

The UN decade on Biodiversity 2011-2020 programme on Pollinators

On 10 January 2020, The Adrian Loyal School hosted The UN decade on Biodiversity Programme 2011- 2020 “Pollinators are not just bees” the first of its type in Karur District. Pressing forward in sowing the seeds of greatness Correspondent and Principal Janet Ragupathy initiated and ignited the programme by starting the morning Assembly and prayer. Jessie Jayakaran the Resource person, Member and Teacher Volunteer in ZEN South Asia, observed and selected 31 children for the proceedings. The programme was organized in four sessions.

Session one was introduction to Biodiversity and UN measures to encounter the damage caused to it. Jessie chronologically mentioned the measures taken by UN towards biodiversity conservation. Session two started with a short discussion about plants and its uses and the interdependence of animals and plants. Session three was the drawing and colouring and session four was



Drawing a picture of a insect pollinator

about guiding the participants for the future projects. Children were all astonished to know the number of micro and macro living creatures that is dependent on a single plant. The discussion gradually shifted its focus to fruits and flower yielding plants. They also learned about pollination and its importance.

The main focus is on pollinators, which is usually neglected and unnoticed but a prime factor in producing yield and in maintaining the eco balance. It was really surprising to know even the reckless disposal of garbage damages the eco system drastically especially the pollinators, as they prefer to live in a clean environment. The materials supplied by the Zoo Outreach Organisation were quite useful. Children learnt the different types of pollinators viz. vertebrates and invertebrates and their inevitable role in pollination.

The questioning session was so encouraging as the children came forward with immediate



Jessie Jayakaran leading a session on pollinators



Students posing with pollinators headband

responses. Lotus seeds brought by student Krithvi of grade four paved the initial step for making the pollinator corner in the school. A purposeful dance was taught and performed by every child even the teachers too enjoyed the dance which is followed, by the guidance for projects for the future.

Children enjoyed the programme to its full extent by colouring their favourite pollinator. Establishing a pollinator garden will be the ongoing programme. Children were given guidelines for observing and recording the types of pollinators along with the prescribed

time and place. The follow up continued by providing direction even for the involvement of parents and other members at home.

The days programme is an eye opener. Children got a closer view to their immediate environment. They were taught to keep environment clean and green and the logical reason behind it. The UN Biodiversity programme strengthened the Adrian Earth Ambassadors and their responsibilities.

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Students who attended the pollinators programme