

World Environment Day WED 2008 and other summer events Announcement of Education Materials from ZOO/WILD/SANIZE

World Environment Day WED is observed each year on 5 June. Through this event United Nations motivates worldwide awareness of the environment and augments political support and action.

The UN WED for 2008 slogan is **Kick the Habit! Towards a Low Carbon Economy**. Recognising that climate change is becoming the defining issue of our era, UNEP is asking countries, companies and communities to focus on greenhouse gas emissions and how to reduce them. This WED will highlight resources and initiatives that promote low carbon economies and life-styles, such as improved energy efficiency, alternative energy sources, etc. The agenda is to give a human face to environmental issues; empower people to become active agents of sustainable and equitable development; promote an understanding that communities are pivotal to changing attitudes towards environmental issues; and advocate partnership, which will ensure all nations and peoples enjoy a safer and more prosperous future.

WED is not the only educational event which is observed in the spring and summer. We just missed announcing Earth Day, which is an important event internationally, which takes place 22 April along with Water Resource Day. On April 28 World Heritage Day is celebrated ... this is an excellent opportunity to highlight our wildlife -- both animal and plant -- resources and how they make our lives survivable and more pleasant.

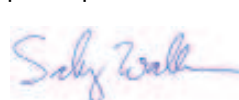
After WED immediately there is World Ocean Day. We have not developed any material for oceans or even creatures which live in oceans but on July 6 there is *Vanamahotsava* Day which you can observe by teaching people about any of our forest animals. *Vanamahotsava* is purely an Indian event but many other countries have something similar and there is even a World Forestry Day.

In India, Zoo Outreach Organisation, with help from associates and sponsors, tries to help wildlife educators celebrate these events (and generally to conduct more education programmes) by providing complimentary educational material with guidelines and with an animal theme — even if the scheduled themes are somewhat remote from animals as such.

Of course all wild animals are intimately related to the earth and the environment, so it is very appropriate to select a taxon group or species and base your WED celebrations around it. This year we are mainly featuring Amphibian education materials as 2008 is the Year of the Frog but materials will be available also on primates, bats, rodents and tiger. The donated material must be used astutely so that a memorable experience occurs instead of target

group individuals simply being handed printed matter. You must discuss specifically the subject of the material or call an expert to do so and to organize some of the suggested games and activities inspired by packet material using one topic per group only.

For getting these materials, as always we request you to write a "proposal" before 15 May, 2008 indicating what you will do, the type of group you will invite (Age, Institution, etc.) and how you will relate the contents to the event and assure us sending report, newspaper clippings and photos of your programme. We look forward to your participation in WED 08.



Sally Walker
Regional Representative
SANIZE



R. Marimuthu
Education Officer
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Available Materials from ZOO

Subject: Amphibians

Frog Rock! On the Amphibian Ark! This packet has information for everyone interested in biodiversity and amphibian conservation with a poster and usual activity items such as Frogs Matter to South Asia booklet, placard, mask, sticker, Rakhi and a bumper sticker meant to be stick on the vehicle bumper. You may order up to 50 pieces).

Frogs T-Shirt: An attractive amphibian t-shirt to use as prizes for competitions in programmes using the amphibian packets. (Limit to number of t-shirts determined by us as per your programme description and demand).

Subject: Primates

Monkey Manners (Tamil, English & Hindi Version):

This introduces kids to a systematic approach to the free-ranging monkey problem which has become such a big issue today. The aim is to give kids (and also parents, many of whom read what kids bring home) a more positive and constructive orientation to this issue hoping that they will adopt a more practical attitude towards the animals and the behaviour. We will send you evaluation form for both organizer and each participant. You may order up to 25 packets. You have to conduct the programme and evaluate at the end. Send back to us all the evaluation forms.

South Asian Primates Colouring book: This 24-page colouring book features all the groups of South Asian primates with background plant drawings - helps kids learn how to differentiate

between them and also what they eats. It comes with a small colour poster of the South Asian primates. You can order up to 25 book. If you are planning a much-focused programme like colouring and painting on site for kids, you could order this.

Guide to South Asian Primates: This 64 pages book contains colour illustrations of all 46 primates with scientific name, status, common names, habit, habitat, niche, diet, elevation, habitat status, distribution, their total population, threats, trade, status in national legislation and a "what you can do" section and maps of their range. The information used in the book is derived from the report of "Conservation Assessment and Management Plan (CAMP) which was held for the South Asian Primates in 2003 and updated in 2007. You may order up to 25 copies.

Subject: Bats (Chiroptera)

Just Bats about Bats! This is a new educational packet about conservation of bats with our usual activity items such as masks rakhis, booklets. etc. sufficient to conduct an entertaining and informative learning programme on bats. You can ask for up to 50 copies.

Bactivities for young batters booklet: This 24 page booklet of activities and games for kids can be used in classroom work with youngsters of about ages 10-15 They would also make good prizes for competitions for kids of that age. Organisers conducting competitions may order upto 15 as prizes. If you wish to organize a programme using this booklet for a big group of kids, send a very detailed description of your programme.

Subject: Tigers

Tiger Tool Kit packets: Very informative packets on tiger conservation which contains information booklet of all existing subspecies of tigers, masks, rakhi, placard and beautiful colour sticker. You may order up to 50 copies.

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