

Sending messages about "Life" from Minamata HS students living in a "Top Eco-City"

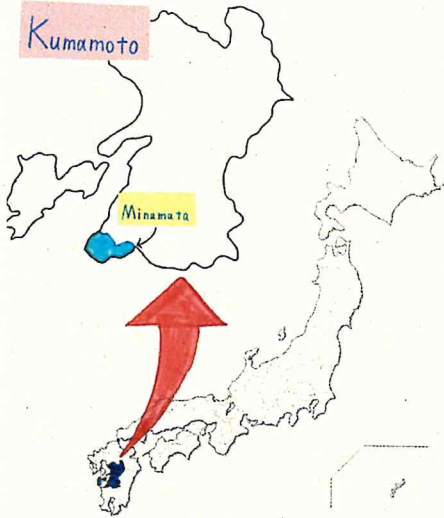
2810 Kumamoto Prefectural Minamata High School 

HYPOTHESIS

The people of Minamata have been prevented from living a normal life by discrimination and prejudice because of Minamata disease.

RESULTS

- Even after it was announced that Minamata disease was not contagious, people still made fun of Minamata disease patients and their families.
- Employment and marriage were refused. Minamata disease patients and their families suffered from discrimination and bias.

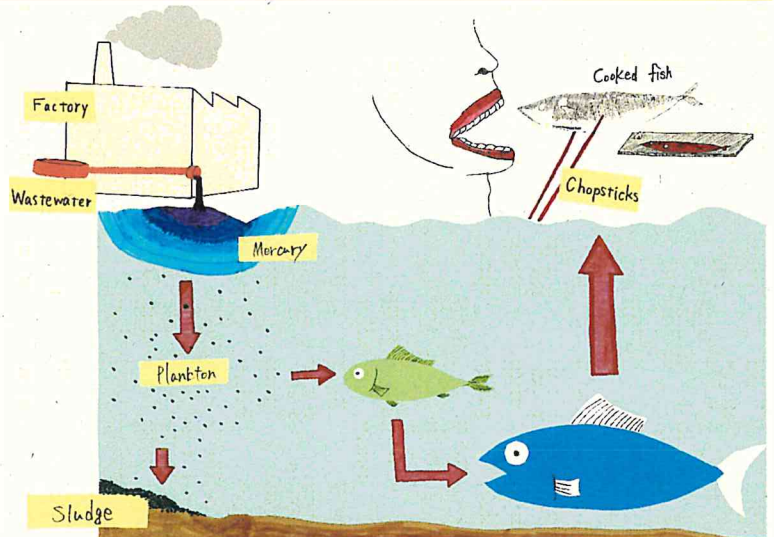


ABOUT MINAMATA DISEASE

Minamata disease was caused by mercury contained in factory wastewater. It flowed into the ocean, allowing mercury to enter the food chain.

Minamata citizens were more at risk because they often ate fish. Babies born to mothers who ate fish with mercury were also affected, and had more serious symptoms. This was called congenital Minamata disease. Minamata disease was officially recognized in 1968.

Minamata disease patients and Minamata citizens suffered from discrimination because people associated Minamata City with Minamata disease.



CURRENT MINAMATA

- The people of Hotto Hausu feel frustrated about being forced to live with Minamata disease.
- These patients want to live independently, but they are not able to.
- Minamata is still hard to live in for disabled people.
- The polluted area was reclaimed. (58ha)



引用：水俣病公害防止事業団立地調査報告書及び老朽化対策検討委員会



MINAMATA IN THE FUTURE

- ❖ Detoxify the area under ECO-park, which still has mercury
 - ❖ Make public spaces and buildings in Minamata barrier-free
- Keep sending the message about "the importance of life"
from Minamata disease patients**

Beautiful Sea in Minamata

