

Education Reports

Amphibians Ark Campaign by disabled students

While world-wide campaigns are going on for amphibians, a special amphibian program to differentially-abled students was conducted by Mrs. Jessie Jayakaran, member, South Asian Network of International Zoo Educators (SAN-IZE), 17 Aug 08 at the CSI Rehabilitation Center, Kodaikanal. With free educational packet supplied by the Zoo Outreach Organisation, Amphibian Ark 2008 was conducted to visually impaired, the deaf and dumb and polio students. All were enthusiastic in tying Rakhis, to do mini-cultural programme with the mask and placard. The present conditions and the duties to safeguard the frog were dealt with the booklet. Mr. Murugasen, resource teacher for the blind read the Eco Matter from the brail book. Maruthupandi, a polio student won the competition and claimed a T-shirt. Sasikumar, a visually impaired student, on the next day shared his experience to 312 other students and general public. Diana a deaf & dumb student won the prize



for answering section. They are all going to share the message for 30 days with the signature campaign. Er. Jayachandran, Secretary said that the institution will make brail copies for follow-up and free pamphlets for distribution. Visually impaired students and the Head Master pasted the amphibian bumper stickers on cars.

Submitted by: Jessie Jayakaran, Email: jessiejey@rediffmail.com

Monkey Manners programme at Kodaikanal

A one-day awareness programme on "Monkey Manners" was conducted at CSI Town Middle School, Kodaikanal on 18 August 08 to 312 students. As the students are living close to monkeys habitat areas and experienced monkey intrusion, the programme was very much interesting. With rakhi, placard, stickers and masks, various sessions were carried out. The students enacted role- plays. On the spot responding competition was conducted. During the intersession it was revealed that one student had the bitter experience of monkey bite last year. Though they were experienced a lot about monkey

menace, the educational package given by the "Zoo Outreach Organisation" gave lot of input on to how to behave with them. The students duplicated



the placard for the procession on the same day. They shared the DON'TS to the general public near the bus stand which was witnessed by monkey troupe nearby. The institution planned to put up a special display near the school for the visitors. The day's programme came to an end with an oath taking and it was published in local Tamil daily Dhinamani.

Submitted by: Jessie Jayakaran, Email: jessiejey@rediffmail.com

Ozone Protection Day and the Amphibian Ark

One day programme on Amphibian Ark was conducted to 31 staff and 73 Self Help Group women of the Society for People's Education and Economic change in Sivagasi West, TN on 16 Sept 2008 in connection with the Ozone Protection Day. In order to educate and equip the people in environmental protection, a different approach was initiated. All types of environmental degradation and its impact on living beings was highlighted giving importance to the protection of Ozone layer. Various aspects of ozone layer were highlighted with the Ozone chart published by CEE Ahmedabad. The rest of the day's program was on Year of the Frog 2008. The 31 staff were trained on the amphibian crisis with the educational pack received from Zoo Outreach Organisation. All the activity sessions were of much interest and informative. The interaction between the SHG women and the staff proved the success of the



program. A special role-play enacted by the staff was informative. The women volunteered themselves to spread the matter to at least to 100 members within this month one of the participant coined about the "Limbless Frog" published in THE HINDU. They took an oath and went to their places



with the decision to create a habitat suitable for the frogs to live.

Submitted by: Jessie Jayakaran, Email: jessiejey@rediffmail.com

Amphibian's Day at TNAU Campus, Coimbatore

Amphibian Day was conducted on 9 Sept 08 at Government Primary School, Tamil Nadu Agricultural University Campus, Coimbatore. One hundred students were attended the programme. There was a special talk given by Dr. S. Varadharajan, Assistant Professor, Agricultural Economics, TNAU. He explained the importance of amphibians, its habitat, different kinds of species and its role in our day to day activities. He made them aware of the recent status of our wetlands and drying up of lakes, rivers, contaminating fresh water bodies with industrial effluents and its impact on human health and impact on frog's life. We have conducted competition for the students and distributed the prizes. The students and Head Master had taken oath to spread a word about amphibian crisis to their parents, neighbors and relatives. Zoo Outreach Organisation's amphibian education material was used in this programme and each student had received a packet by Miss S.Saranya M.Sc. Agri (Soil Science) student who sponsored the programme.

Submitted by: R.Dhanapal, Email: cootdhana@yahoo.co.in

