## **New Learning Approach from Aichi**

# **[Learcation Day]**

Learning + Vacation



In Aichi Prefecture, we have introduced "Learcation Day" to support proactive and experiential learning at home that connects to the future.

"Learcation" combines children's learning with parents' vacation. It's a day for out-of-school learning activities that can only happen on weekdays, allowing you to plan these activities together with your child.

February 2025
Aichi Prefectural Board of Education
Anjo City Board of Education

## What is "Learcation Day"?

"Learcation Day" was created as part of Aichi Prefecture's "Holiday Reform" project.

On this day, children, along with their parents or guardians, can plan, organize, and participate in experiential and exploratory learning and activities outside of school (at home or in the community) on weekdays.

Since this is a self-guided learning activity outside of school, <u>it does not count as an absence</u>, similar to how suspension of attendance or bereavement leave is treated. <u>This can be taken up to three times a year</u>, aligned with the parents' vacation schedule.

# **Examples of Activities on "Learcation Day"**

To begin planning for "Learcation Day," start by discussing with your child what they want to learn, using the "Learning Keywords" and the activity examples below. Plan a learning experience that can only happen outside of school.

### ■Learning Keywords■

Nature, Science, Environment, Experiment, Observation, Industry, Sports, Culture, Arts, History, Geography, Traditional Arts, International Understanding, Welfare, SDGs, Field Trips, Creation, Appreciation, Careers...

### Rediscover! Let's Explore Local Historical Sites

On weekdays, you can take your time to explore historical sites and learn more through detailed talks by guides. You might be surprised to find historical sites even in your local area or nearby.



#### Found It! Let's Research Plants in the Park

Together with your child, explore and research the plants you find in your garden or at the park.

There are many learning opportunities right in your surroundings.



# The Joy of Harvesting - Experience Harvesting with Your Family

How are the vegetables we eat grown?
Experience harvesting and other activities with your family that you can't usually do.



# Parent and Child as Artists - Compare Each Other's Strengths

Beautiful landscapes are often closer to home than you think. Have the whole family paint together and compare each other's works.



### **Using All Your Senses - Connect with Nature**

Taste the scenery, listen to the birds, feel the air... why not take time to appreciate nature together? There's so much to learn from the natural world.



# Feeling Like a Chef - Put What You Learned in Class to Use

Put your home economics class skills into practice and try cooking together. You might end up creating an original family recipe!



## **Process for Reporting "Learcation Day"**

# Work with your child to plan "Learcation Day." What to plan 1 Date of activity 2 Location of activity 3 Learning objectives <Things to keep in mind > Up to three days can be taken per year. Activities must be together with parents or guardians. For classes that are missed, students will study at home. The "Learning opportunities" can be found in nearby places, so there's no need to travel far. \*The "Learcation Card" and other resources to help plan activities, including recommended spots and activity examples, are available on the prefecture's Learcation Day Portal Site. "Learcation Day" "Learcation D

### 2. Submit the Plan

Submit the **Learcation Card** to the class teacher in advance.

<Things to keep in mind>

☐ Submissions are required at least 14 days before the activity.

This is to ensure safe school lunch provisions and account for food ingredient procurement and waste. However, submissions on the day of the activity are also allowed.

Activity Examples

Portal Site

☐ There are no specific dates or periods when "Learcation Day" cannot be taken.

Please refer to the school's annual or monthly schedule and plan accordingly with your Family.

### 3. Participate in Learcation

Engage in learning and activities with your child outside of school.

### 4. Reflect on the Experience

Discuss with your child what they learned and plan for future activities.



## Q1 Why did Aichi Prefecture create the "Learcation Day"?

A1 The Aichi Prefecture "Holiday Reform" project aims to improve work-life balance across the prefecture and boost regional revitalization by enhancing productivity. As part of this initiative, "Learcation Day" was established. According to a survey by the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications, about 45% of people work on Saturdays and 30% on Sundays, making it difficult for many families to spend time with their children on their days off. To support these families, "Learcation Day" was created, allowing parents to engage in learning and activities with their children on weekdays.

# Q2 Can "Learcation Day" be taken consecutively? Can unused days be carried over to next year?

A2 "Learcation Day" can be taken consecutively, but any unused days cannot be carried over to the following year.

# Q3 Can I go on a trip during "Learcation Day"?

A3 Since "Learcation" combines learning for the child and vacation for the parent, a learning element is required. As long as there is a learning component, it is possible to go on a trip, but since it is meant as an alternative to essential lessons, it is important to discuss and plan carefully at home. However, it is not necessary to go on a trip to participate in "Learcation Day."

# Q4 What activities qualify as "Learcation"?

"Learcation" involves activities that: ①Are done with the parent, and ②Are experiential or inquiry-based learning activities. Therefore, any activity that meets these criteria qualifies as "Learcation." You should discuss with your child what to learn and decide on the activity. There are plenty of opportunities for learning even in familiar places.

## Q5 Are there any changes compared to the previous year?

A5 There are no changes from the 2024 academic year.

### < Contact Information >

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