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. 06, 04
Affiliation/Position	Wildlife Research Center/M1
Name	Scott Jenkins

1. Country/location of visit

Koshima Island, Japan

2. Research project

Study on memory and dominance in Japanese Macaques

3. Date (departing from/returning to Japan)

2019. 05. 07 – 2019. 05. 12 (7 days)

4. Main host researcher and affiliation

Professor Hideki Sugiura, Wildlife Research Center, 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.

This May, I traveled to Koshima Island in Miyazaki prefecture as a student in the Koshima Field Science Course. I stayed on Koshima Island for 3 days. I conducted and experiment on the Japanese Macaques living on Koshima, where I drew 3 concentric circles and placed a large amount of wheat in the center circle. This created a valuable food source that could only be accessed by one monkey at a time. By observing which monkeys occupied the center circle and hoe long they spent eating, I was able to make observations on the dominance rankings of different monkeys in the main group.

This trip taught me a lot about conducting experiments in the field. Conducting my experiment helped me to see how I could modify my methods to get better results, as well as how I could include plans for statistical analysis in my experimental design. It was also my first time seeing primates in the wild. Seeing the amount of effort that went into keeping careful records of each monkey was fascinating. It was easy to see how identifying individuals made it possible to draw more meaningful conclusions about behavior. It was also interesting how some monkeys washed the wheat they were given during provisioning, since Koshima Macaques were one of the first species to have socially transmitted behaviors studied.

Overall, I thoroughly enjoyed myself on Koshima, and I am looking forward to having more adventures during my time at the WRC.

*Please have your mentor check your report before submitting it to [report@wildlife-science.org].

6. Others

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1: Experimental Setup



2: A juvenile monkey investigates a porta potty, and a monkey sits on a clothesline.