

Initiative 5

Promoting disaster risk reduction education, and establishing disaster risk reduction systems in schools**[Outline of Approach]**

- Based on the lessons learned from the earthquake and tsunami, Iwate Prefecture drew up the “School Disaster Risk Reduction and Disaster Response Guideline” and “Board of Education Crisis Management Manual (revision)” to establish a disaster risk reduction systems for schools. Each school reviewed its manuals according to these conditions, and performed unique disaster risk reduction education matching the actual conditions of each school and place.
- In order to foster human resources who can appreciate and support the reconstruction and development of their hometowns, the prefecture is promoting “Iwate reconstruction education” throughout the prefecture to foster the three values of education that were highlighted in the earthquake tsunami: “living”, “being involved” and “being prepared”. In addition, the supplementary booklet for reconstruction education was also drawn up and distributed. In each elementary and junior high school, educational activities using the supplementary booklet have been made.
- In addition, by holding training courses about disaster risk reduction education for the whole prefecture and performing disaster risk reduction training with schools and local citizens together, the prefecture has been enhancing disaster risk reduction education and disaster management by cooperating with schools, families, regions, and related institutions.

Approach 1: Drawing up the Guideline and Manual revision

The Guidelines and Manual made by the prefecture outline the responses during a disaster in order and contents to ensure the safety of students when a tsunami warning is issued or there is concern about secondary disasters.

Base on the manual of each school, safety confirmation after the all-clear has been given and transferring training are conducted through cooperation with families, immediately sending emails to guardians, use of transferring cards, etc.



Transferring training to the parents
(Yono Municipal Taneichi Elementary School)

Approach 2: Promotion of disaster risk reduction education based on “Iwate reconstruction education”

The revised edition of the “Iwate reconstruction education” program consists of 3 educational values and 21 specific items.

Based on this program, educational activities in accordance with the situations of the schools and regions have been deployed in each school.

For example, for “being involved”, volunteer activities in the disaster affected areas are conducted; for “being prepared”, study and training for students to judge and act proactively and participate in evacuation drills have been conducted.



Discussion of evacuation routes
(Okirai Elementary School, Ofunato)



Volunteer activities in the affected areas
(Morioka Technical High School)

Approach 3: Disaster risk reduction education cooperating with families, schools, and regions

The prefecture has conducted training sessions and drills to promote the disaster education system and disaster education in cooperation with schools, families, regions, and related institutions. Not only the school-related people, but also the municipal education committee and persons in charge of municipal disaster prevention have attended the prefecture disaster risk reduction education training session, and they have studied the ways for actual regional cooperation including simulating the situation when a disaster occurs.

In addition, during the prefectural comprehensive disaster prevention training, junior high students learned about setting up and managing shelters, etc., and received training about staying safe and doing what they can to help.



Training to register people at an evacuation shelter
(Takizawa Daini Junior High School)

Approach 4: Creation and utilization of supplementary booklet and disaster risk reduction education DVD

Lessons utilizing the supplementary reader
(Kawai Elementary School, Miyako)

To keep the earthquake and tsunami from fading from memory and help young students learn the three educational values, the prefecture has drawn up a supplementary booklet, “Living, Being Involved and Being Prepared”.

This supplementary booklet is linked to the revised edition of the reconstruction education program, and is divided into three types: lower grades and higher grades of elementary schools, and junior high schools.

In addition, as learning materials for disaster risk reduction, the “disaster risk reduction education” DVD also linked to the programs was created and distributed to each school and training sessions for teachers using these materials, were also conducted.

Approach 5: Disaster risk reduction education and psychological support

For young students who were psychologically damaged during the disaster, some of them will feel both mentally and physically ill upon hearing the sound of sirens for evacuation drills and advisories or warnings.

From this fact, the prefecture has equipped each school with counselors to realize the dynamic integration of “mental support” and “disaster risk reduction education”, and performed evacuation training and study of disaster prevention.



Class with the school counselor
(Otsuchi Elementary School)



“Supplementary booklet”
for lower grades at
elementary school



“Supplementary booklet”
for higher grades at
elementary school



“Supplementary booklet” for
junior high school



Disaster prevention
educational materials DVD