get results in career education in school and each grade twice a year
- We hold a meeting about students' results, how they did and their need of improvements. In addition, we decide our next goal for next school year clearly.

*On behalf of my institution, I apply for participation in the UNESCO Associated Schools Project and give the assurance that this institution will make an active contribution to the Project, as outlined above, for a minimum period of two years. At the end of every year, I shall submit a report of the Project to the ASP National Coordinator of my country.*

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Date

signature

Principal's name

Position : Principal

Institution's name : Yoshidagata Junior High School