

Education Reports

Nest Nature Club, Nasik, Wildlife week Report

Zoo Outreach Organisation supplied education kits for our Wildlife Week programme. "NEST" Nature club tried these packets to conduct meaningful and memorable educational experiences with the help of ZOOs suggestions and guidelines. For this programme Mr. S.J. Tamaichekar (R.F.O., Wildlife, Nandur Madhmeshwar, Nashik), Mr. Dr. Thaksen Gorane Sir & Mr. Anil Mali (well-known wildlife photographer) were present as guests and experts. After a welcome ceremony we started our programmes one by one.

Starting with Worlds Greatest Cat, the Tiger, Mr. Tamaichekar, Mr. Gorane, Mr. Anil Mali guided a discussion about Tigers after which we conducted a tiger-rakhi tying ceremony with each child tying rakhi on the wrist of another one. The booklet called Tiger! The world's Greatest cat helped us discuss aspects of nature such as habitat, carnivores, hunting, food, subspecies of tigers, territory, camouflage, illegal hunting, deforestation, etc. Our primary message was that it is our duty to protect



animals and plants for our future as well as theirs". We conducted a Question and Answer session and after this students put on their masks and carried the placards. They were photographed roaring like a tiger. Later students made a small drama on the importance of the tiger in the food chain. In the end a drawing and colouring competition was held for the students and a prize distribution ceremony at the closing of programme where guests Shri. Tamaichekar, Mr. Gorane, Mr. Anil Mali complimented the programme. "NEST" Nature Club, Nasik members requests more opportunities to do work with Zoo Outreach Organisation for wildlife awareness and Conservation programmes.

Submitted by Jas Anil Mali, Nest Nature Club, Nasik, Maharashtra.

Wildlife Week with Bats - Modern Education Society, Nashik

Modern Education Society's Secondary school, Old Cidco, NASIK has organized an educational programme on "Fruit Bats of South Asia". We tried to introduce the subject of fruit bats with a demonstration, explanation and interpretation. For this programme Mr. Digamber Gadgil (Life member Z.O.O.) Mr. Anil Mali (our school teacher & well-known wildlifer) were present as guest and expert. After welcome ceremony Shri. Digamber Gadgil, Shri.

Anil Mali shared some general information about bats. Mr. Anil Mali explained the 'Myths of bats' in which students also participated.

We conduct a small ceremony of rakhi tying of bat bracelets with each child tying on the wrist of another one. After "Rakhi" ceremony we discussed what can we do for conservation of bats.

Students conducted a drama on saving bats from trappers. In closing ceremony students thanked Zoo Outreach Organisation, Guest Shri. Digamber Gadgil, Shri. Anil Mali. Mrs. Gaidhani S.S., Mrs. Sheldar N.V., Teachers. **Submitted by: Head Mistress, Secondary School, Modern Education Society, Old Cidco, Nasik, Maharashtra.**



Wildlife Week Report

Wildlife Week Celebrations were conducted by Zoological Survey of India, Freshwater Biological Station, Hyderabad, in collaboration with Botanical Survey of India, Hyderabad, Biodiversity Research and Conservation Society (BRaConS), Hyderabad and Andhra Pradesh Forest Department on October 22, 2008. Students and teachers from five different schools participated in these celebrations. The celebrations took



off with welcome address by the officer-in-charge of Zoological Survey of India, Freshwater Biological Station, Hyderabad, Dr. C. A. Nageswara Rao followed by the Officer-in-charge of Botanical Survey of India, Hyderabad, Dr. P. Venu, followed by the second in

command officers of the respective organizations. Dr. C. Srinivasulu, Assistant Professor, Department of Zoology, Osmania University was the special invitee to motivate and enlighten students and teachers alike about the importance of this day and the importance of conserving wildlife.

Dr. C. Srinivasulu, started the day by speaking in detail about wildlife in general and the perils that the wildlife is facing in the present day world with a slide show about amphibians and their importance in the ecosystem as well as the dangers that plague them. Afterwards education material from Zoo Outreach Organization featuring 'Amphibian Ark 2008 – India Campaign' along with bookmarks, stickers, etc., The children were asked to wear the masks, hold the placards and pledge out loud that they would become aware and make others aware that amphibians should be protected and wildlife in general should be appreciated and protected but not ill-treated. After this exercise the kids proceeded for a snack break following which there was an elocution competition on wildlife and its conservation.

This was followed by a drawing-painting competition on the same theme. After completion of the drawing-painting competition the children assembled for a short film screening on one of the wildlife sanctuaries of Andhra Pradesh by the personnel from the Andhra Pradesh Forest Department. Later, Dr. C. Srinivasulu conducted a quiz for the students about amphibians from the information gathered from his talk-presentation. For those who answered correctly he presented an amphibian-ark 2008 t-shirt. This was then followed by a quiz on wildlife marking the end of an exhilarating day filled with happy and excited students and equally enlightened teachers of the respective schools and was followed by a distribution ceremony and valedictory function. **Submitted by: Bhargavi Srinivasulu, Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh.**

Conservation Himalayas Wildlife Week 2008 : Conservation Himalayas celebrated the wildlife week-2008 by organizing two different programmes in Uttarakhand. The first programme was held on 5th October 2008 in the Corbett Wildlife Training Centre at Kalagarh, Uttarakhand and the second on 7 October. The theme of the first programme was on the issue of human elephant conflict and elephant conservation. The theme of the 2nd programme was Monkey Manners, or how to behave with monkeys & conducted at the Chunakhan ecotourism Centre.



