

Cruise Summary

1. Cruise Information

- Cruise ID
NT12-21
- Name of vessel
NATSUSHIMA
- Title of the cruise
Prized Cruise for the Hagaki Contest
- Chief scientist
Kyohiko Mitsuzawa [JAMSTEC]
- Representative of the Science Party
Kyohiko Mitsuzawa [JAMSTEC]
- Cruise period
August 15, 2012 - August 19, 2012
Boarding experiment: August 16 - August 18
- Ports of call
JAMSTEC, Yokosuka - Port of Shimizu - JAMSTEC, Yokosuka
- Research area
Suruga Bay

2. Overview of the Observation

In order that children shall have a better understanding of and deeper interests in the oceans, JAMSTEC provided a single-day boarding experiment on NATSUSHIMA to 15 children who won prizes in the 14th Hagaki contest and their parents.

Boarding experiment carried out in order all the three days including the operation of NATSUSHIMA and HYPER-DOLPHIN. While HYPER-DOLPHIN conducting surveys in the ocean, many deep-sea organisms such as *Simenchelys doederleini* and *Holothuroidea* were observed through the high-definition RV camera. At the bottom of the ocean, HYPER-DOLPHIN did some experiments which were proposed by children. For example, HYPER-DOLPHIN shot a golf ball by snapping a rubber band to see how far the golf ball would fly for the question “is it possible to expand a rubber band at a great depth?” and fished with special rod and mackerel for the question “is it possible to fish at the bottom of the ocean?”. HYPER-DOLPHIN also carried polystyrene foams, ping-pong balls, cans of Coke, and other

materials to the deep ocean for the question “how does water pressure affect the materials?”. Children had opportunities to control HYPER-DOLPHIN from the control room on the ship as well.

Ocean condition was okay, but there were ocean swell from the south. Some people got seasick; one child on the first day, two children on the second day, and one parent on the last day. They took rest in a bedroom and came back to program when they got well.

The children and parents were warmly welcomed to NATSUSHIMA and seemed having fun. The goal “Having children better understanding of and deeper interests in the oceans” was successfully achieved.