

Kamikochi Fieldtrip Report

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I have went to overnight domestic trip to Kamikochi with a view to learn the environmental problem. Kamikochi is located in Nagano prefecture. This area is surrounded by Hida mountain chain and its length is up to about 10km, width is 1km. Kamikochi has main river in its central; that is calld Azusa river. This area has prehistories adopting regulation of car since 1975 to conserve the natural environment.

1-day

We've get together at 7 a.m. at Fuchu campus, then left for Kamikochi that takes about 4hr by bus. On our way to destination, we've get the lecture about the new tunnel that is only way to Kamikochi. Before the construction of new tunnel, amount of visitting people is regulated by old tunnel on account of its capacity. But now, many people can arrive to Kamikochi, so new environmental problem has being appired. Ozaki professor also lectured about heavy metal pollution about the Kamikochi using statistical data.

After get arrived, we get off by bus and walk around Kappa bridge and Taisho lake. When we were strolling, rocal instructor has guid us about the area. The instructor said that once upon a time, samurai era, almost of all trees in this area was logged and nature green was destructed. But after disignated as a national park by administration, many trees has planted and getting recoved its green. Actually, we can distinguished the new planted trees that seemed to be young and stems was thin.

2-day

We've went to Matsumoto castle and wasabi farm in secound day. Matsumoto castle has profound history and I can re-realize the Japanese history. At the wasabi farm, we can see the many farm. There is the oppotunity that we can eat wasabi that harvested in that farm, and we can taste the flesh wasabi.

Finally

Through this field trip, I can learn about Kamikochi charastaristic and its environmental problems. This trip also provide me with good oppotunity to know about Japan more deeply.