Besides trainees of the Corbett Wildlife Training Centre (CWTC), the local villagers were the key participants in the programme. Dr. Sahoo, Project Officer conducted the programme with the Director of the CWTC. The



programme was divided into two sessions: in the first Narender Chauhan gave a presentation on the issue of human elephant conflict (HEC) in the villages around the Corbett National Park. This was followed by an interactive session and two power point presentations about elephants and the second on trends of HEC in the fringe villages across the Shiwalik elephant corridor. The local villagers participated by sharing their real life experience with the wild elephants and stressed on an immediate need for a community-friendly strategic plan to ease the community suffering from HEC. The second session of the programme was an activity session in which all the participants were divided into five different working groups and assigned the task to prepare community-based HEC management blueprint on a chart sheet. At the end of the programme, each participant was given elephants kits of ZOO as resource materials.

On 7 October 2008, the programme included 15 participants from local villages and 20 forest staff of the Terai West Forest Division. Dr. Santosh Sahoo and the SDO of the Terai West Forest Division conducted the full session of the programme. The participants discussed the problem of monkey menace in the Chunakhan area. The problem of monkey menace was discussed from the point of view of the protection from the monkeys in areas where there is a strong myth in the society about the monkeys. The participants openly explained different types of local myths associated with the rhesus monkeys and hanuman langurs. Besides this discussion, one interactive session was devoted on behaviour with monkeys. ZOO literature on monkey manners was explained one by one through examples and experiences. Participants pledged to follow these rules. In the end part of the programme, the SDO of the Terai West Forest Division appealed the participants to educate the fellow villagers not to tease monkeys and to follow the ten rules of the Monkey Manners packet. Each participant then received a ZOO Monkey Manner kit.

Submitted by: Dr. Santosh Kumar Sahoo, # 977, Top Floor, Sector 41-A, Chandigarh

Wildlife week at Papi hills, Andhra Pradesh

WWF-India is engaged in a multitude of activities for protection and conservation of the environment in the Indian context. Climate Change and Energy Conservation are among the chief areas of concern for the organization. The Forest and Biodiversity Conservation Division strives to promote and enhance conservation of forest ecosystems in the country through a participatory approach involving key stakeholders. Through its Environment Education Programme, it aims at strengthening individual and institutional capacity in nature conservation and environmental protection through widespread education and awareness.

Nature Camp to Papi hills

On the occasion of Wildlife week WWF Andhra Pradesh State office took 120 students with teachers of Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan School, Hyderabad to Papi hills as a nature camp on 1-3 October, 2008. WWF's staff organized a small camp site near by Godavari delta region. Students were given small bamboo huts to stay. The event was started by a trek into the forest. Students learned about different varieties of flora like herbs and shrubs which are native to that area and fauna which includes of butterflies, insects, and fishes. A tribal dance was organized to illustrate the value of the forest and wildlife to the children. Next day WWF staff conducted a skit play



with the students on the importance of Bats and amphibian (frogs) sent by Zoo Outreach Organization, Coimbatore. This is followed by an interactive quiz competition. The winners were honored with the wildlife kits of tiger, bear and the books on primates. **Submitted by: Lalita Maharana, WWF Andhra State Office, Hyderabad.**

Wildlife Week Celebrate at Dr. Shivaram Park

The "Wildlife Week 2008" Celebration held at Dr. Shivaram Karnath PBP from 4-6.10.2008. The Programme was inaugurated by Sri. J.Krishna Palemar, Honable Minister for sports and Inland Water Transport, Ecology and Environment Sri. K. Abhayachandra Jain MLA, was the president for the function. Sri.K.P. Sucharitha Shetty, President, Zilla Panchyat, D.K., Sri Indu B. Srivastava, IFS, PCCF (Wildlife) Bangalore. Sri. H.J.Bhandary, Director, PBP welcomed the gathering and also spoke about the importance of the zoo in conservation of rare and endangered animals of Western Ghats. Sri. J.R. Lobo, Executive Director Pilikula Nisarga Dhama spoke on developmental work in Pilikula Biological Park. A vote of thanks proposed by Dr. K.V. Rao, Director, Science Centre, Pilikula Nisarga Dhama. An

Exhibition of Wildlife Photography by Dr. Akthar Hussein, Birds nests collection by Dr. N.A. Madyasta and Sri. Daniel Monteiro's International award winning aquatic birds stamp collection with a note of each bird species was organized. Nearly 500 children from schools of Mangalore and distant places like D.K. Udupi, North Canara District



attended this programme. Competition like Drawing and Quiz on "Nature and Wildlife" were conducted for the school children in 4 categories. Environment education training program for school teachers and nature games was conducted by CEE (centre for Environment Education) Bangalore.

A demonstration of live snakes by Charles Paul, Animal Care Trust, an informative session on identification, handling differentiation between venomous and non venomous snakes and their ecological importance was carried out. Education kits supplied by Zoo outreach organization, Coimbatore on Bats, Bears, Amphibians, Primates etc. were distributed to the participants and also a informative session on these animals for the need of conservation were conducted.

An awareness programme on Rabies, Foot and Mouth disease was conducted by Dr. M.Jayaram Shetty, Veternary Officer of Pilikula



Biological Park and also a ring vaccination camp was organized against rabies and foot and mouth disease of dogs and cattle.

The Zoo Outreach Organization played a pivotal role in the success of the program as it supplied the educational materials. A special vote of thanks towards the Zoo Outreach Organization was proposed by the Director, Pilikula Biological Park. The part played by the Zoo Outreach organization towards the education and conservation of environment needs to be emulated was the message one got from this celebration. Director also thanked the Karnataka State Pollution Control Board for sponsoring the programme. **Submitted by H.J.Bhandary, Director, Dr. Shivaram Karnath Pilikula Biological Park, Mangalore, Karnataka.**