

The Way We Are

Club Activities at Japanese High Schools

📷:Photographer

Volleyball



いま
今、マフラー
あんでるんだ。

へー、だれかに
プレゼントするの？

Taking a break during volleyball club practice, Mikiko chats with a friend. She loves physical exercise, but also enjoys such domestic arts as knitting. "I'm knitting a scarf," she tells her friend, "Is that so?" is the response, "A present for somebody special, perhaps?"

📷 Toyono Fumiko, Hokkaido

Cheerleading



フレー、フレー、
さとう
佐藤!

Chiharu is not just an ordinary girl cheerleader, but performs a role usually played by the boys on the cheerleading squad. Here you can see her cheering a baseball game with as much gusto as any of the guys. "Go! Go! Sato!" she calls out the batter's name.

📷 Okumura Aya, Ibaraki prefecture

Tennis



いい？
いくよー！

Yuka has been playing tennis since junior high school. She's known for her "cut-serve." Yuka always seems happy when she's playing tennis. "Ready? Here it comes!" she shouts.

📷 Morita Hitomi, Hiroshima prefecture

Pop Music



うーん、
こんなかんじで
どうかな？

いい
いい色がでてきた!

Fine Arts



Yuka wants to go on to college in the fine arts. Holding a brush, she becomes the image of the serious artist. After seeing the movie "Titanic," she spent two months painting a picture of the Titanic. "There," she elates, "That's the color I want!"

📷 Fujii Tamami, Hyōgo prefecture

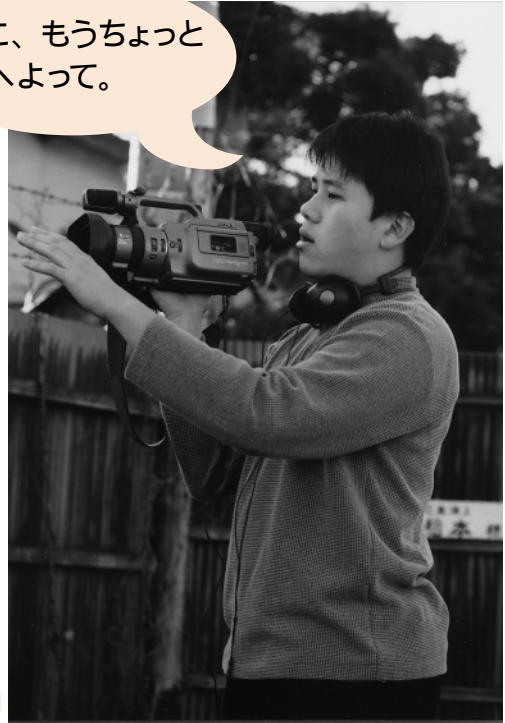


たいせつ
大切なのは
しゅうちゅうりょく
集中力よ。

Kyūdō (Japanese archery)

Yaeko is a member of the Japanese archery club and practices every day until dark. Sometimes she complains that the training is hard, but as soon as classes are out she's always raring to go at it. "The crucial thing is concentration," she tell us.

📍 Shin Nahoko, Fukuoka prefecture



そこ、もうちょっと
みぎ
右へよって。

Shōtarō is shooting video as part of his activities in the broadcasteering club.

He plans what to film, does the shooting, and edits and produces the film himself. His dream is to work in top-level international filmmaking some day. "Hey, you!" he calls, "Move just a bit to the right, will you?"

📍 Katō Akira, Gifu prefecture

Broadcasting



Practicing guitar in the music room at school, Hiroki is preparing for performances for the school festival. He not only plays but composes songs and music himself. "Hmm," he muses over a tune he's written, "how does this sound?"

📍 Yamashita Hanae, Tokyo

Baseball



よし!
たま
いい球だ。

Daisuke is the catcher for the baseball team. Today, too, he's at practice from the time classes are over until late in the evening. Daisuke takes loving care of his equipment. "Yosh'!" you can hear him cry, "Good ball!"

📍 Okano Mari, Hiroshima prefecture

Judo

れんしゅうは毎日
か
欠かさないよ。



Masayuki is second to none in his devotion to training and the captain of the judo club. Changing into his gear and entering the dojo, his expression stiffens. "I never skip training," he says seriously.

📍 Kimura Tomoki, Hyōgo prefecture

Track



もうすぐ大会だから、
がんばらなくっちゃ。

Preparing to run in a long-distance relay race, Mariko has early morning practice everyday now. She wants to continue running in competitions even after graduating from high school and hopes to keep involved with track and field by becoming a physical therapist. "Gotta keep at it!" she mutters, "The big race isn't far off."

📍 Itō Eriko, Gifu prefecture