

## 35th Volunteer Activity for Passing on Hope for the Future



Date	Sunday, August 30 through Monday, August 31
Activity site	Fukushima-shi, Fukushima
Participants	24 ( 20 men, 4 women, 3 administration office staff)

### ● Activity Details



We worked in collaboration with the NPO called ARTS for HOPE in joining in their art renovation activities, which comprised painting in bright colors the outer walls of the buildings and playroom of the Kusano and Itoi Municipal Kindergarten the town of Iitate, which had been completely evacuated because of the accident at the Fukushima No. 1 nuclear power plant.



The volunteers were mainly responsible for the outer walls of the playroom. We split up into 5 groups, put up rain-shield sheeting, laid down an undercoating of white paint, and then proceeded to paint in line with the prepared designs. The paint was slow to dry because of the rain, and while we waited we had a break and helped with painting the buildings, as occasion demanded.



On the second day we applied the second coat of paint, and then stripped off the places where we had cured and did the restoration work of painting any uneven or unpainted protruding places. We also painted some trees around the building entrance walls to express our desire for the children's healthy growth.



After lunch, we read some stories to the children from The Bouquet of Children's Stories, and the children listened eagerly and attentively. We then explained the NPO's Art renovation Project to the children so that it would be more widely known. We stuck paintings that the children had done on the outer walls, and we were pleased to see the children's happy faces when they found their own paintings and reported it to their teacher. The children showed their gratitude with such powerful and cute remarks as, "I'm now looking forward to going to kindergarten more than ever—thank you very much!"

The volunteers themselves made such comments as, "It was very good to see with our very own eyes how happy the local people were made by each work that we had all cooperated together to make."