

Fostering the Next Generation

Activities policy in This Area

The Kurita Group will foster awareness of water-related issues and stimulate interest in science among children and students who will lead the next generation by holding hands-on learning events, providing on-site classes, and sponsoring contests.

Achievements in FY2022

Contest Sponsorship

19th Japan Science & Engineering Challenge (JSEC 2021)

The Japan Science & Engineering Challenge (JSEC) is a research contest in science and engineering for high school and technical college students in Japan that has been held by The Asahi Shimbun Company since 2003. We have been co-sponsoring JSEC since 2019. In fiscal 2022, we presented the Kurita Water Industries Award to Akane Iwasa of Gunma National College of Technology (GNCT) for her research into "Energy Creation by Low-Voltage Electrolysis Using the pH Differential of an Aqueous Solution."

As a follow up, an online exchange meeting was held between Kurita Innovation Hub, Kurita R&D Asia Pte. Ltd., and GNCT, during which Ms. Iwasa presented her award-winning research in English as preparation for the international competition ISEF*¹. Researchers from the Kurita Group posed questions from a corporate perspective, deepening the discussion. Representing Japan, Ms. Iwasa subsequently presented her research at the ISEF competition, held online from May 4 to 13, where she received the Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology Special Award.

*1 ISEF (International Science and Engineering Fair): Organized by the Society for Science & the Public, a U.S.-based non-profit organization, ISEF is one of the world's largest international competitions of free science-related research, involving approximately 1,800 high school students from more than 60 countries and regions.



Ms. Akane Iwasa of Gunma National College of Technology (GNCT) received the Kurita Water Industries Award

On-Site Classes

NPO After School Online Program to Learn About the Importance of Water

With NPO After School, a non-profit organization that provides extracurricular activities for elementary school students, we conducted an online program entitled "Save the World with Professor Water! Take the Exciting Filtering Experiment Challenge" at nine afterschool children's clubs, allowing schoolchildren to enjoy learning while experiencing the importance of water. For the 192 children who participated, it was a good opportunity to think about what they can do in their daily lives to protect precious water resources.



Taking part in a water class at NPO Afterschool

STEAM Research Special Class of Barbara Pool Ltd. (STEAM JAPAN)

Kurita employees took part as lecturers in the STEAM Research special class conducted by creative agency Barbara Pool Ltd. (STEAM JAPAN) targeting high school students in Oita Prefecture and the Oita Prefectural Board of Education. The class, which was held online due to the pandemic, explained water treatment and the importance of water at the JAXA space station, and showcased mock experiments.

One high school student participating in the class commented, "I learned a lot, particularly from the aspect of the water cycle. I felt like if a good cycle can be established, it would cut down on loss in various ways."

