



Nara JETNet 47th event 「Autumn Hike in Yamanobe Road」

On Saturday, October 25th 2014, Nara JETNet held its 47th event, the “Autumn Hike in Yamanobe Road”.

Nara JETNet has, since it's founding in the year 2000, been involved with the deepening of mutual international understanding. The organization committee is comprised of the 5 Coordinators for International Relations working at the Nara Prefectural Office, and the membership is made up of the JET program participants in Nara Prefecture. For this event, 34 members of the JET program along with 51 people from Nara Prefecture and other places came together to participate in international exchange through hiking and various games.

At 9:30 in the morning, everyone gathered together in front of JR Miwa Station in Sakurai City, and after the opening ceremony, everyone separated into eight different groups and headed off to the Tenri Municipal Trail Centre. The path was filled with various sights, including lush foliage and rivers. Walking this spiritual path was like walking through the Japanese history, with all of its ancient tombs, temples, and sanctuaries. We arrived at the trail centre around 12:40. During the lunch break, a scary photo contest was held. Then, we moved to Yanagimoto Park at 14:00, where we began to play games at 14:30. Together we played “Le Beret”, a French game, a game of tag called Humans vs Zombies, and the Japanese game Daruma-san ga Koronda, a game similar to “red light green light”. Being that Halloween was close, we gave the games a Halloween theme. The participants really appreciated these games. After we were finished, participants filled out their questionnaires, and the closing ceremony was held at 16:30. Everyone was free to go to JR Yanagimoto Station. For this event, we travelled through the nature and history of the Yamanobe Road, hiking a total of 7 km.

From the results of the questionnaire, 96% of the participants felt that the event was really good. Amongst the impressions were the following comments:

- “I enjoyed it a lot because I could talk with many foreigners.”
- “I met a lot of people for the first time and the mood was good to have great conversations.”
- “I want to study English harder to be ready for the next event!”

We plan to continue to promote grassroots international exchange. Thank you everyone for your input and participation!

