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Article :**Volcanic Stones Found in Baby Sea Turtle's Body in Okinawa.
Did it Eat Them Accidentally?**

Directions: Read the following article aloud.

The incident follows the eruption of a submarine volcano in August this year, which has sent large masses of the floating stones toward the Japanese coastline.

A large amount of volcanic stones — known as pumice — were found in the body of a young sea turtle that had been rescued on the Okinawa coast, according to a spokesman for the Okinawa Churashima Foundation on November 13.

The foundation believes that the turtle had accidentally eaten the pumice stones which have been drifting since the August eruption of the Fukutoku-Okanoba submarine volcano in the Ogasawara Islands.

The cause of death of the endangered green turtle is still unknown. It had been found in a weakened condition on a sandy beach near Chatan Town in Okinawa on November 11, and was taken to the Okinawa Churaumi Aquarium. It died the next day.

A computed tomography (CT) scan confirmed that there were large amounts of pumice in its intestines. The turtle, whose shell was 6.5 cm long, is believed to have been born during the Summer.

According to Isao Kawazu, Ph.D. who focuses on reproductive biology and ecology of sea turtles at the the Okinawa Churashima Foundation's Research Center, "Because it was a small turtle, it may not have been able to eliminate the stones from its intestinal tract."

Pumice believed to have come from the eruption has been found in various parts of Okinawa and Kagoshima prefectures, as well as in Shikinejima (Nijima-village), one of the smaller Izu Islands of Tokyo prefecture, and more recently along other parts of Japan's Pacific coastline.

2 Key phrases and vocabulary

Directions: First repeat after your tutor and then read aloud by yourself.

1. Accidentally 誤って、偶然に、たまたま、うっかり、思わず

I accidentally erased the file I need for a meeting tomorrow.

2. endangered (動物や植物の種が)絶滅の危機にある

Some of the most endangered species in the world are the rhinos.

3. various 様々な、別々の、多様な

The car's interior is available in various color combinations.

4. A as well as B AだけでなくBも、AもBも、BはもちろんAも

She speaks Chinese as well as French.

3 Questions

Directions: Read the questions aloud and answer them.

1. What may have caused the death of the young turtle?

2. Where did all the pumice come from?

3. Do you know what other damages these drifting pumice have been causing?

4. What natural disasters do you worry about the most?

4 日本語関連記事： 子ウミガメ体内に大量軽石、誤食か沖縄

沖縄県の海岸で保護され、後に死んだ子ウミガメの体内から大量の軽石が見つかったことが13日、沖縄美ら島財団への取材で分かった。財団は小笠原諸島の海底火山「福德岡ノ場」の噴火で発生し、漂流していた軽石を誤食したとみている。

財団によると、絶滅危惧種のアオウミガメで死因は不明。北谷町の砂浜で11日に弱った状態で見つかり、沖縄美ら海水族館が保護。翌12日に死んだ。CTスキャンで腸などに大量の軽石があるのを確認した。甲羅の長さは6・5センチで、今年の夏ごろ生まれたとみられる。

同財団総合研究センター動物研究室の河津勲博士(生態学)は「小さなカメなので、腸管から排便として抜けなかったのではないかと話した。

噴火によるとみられる軽石は、沖縄県や鹿児島県の各地のほか、伊豆諸島の式根島(東京都新島村)でも確認された。

出典：子ウミガメ体内に大量軽石、誤食か 沖縄

<https://japan-forward.com/japanese/%e5%ad%90%e3%82%a6%e3%83%9f%e3%82%ac%e3%83%a1%e4%bd%93%e5%86%85%e3%81%ab%e5%a4%a7%e9%87%8f%e8%bb%bd%e7%9f%b3%e3%80%81%e8%aa%a4%e9%a3%9f%e3%81%8b%e3%80%80%e6%b2%96%e7%b8%84/>

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