

The Second Child Science Exchange Program in East Asia

Child Growth and Development and the Daily Life Environment

– Approaches of Child Science

◆April 19-20, 2008

◆Ochanomizu University, Tokyo, Japan



Child Growth and Development and the Daily Life Environment

— The Approach of Child Science

Speakers and Presenters:

Jiaxiong Zhu (Professor, East China Normal University)

Jinliang Qin (President, Hangzhou College of Preschool Teacher Education, Zhejiang Normal University)

Shaowen Huang (Associate Professor, Changsha Normal College)

Nobuko Uchida (Vice President, Ochanomizu University)

Yoichi Sakakihara (Professor, Ochanomizu University)

Toshiya Yamamoto (Professor, Waseda University)

Mikako Suto (Fellow Researcher, Ochanomizu University)

Mariko Ichimi (Senior Researcher, National Institute for Educational Policy Research)

Nobuo Isshiki (Professor, Konan Women's University)

* In order of presentation; titles and affiliations as of November 2007

The Second Child Science Exchange Program in East Asia was held on April 19 and 20, 2008, hosted by Child Research Net (CRN) and G-COE of Ochanomizu University and co-hosted by the Benesse Institute for Child Sciences and Parenting. The topic was "Approaches of Child Science to Child Growth and Development and the Daily Life Environment." More than 200 people attended over the two days.



Day 1

"Tears of Little Emperors" through Chinese Eyes

Jiaxiong Zhu

The NHK TV documentary, "Tears of Little Emperors," which addressed the educational pressure on China's only children, generated much interest. This lecture analyzed the situation from various perspectives: China's one-child policy, the educator's point of view, differences in Eastern and Western cultures, the Chinese concept of values, and the happiness of little emperors.

Developmental Cognitive Neuroscience and Early Education

Jinliang Qin

New research in developmental cognitive neuroscience has significant possible applications in the fields of early childhood education in China.

Experience and Understanding through the Education of Preschool Teachers

Shaowen Huang

Changsha Normal College's curriculum, typical of





the specialized training of preschool teachers in China, stresses the arts, including musical performance, singing, dancing and playing the piano.

Symposium 1: **Chinese Children Now: A View from Japan**

In this dialogue between specialists from China and Japan, some from Japan thought the “little emperors” are made to study too much, while others were surprised to hear the opinion from the Chinese side that children in the future would resent their parents for not pushing them to study to the point of tears and blame their social standing or poor lifestyle on lack of parental pressure.

Day 2

“Development as Culture” from a Comparative View of Japan and China

Toshiya Yamamoto

Using video footage, this presentation compared and analyzed differences in behavior between kindergartens and elementary schools in China and Japan from the perspective of Chinese culture.

Approaches to Perceptions of the Child, Development and Education in Japan and China

Mikako Suto

Based on wide-ranging research and historical

archives, this talk introduced the history of Sino-Japanese exchange in the field of kindergarten education and comparative studies.

A Sketch of the History of Relations and Comparison between Japan and China in Preschool Education

Mariko Ichimi

Sōzō Kurahashi and Hegin Chen are considered the fathers of preschool education in Japan and China, respectively. While the two contemporaries both introduced ideas from the West, they also differed in interesting respects.

Symposium 2:

A Comparison of Japan and China: Children, Development and Culture

The lively exchange over the two days showed that it is impossible to discuss education without considering history and cultural background. Child Science can contribute much to dialogue and research in both countries.

