

Fifty-eight children get together! “Child-Led Clubs Leader Tour 2012” Vol. 1 (August 16, 2012)

Toward the reconstruction of communities and developing better communities through involving children’s opinions and participation, we have been conducting “Speaking Out From Tohoku ~ Building Better Communities through the Participation of Children!”

As a part of this activity, “Child-Led Clubs Leader Tour 2012” was held in Hanamaki City of Iwate prefecture on August 8-10, 2012. A total of 58 children gathered from the three regions of Yamada-machi and Rikuzentakata City of Iwate prefecture and Ishinomaki City of Miyagi. The children discussed the development of their towns and local reconstruction while strengthening the bonds between participants.



DAY 1: We said what we wanted to say! Introducing each activity and reviewing past activities

On the first day, participants reviewed their activities of the past year. First, 37 members who had jointly worked among the three regions over the last year explained their Child-Led Clubs and the “Hear Our Voice ~ Voices of Children” plan to the 21 children who were participating in the Child-Led Clubs for the first time. After that, all the children reviewed the past activities of their Child-Led Clubs, discussing both good points and points that could be improved upon. One said, “I could share what we think is good about our Child-Led Clubs and what we want to try in the future.”



DAY 2: Let's draw our vision! "This should be how our town will look like"

On the second day, using the Jenga game and photos, participants drew how they envisaged the recovery of their communities. Under the theme of "This should be how our town will look like," each group created their story using photos. One of their stories was: "This town is the first one that realized the Dream Town Plan designed 20 years ago. Yet, we think there are still some things to be improved. This town will become even better, if many people keep considering the development of their own town."



DAY 2-3: What we can do and want to do for our town



In the latter half of the second day and into the third day, the participants discussed what they wanted to do in the future, based on the vision of the town they had prepared through the Child-Led Clubs or via other methods.

After completing the three-day workshop, the children returned to their regions, holding strong wishes to be further involved in the reconstruction of their communities and the development of their towns: “By participating in this tour, I realized there are many things that I can do.” “I felt that the most meaningful thing is to make things realized.” “If we can have more members and various ideas come up, our town will become a good town.”