

Research Activity Report
Supported by “Leading Graduate Program in Primatology and Wildlife Science”
 (Please be sure to submit this report after the trip that supported by PWS.)

	2019. 08, 14
Affiliation/Position	Primate Research Institute/D1
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1. Country/location of visit
Tokyo, Japan
2. Research project
Marunouchi Kids Jamboree
3. Date (departing from/returning to Japan)
2019. 08. 11 – 2019. 08. 12
4. Main host researcher and affiliation
Seiko Fukushima (Kyoto University)
5. Progress and results of your research/activity (You can attach extra pages if needed)
Please insert one or more pictures (to be publicly released). Below each picture, please provide a brief description.
<p>From August 13 to August 15, Kyoto University had a booth at the Marunouchi Kids Jamboree. This event aims to promote educative and fun activities for kids (pre-school/elementary/early secondary school) during summer. It happens once a year at the Tokyo International Forum and the 2019 special edition was about the Olympic Games, that will happen in Japan next year.</p> <p>I contributed to the exhibition on animals in sports in different cultures. Dog Agility is one of the most popular dog sports in Brazil. According to the Brazilian Agility Commission (CBA), there are about 400 competitors in the country. It is a competitive sport practiced by a team of one dog and one person, known as driver or handler. The driver guides his dog using only gestures and verbal commands and must be very strategic in order to complete the courses in the correct timing. It is an obstacle course made up of jumps, tunnels, and walkways that are complicated enough that a dog could not make them correctly without human direction.</p> <p>The Primate Research Institute team presented about “Animal Locomotion” (figure). The Primate Order includes 233 living species, grouped in 13 families, distributed by African, Asia and South America. Primate species have a tremendous variety of morphological traits. For example, the smallest primate weights 30gs (pygmy mouse lemur) and the largest weighs up to 200 kgs (western lowland gorillas). Such variety is consequence of the diversity of habitats in which primates live in, from dense forests to dry savannas, from sea level to high mountains. Therefore, primates developed a great variety of skeleton structures providing several types of locomotion: quadruple, bipedal, brachiation and knuckle walking. We wanted kids to able to compare anatomical features (characterized by colors) and the different ways primates walk, in a fun and engaging way. So, we created pieces to represent primate movements that kids could manipulate. Designer and illustrator Jon Correa was responsible for the art and concept of the work. We produced them in colorful acrylic and assembled the joints with acrylic screws.</p> <p>As models we chose:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - gibbon for brachiation - gorilla for knuckle walking - human for bipedalism - Japanese macaque for quadrupedalism <p>Impressions of the event: the kids enjoyed playing with the pieces very much. They listened to the brief explanation about the way of locomoting of the animals they liked the most and got a stamp in the end. Many children came back several times to the booth to play more with the pieces. I also noticed that the parents and the children understood the meaning of the colors and talked about how similar (or different) one structure was from one species to another. We had a lot of positive feedbacks.</p>

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KUPRI booth themed “Animal Locomotion” at the Marunouchi Kids Jamboree



Acrylic pieces especially produced for KUPRI’s “Animal Locomotion” booth at the Marunouchi Kids Jamboree 2019, Tokyo (design by @joncosan)

6. Others

I would like to thank PWS for the financial and organizational support. Thanks to Jon Correa (UEMG, Brazil) for developing all the acrylic models and for the technical support during the whole process. Also, I would like to thank teacher Dean Hester from Nagoya International School for welcoming us at NIS Design Lab and help cutting the acrylic pieces.