



NORANEKO PROJECT REPORT

ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION PROGRAM

R7

30 APRIL, 2025

PROJECT

UNIVERSITY STUDENTS FROM TANEGASHIMA × HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS ON THE ISLAND

In the 2024 academic year, we developed an environmental education program utilizing a grant from the LUSH Charity Bank. A total of 24 participants, including 18 university students from Noraneko and 6 volunteer students from Tanegashima High School, took part in this program. Using the Tanegashima beach "Mihama" as a field, they deepened their understanding of environmental conservation. Activities were usually conducted online, and during long vacations, university students originally from Tanegashima returned home. Fieldwork such as beach cleaning and marine debris surveys were carried out locally. Through workshops, participants not only generated concrete ideas for marine environmental conservation but also established a reciprocal learning relationship among the young people of Tanegashima.



PICKUP

SETTING THE STAGE AT MIHAMA!

LEARNING TOGETHER ACROSS GRADE LEVELS!

On March 2, 2025, we conducted a workshop at Nishinoomote Citizens' Hall, followed by a beach clean-up and marine debris survey at Mihama Coast! A total of 16 people participated in the workshop on the day, and students from Kagoshima University who were visiting the island for research also came to observe. During the discussion about the richness of Tanegashima's ocean, a lively exchange of opinions took place across different grade levels and fields of study!



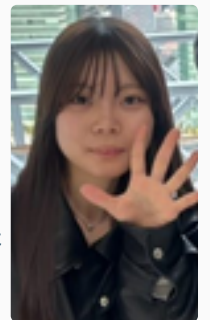
Rino Fukunaga, 1st-year high school student from Tanegashima

Although I was born in Tanegashima, I couldn't immediately state the good points of my hometown, but through participating in the beach activities, I rediscovered its charm. Deepening my learning through repeated exchanges of opinions with university students from outside the island, I've come to feel a desire to further engage with the charm of the region and the lives of its people.



Asuha Matsuda, 2nd-year university student from Tanegashima

By actually picking up trash, I was able to physically feel the current state of marine debris. Until then, I had mostly been inputting information, but by engaging in practical action through activities like this, I strongly felt that my environmental awareness has increased even further.



ANALYSIS

SURVEY RESULTS FOR PARTICIPANTS

87% of the participants in this environmental education program responded that their "interest in the environment has increased," and another 13% evaluated it as "agree." Furthermore, regarding their intent to participate in future programs, 80% responded "strongly agree," and 13% responded "agree," indicating a high level of overall interest. (n=16)

Q Do you feel that your interest in the environment has increased through the program?

Agree
13%



Strongly agree
87%

87%

Responded that interest in the environment has greatly increased!

SUMMARY

FOCUSING ON THE SHARED THEME OF HUMANITY: ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES

Since its establishment, Noraneko has valued the "sea" as a venue for community building. The objective is to maintain "knowledge" directed toward the island and to build a foundation capable of addressing emerging challenges, even if the island's population declines in the future. In this program, we reaffirmed that importance while also creating a space to heighten interest in environmental issues. We will continue to center our sustainable activities around the "environment."