

*Our efforts at promoting marine
education in Japanese elementary and
middle schools*

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Basic Act on Ocean Policy

Article 28 (Enhancement of Citizen's Understanding of the Oceans, etc.)

(1) The State shall take necessary measures, in order that citizens shall have a better understanding of and deeper interests in the oceans, to promote school education and social education with regard to the oceans, propagation and enlightenment of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea and other international agreements as well as international efforts to realize the sustainable development and use of the oceans, and popularization of ocean recreation.

(2) The State shall take necessary measures to promote interdisciplinary education and research at universities and others, in order to nurture human resources with knowledge and capability required to meet the political issues appropriately with regard to the oceans.

Basic Plan on Ocean Policy

12 Enhancement of Citizen's Understanding of the Sea and Fostering of Human Resources

(2) Efforts to increase understanding of the sea among juveniles who will be responsible for the next generation

School education and social education need to be enhanced so that the citizens, including juveniles who are responsible for the next generation, can deepen their correct knowledge and understanding of the sea. Regarding school education, based on the purport of the Basic Act on Ocean Policy, high school curriculum guideline for the subject “Fisheries” needs to be reviewed promptly and practical education should be promoted through on-site practices. More training vessels need be equipped and improved at high schools. Furthermore, efforts should be made to see to it that marine-related education is provided properly in classes of social studies and science at elementary schools, junior high schools and high schools and to disseminate marine education such as through introducing practical examples of marine-related education.

Proposal for Promoting Ocean Education in Elementary School Education

- 1) clarify the contents of an marine education curriculum
- 2) improve learning environments for the promotion of marine education
- 3) improve outside support systems for spreading and deepening marine education
- 4) develop leadership capacity in marine education
- 5) actively promote research in marine education



Grand Design for Ocean Education in the 21st Century

To clarify the contents of an marine education curriculum in accordance with the national curriculum currently use in Japan



Thank you for your attention