

Challenging the Potential of Environmental Education Event: An Approach from Interest-Oriented Learning

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1. Background and Issues: Necessity for Non-biased Environmental Education

In these days, people are assumed to have consistently high environmental consciousness. However, regional authority raised an issue that, in its reality, residents show little environmental consciousness. In order to popularize environment-conscious behavior, a fair learning opportunity must be given. Also, environmental education must not take place assuming the presence of high environmental consciousness.

2. Method: Providing Environmental Education through “handmade bag event”

The “handmade bag event” was held in the community festival. It was named under the purpose of not using any term that indicates “environment” so that it would promote participation of individuals with no environmental consciousness. The event characterizes itself as an interest-oriented environmental education, and it would mainly consist of individuals who are interested in making a bag.

In the process of making a bag, quiz and lecture on the waste problems were included. At the end of the lecture, participants were asked to bring their handmade bag for daily shopping. By doing so, they can contribute to lessen the amount of wasted plastic shopping bag. In addition, we asked participants a favor to answer the questionnaire. The questionnaire was held to examine both the presence of individuals with no environmental consciousness and the effect of the event.

3. Result and Evaluation: Efforts toward the Realization of Non-biased Environmental Education

In the results, there were approximately 70% of individuals with no environmental consciousness. Also, we had a positive response regarding the context of the event. The fact that this event had no term indicating “environment” together with the fact that the lecture was included within the context of the event enabled participants to enjoy learning even if they had no environmental consciousness aforetime. In addition, almost all participants showed their willingness to use a handmade bag in future. Hereby, an environmental education through “handmade bag event” enabled promoting participants` intention to realize environment-conscious behavior. Therefore, in terms of promotion, the effect of the event had become apparent.

4. Conclusion: Challenging the Potential of Non-biased Environmental Education

The “handmade bag event” was successful in promoting the participation of individuals with no environmental consciousness. It had provided an opportunity to learn, a place to enjoy, and an education needed to realize the environment-conscious behavior. In conclusion, “making a bag” as an interest-oriented environmental education had shown its potential of implementing non-biased environmental education.