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[Creativity] Taiwan Elementary School Students Show Creativity in iENA

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CNA (2010/10/30) The average age of the participants from Taiwan in iENA (International Trade Fair "Ideas-Inventions-New Products") is getting younger; the youngest inventor from Taiwan in iENA 2010 is an eight-year-old elementary school student. This indicates the encouraging environment for invention in the elementary education institutions in Taiwan.

Ci-chang YEH (葉其璋), an elementary school student in Kaohsiung, is only eight years old this year. His invention, a lifeguard swim trunks which can prevent from drowning, is now in the process of patenting in Taiwan. His eleven-year-old sister Yi-you YEH (葉怡佑) also invents an energy-saving folding desk lamp with solar panels, which can be used as the charger for mobil phones.

In order to nurture more inventors and to promote the invention atmosphere among the children, the instructor of Ci-chang YEH and Yi-you YEH, Wun-chan HSIEH, a teacher in the Department of Industrial Design, National United University, spent a lot of time giving courses in elementary schools.

More and more invention clubs appeared in high schools or elementary schools in Taiwan now. Ministry of Education is now drafting regulations to sponsor the international air tickets for the young inventors when they need to participate in international competitions.

Wun-chan HSIEH thinks, instead of OEM, what Taiwan needs for its further economic development is creativity; we have to help our children find their interest in invention.

Reference: <u>CNA 2010/10/30</u> (Chinese)
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