Ruins of the Great East Japan Earthquake: Sendai Arahama Elementary School

At the time of the Great East Japan Earthquake on March 11, 2011, 320 people including students, teachers, and local residents evacuated here at Arahama Elementary School, where the tsunami came up to the 2nd floor.

To prevent lives being sacrificed to a tsunami again in the future, this building was opened to the public as disaster runs dedicated to passing on the danger of tsunamis and lessons learned to future generations.

Facility Information
- Address: 3-3-1 Shinbokincho, Arahama, Ward, Miyagi Prefecture
- Telephone: 022-355-8817 (Only available in Japanese)
- Website: https://www.city.sendai.jp/kankyo/hikitesu/ruin_arahama_elementaryschool/html
- Hours: 10:00–16:00
- Reservation: Not required, (required in the case that a guided tour is requested)
- Closed: Mondays, the 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month (in the case of a national holiday, closed the following day), the day after a national holiday (except Saturdays, Sundays and national holidays), New Years, other irregular days
- Entrance Fee: Free
- Public Transportation: From Sendai City-Subway Tozai Line Arahama Station, take city bus to former Arahama Elementary School (final stop, 15 minutes from Arahama Station)
- By car: Sendai Tohoku Road, 10 minutes from Sendai-higashi interchange (free parking available on-site)

Exhibit Contents
- Outside the building and on the 1st and 2nd floors, photos display the damage to the school and the state of the surrounding area immediately after the tsunami.
- On the 4th floor, video and photos depict what occurred at Arahama Elementary School from the time of the tsunami until 27 hours later when all the evacuees were rescued; exhibits also include disaster preparedness, the history and culture of the Arahama area, and memories of Arahama Elementary School.
- From the roof, you can see the entire Arahama area. While comparing the view before and after the disaster, you can observe the state of recovery progress.
- Brochures of the facility are available in English, Traditional Chinese, Simplified Chinese, Korean, and Thai.

Access by public transportation

International Research Institute of Disaster Science (IRiDeS), Tohoku University

center for remembering 3.11 (inside sendai mediathèque)
Sendai 3.11 Memorial Community Center

The Sendai 3.11 Memorial Community Center is a place to learn about the Great East Japan Earthquake, but also functions as a gateway to the eastern coastal area which was heavily damaged by the tsunami. By conveying memories and experience, and creating wisdom and lessons through communication, it will become a hub to connect to the future and the rest of the world.

Exhibit Contents
- In the Community Space on the 1st floor, information about the coastal areas of eastern Sendai City, such as tsunami inundation areas, is shown through 3D maps, slides, and a book corner.
- The 2nd floor Gallery includes permanent exhibitions about disaster damage and the state of reconstruction and recovery, and rotating exhibits that tell about the disaster from various points of view.
- The 2nd floor Studio can be used for activities reflecting on visits, training, or workshops.
- The 3rd floor Rooftop Garden can be used for taking a rest or for events.
- Reservations are required for events at the Studio or Rooftop Garden.
- Handouts about the permanent exhibit are available in English, Traditional Chinese, Simplified Chinese, Korean, and Thai.

International Research Institute of Disaster Science (IRIDeS), Tohoku University

Established after the 2011 Great East Japan Earthquake, science and humanities researchers work together at IRIDeS.

Open to the public (Explanations available in Japanese/English)
- Exhibition: showcase of research examples of natural disaster mechanisms, emergency response, recovery, and education on reconstruction and disaster risk reduction.
- Entrance hall, 1st floor, Monday-Friday 13:00-16:00, no reservation required
- 3D documentary: The Great Tsunami in Japan: Reflecting on the 2011 Disaster (produced by NHK-MT, academically supervised by IRIDeS Director, Fumihiko Imanishi)
- Main hall, 1st floor, shown around twice a month.

Facility Information
- Address: 2-1 Kasugamachi, Aoba-ku, Sendai (inside Sendai mediatheque)
- Telephone: 022-713-4483 (Only available in Japanese)
- Website: http://record311.smt.jp/

Center for remembering 3.11 (commonly known as recorder311)

"recorder311" is a platform for independent dissemination and recording of the Great East Japan Earthquake and the restoration and recovery processes, through collaboration among residents, experts, and staff. In the 7th floor Studio, participants can record and make use of media such as video editing. Records gathered up until now can be viewed on the website or on the second floor mobile material room "Archive vehicle" (archive + vehicle).