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## Children's Learning Room by Student Volunteer Organization

*Kids Volunteer Circle : 46 Students led by Saki Keiyo*



**Principle 6: A commitment to encouraging global citizenship through education**

### 1. Overview of Initiative

Student Volunteer Organization members work on learning support for elementary and junior high school students, providing them with places where they can stay, and assisting their self-learning completely free of charge. The venue opens from 13:00 to 18:00 every Saturday, using the Aiina campus of our university near Morioka Station.



### 2. Catalyst for the Children's Learning Room

At the end of a class on child welfare, the professor asked Iwate Prefectural University students about how they will take the next step. There were various views such as supporting children, supporting children's education and "Doing what I can now". Then, following discussions, it was decided to run the children's study room.

### 3. Activity Policies

- **To respect children's own style for what they want to do in the learning space.**

For example, there are various ways to use the space, such as reinforcing school subjects which children have difficulty with, checking what they did not understand in school classes, and finishing homework. Although each child freely tackles issues in their own way, we will support them to solve problems together and develop enjoyment in learning, when difficulties arise.



- **To make it a cozy place for children.**

To that end, we will provide an open place for everyone without restricting students due to economic circumstances or establishing a number of rules for using the space. In addition to school-lessons, while talking about children's lives and hobbies, we aim to cultivate trusting relationships and make the study room a place for children to feel comfortable.



#### ***4. Participant feedback on the Activity***

- "It's a fun and important time because I can learn school-subjects more deeply, and it also gives me things that I can't learn in school" (from a participant)
- "I am so happy and sincerely grateful that my son had a new place on Saturday afternoon" (from a participant's parent)



It was found that children had the need for such a study room. We feel glad to be able to open the study room, especially when we see how the children were able to finish their homework neatly, when children who said "I'm coming next week!" actually came, and when we received a report that their regular exam grades had gone up. In addition, parents realized that they can run errands and do the household shopping in locations around the station, which shows how the Children's Learning Room also offered a respite for local people raising children.

