

Shunta Komine

In March 2024, as part of an international program, I participated in a workshop with National Taiwan Normal University. The theme of the workshop was to explore innovative methods in STEM/STEAM education through design. Nine students from International Program, School of Design, Kyushu University and nine students from National Taiwan Normal University participated.

During the workshop, we visited public elementary and high schools in Taiwan to learn about STEAM education and discussed ways to address current educational challenges using STEAM education. We also gave presentations in the end. During the school visits, we observed STEAM practices in the educational setting. During our free time, students from National Taiwan Normal University guided us to night markets, restaurants, and tourist spots near the university, allowing us to experience Taiwanese culture and cuisine.

One thing I noticed during the workshop was the significant investment the Taiwanese government makes in education. The schools we visited were well-equipped with state-of-the-art digital tools for STEAM education, reflecting Taiwan's enthusiasm and dedication to education. This made me realize a substantial difference compared to Japan's educational system but also left me impressed by Taiwan's serious approach to education.

During the holiday after the workshop, one of the Taiwanese students, Yen Kai, guided us on tours. We visited the National Palace Museum where we saw historical artifacts from China and Taiwan, and the Taipei Zoo where we observed indigenous Taiwanese animals. Thanks to Yen Kai's guidance, we were able to navigate smoothly and learn a lot about Taiwanese culture and life.

What stands out the most from my experience in Taiwan is the kindness of the Taiwanese students. All the Taiwanese students who participated welcomed us warmly and treated us kindly. Their warm hospitality and friendly attitude made our experience in Taiwan even more special.



The final presentation



At the Taipei Zoo where I went with the student in Taiwan