

Elementary School (The upper grades)

Great

“Tourists to Okinawa”

6th Grade, Okinawa AMICUS International School by Taishi Shiroma

“What? Should I enter into it?”

The words fell from my lips when I saw the rice fields festival in Kin Town.

I played with my friend in the rice field.

“Spotch,” the sound came out when I stepped into it.

I felt that my feet sank into the mud. However, I got used to the mud, and played tag and smeared mud on my friend’s face.

We all got muddy while playing in the rice field, but I felt good.

“We can not only grow rice, but also play in the rice fields,” I thought.

In 2012, there were approximate five million ninety-two thousand tourists in Okinawa, and the numbers of tourists increased by four hundred thousand compared with 2011. What should we do in order to increase tourists to six million?

My best recommendation of Okinawa is nature. Especially, it is the north of Okinawa called Yanbaru. When I go to Yanbaru, my temper is calmed down.

We went to a survival camp on a school trip to Kunigami (it is a village located in the north of Okinawa). We could learn importance of courage through the survival activities, such as pitching a tent, going up a river, and jumping from a cliff. I could also know about beauty of the nature in Kunigami.

However, it is a long way from the capital city of Okinawa (Naha) to Kunigami, so tourists need to rent cars to visit the place. In order to sort out the problem, an increase of a regular coach service between Naha and Kunigami is needed for tourists. This is because I want them to like the nature of Okinawa that I like.

We should also treat the nature, not constructing a number of buildings so as to increase tourists. I have some ideas for it.

It is to increase opportunities to take part in activities of nature, such as pitching a tent at the place where it gets plenty of sunshine, and cooking meals.

Through the experience to get close to nature, you can find yourself that you have not recognized yet.

I think a number of tourists will increase through the activities that they can experience in only Okinawa. In addition, it will be good to hold summer festivals in every month for tourists. For example, in Ginowan City, there is a fireworks festival in April, which is the earliest festival in Japan. If numbers of festivals increase, many tourists will visit Okinawa.