

Elementary School (The upper grades)

Excellent

“Tourism by region”

6th Grade, Yonashiro Elementary School by Chihiro Morine

How much do you know about the districts you live and Okinawa itself?

I think Okinawa has a variety of cultures, traditional arts, history, local customs, habits, and so on. How much do you understand about them? I think probably most people cannot tell about them well. So, the first thing that came up to my mind is that it is important for local residents to know and learn about the region, and keep protecting the customs and traditional arts, while knowing and learning about Okinawa, thinking about each region or their own region at the same time. It is because there is a variety of traditional arts and customs in each region. In my opinion, losing traditions is the same as losing important assets.

If we can think about tourism of each region, we can choose freely among a variety of regional tourism and can enjoy various kinds tourism.

In Uruma, Yonashiro, Katsuren districts where I live, for example, tourists can enjoy traditional dance of modern version, watch "Kimutaka no Amawari (Okinawan style musical show)", visit the Katsuren Castle of a World Heritage, Heshikiya Eisa of an intangible cultural asset or Okugana Eisa that has a history of more than a hundred twenty years, make coaster using the rush grass of Teruma, swim in the sea of Ikei island, Hamahiga Island or sea road, enjoy water sports, relax while gazing at the sea, rest the body, experience the Okinawan slow-pace culture, and spend time healing or enjoying different things.

In addition, I would like to use the meals made by Mozuku (A type of edible seaweed in Okinawa) from Katsuren, carrots from Tsuken Island, food such as nigana and tofu, and famous products from districts, to welcome our guests.

In this way, if we think of tourism in each region of Okinawa Prefecture and appeal each region, a various tourism styles will be created and people who come to Okinawa will increase. Moreover, people who want to experience and enjoy sightseeing in other regions will also appear. Eventually, I think repeater will increase.

Finally, the reason that I could think like this is from various experiences with classmates studying in Yonashiro elementary school, such as picking up the trash along the coast, learning about rush grass, Eisa and regional things, designing the T-shirts for coming back the dugongs that used to live in Kin bay, planning to sell them and donating the proceeds, etc. As we think about the region and grow up together, the region will also become energetic together with us. We will treasure everything in the region and tell as many people as we can how wonderful Okinawa is.