## Elementary School (The lower grades)

## **Encouragement Award**

## I have found good points in Okinawa

1st Grade, Yogi Elementary school by Riko Tsukayama

I went to Osaka that my cousin lives in April. The trip was just like a dream that I boarded a Shinkansen train and went to see a circus. When I came back from Osaka, my cousin said, "I'll come to Okinawa next time".

"Um, I am not sure whether there are fun things to do in Okinawa," I was anxious. When I think about it every day, my dad took me to a beach. When I got off of our car, I was surprised that many people were walking in the sea faraway from the shore in the beach. I also tried to walk in the sea with my family. Although I kept walking in the sea, the water did not get deep. It was just like magic. I found some crabs and shrimps and took Mozuku (a type of edible seaweed in Okinawa) while walking. Many crabs and shrimps came out when I removed a stone. So, I chased them excitedly. I saw balloonfishes and sea slugs for my first time. My heart was pounding because there were a lot of surprising things in the sea. I gave some Mozuku to my neighbors as a souvenir.

"It was great!" they rejoiced in my souvenir so that I was also happy to see them. I had a Mozuku party in my home.

"If you eat Mozuku, you will become a beautiful and a bright girl," the old man and the old woman who met me while getting Mozuku in the sea told me so that I eat a lot of Mozuku every day because I want to get score 100 in my school's tests.

"I have found the good points in Okinawa".

It is a beautiful sea that makes my heart pounding. The sea in Okinawa is our treasure forever.