

PREPARE "TODAY" NOT "TOMORROW"

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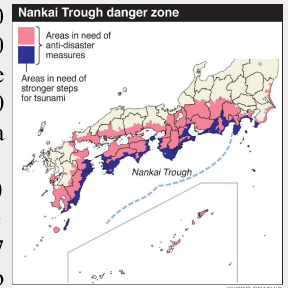
2733: Kansai Soka Senior High School

INTRODUCTION

Tsunami and earthquakes are not only domestic problems. Countries all over the world need to be united to solve the problems caused by these natural disasters. Taking the opportunity to participate in the "High School Students Islands Summit on 'World Tsunami Awareness Day' 2017 in Okinawa," we started research about disaster risk reduction and awareness at school. Especially, we focused on researching about "Nankai Trough Earthquake." The more we learn, the more we felt a strong sense of urgency to make people prepare for the disaster, and we were determined to start taking actions. We have promoted disaster risk reduction in our school to save lives when a disaster would occur suddenly. Living in this world, we cannot control natural hazards, but we can control our actions. The theme of our activities is "Prepare 'Today' not 'Tomorrow.'"

NANKAI TROUGH EARTHQUAKE

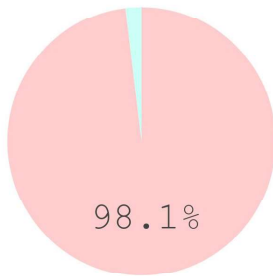
Looking back on the history, powerful earthquakes that exceeded magnitude 8.0 occurred in Southern part of Japan every 100 to 200 years. However, such a big earthquake has not occurred in this area for recent 70 years. Researchers have warned that a magnitude 9.1 "Nankai Trough Earthquake" could hit this part sometime **in the next 30 years** and up to **323,000 people** could be killed by tsunami. A seismic intensity of 7 would be measured from Shizuoka to Miyazaki and a seismic intensity of 6 would be measured in surrounding areas.



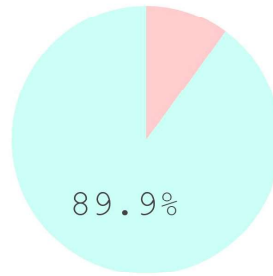
QUESTIONNAIRE

In order to research about awareness of disaster risk management, we took a survey from students and teachers (in total 675 respondents) at school. The survey consists of 15 questions related to disaster risk reduction. In reviewing the result of our survey, we felt a sense of danger that most of people do not have sufficient knowledge about earthquake and tsunami, and they have not prepared for natural disasters although they knew the possibility of upcoming earthquake. In response to this result, we have decided to develop a campaign called "Prepare 'Today' not 'Tomorrow'" in order to raise awareness of disaster risk management at school.

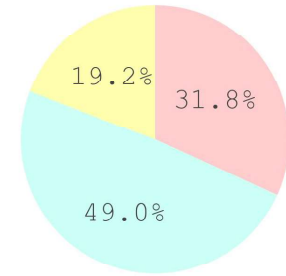
Know about Nankai Trough earthquake



Know about Tsunami tendenko



Prepared emergency bag



● Yes
● No
● Unanswered

ACTION

ACTION 1 -ORIGINAL CHARACTER-

We designed a symbol character called "Namazun," which models after a catfish (catfish is *namazu* in Japanese) because catfish are known in Japanese folk belief to foresee upcoming earthquakes. Some high school students tend to think that disaster risk reduction is not what they need to do, but it is what parents do. However, it is crucial for all people including high school students to protect their own lives. We used Namazun to attract students' attention and to make them familiar to the disaster risk reduction through our actions.



ACTION 3 -LIFE HACK VIDEOS-

We made two life hack videos which introduce tips that will help us when a disaster occurs. The first video introduced 8 life hacks such as how to make slippers of newspaper, how to make a candle with a canned tuna, and what "tsunami tendenko" means. Second video includes how to make a bandage of a plastic bag, how to cook rice in an emergency situation, and where we should put emergency bags. We showed these videos to all students at the school event and uploaded on SNS. The videos are also on the school's youtube account.

ACTION 2 -FOUR FRAMED CARTOONS-

We promoted important information related to disaster risk reduction through handmade four-panel cartoons. To make everyone spontaneously remember the information which was explained in these cartoons, we posted on the wall of restrooms and cafeteria in our school. Because our first cartoons were highly evaluated by students and teachers, we created the 2nd set of four framed cartoons. For example, they show how we should act when we are in a station during an earthquake and what we should put into an emergency bag.



OPEN CAMPUS



INSTAGRAM



BOUSAI KOUSHIEN -FRONTIER PRIZE-



CONCLUSION

Through our experience in the Summit and our campaign, we can confidently say that we have brought a change to people's disaster awareness. The earthquake which occurred in Osaka on June 18th this year showed the change of students' behaviour. On that day, an earthquake occurred at 7:58 in the morning. Many students were on their way to school and they were not able to arrive due to the suspension of train operation. Teachers and parents could not get in touch and were worried about students. Nobody expected that an earthquake would occur and would actually experience the damage. The sudden disaster made them feel anxious and insecure. However, they made use of the information they learned through our campaign during and after the earthquake and strongly felt how important it is to **Prepare "Today" not "Tomorrow"**. We were able to sense the significance of our campaign and the need for even more actions to raise awareness in society. Though we cannot control disasters, we can control our actions. We will continue spreading our movement hoping that the youth unite and become the leading voice to protect our own lives and our loved ones.

FOLLOW US!

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