

Education Reports

Human Animal Coexistence programme at Alagarkoil, Madurai, TN

Human Animal Coexistence is the need of the hour in today's life. At home, school, hill areas and in picnic spots everybody is facing an unexpected situations, where they are expected to save the life of the animals besides their own. In this connection one day programme on human animal coexistence particularly on monkey menace was conducted on September 2014 for 100 students of 9 std (14-15yrs) in Arulmigu Sundrarasa High School, situated at the entrance of the Alagarkoil Hills, Madurai. Observing and walking near the monkey is the daily routine of the students besides their studies. Without the deep knowledge of monkey's behavior in different situations the students just play with them either by teasing or feeding them. With a few materials supplied by Zoo Outreach Organisation-colour monkey posters, pictures and pamphlets "Know your monkey manners" programme was conducted. They imitated various actions of the monkey but they never come across the interconnectedness of their facial expressions at different situations. Students were encouraged to show faces of the monkeys. They were told that the most important five actions not to feed the monkey, not to yell by showing your teeth to them, not to irritate them, do not run when they chase and not



The student eager to learn about "Monkey Manners"

to try to get back your belongings from them because your life is most precious. Mrs. Sharmila, Teacher Coordinator along with the students shared the information that they learned out of this program to the general public and distributed the pamphlet which was very much appreciated

WLW at O.C.P.M. Govt. HSS, Madurai, TN

About 600 kids of class I to V along with their teachers of O.C.P.M. Government Higher Secondary School, Madurai assembled underneath the trees of the school campus on 7 October 2014 to celebrate wildlife week and moreover to look, observe, hear and enact like wild animals and their behaviors. Mrs. Nirmala, Correspondent welcomed the participants and gave the

introductory talk on wild animals. Mrs. Leela Manohari, Headmistress briefed about the day's importance in a joyful and simple manner besides giving a note for the follow up. Through the able guidance of the Headmistress the teachers prepared animal masks of elephant, monkey, bat and bears. Mrs. Jessie Jeyakaran taught them about what is wildlife and differentiation between the domestic and wild animals besides the frequently visiting animals to our home and the surrounding areas. Subsequently, the participants were divided into groups according to the masks they put on. The coordinator explained about the animal's habitat, food, behavior and other information in detail. Each group shared their animal's present status. Mrs. Jeeva, Teacher Coordinator spoke on the precautionary steps to be taken at the time of unexpected wild animal's confrontation. After the interactive session, students went through the posters, pictures, pamphlets and others provided by Zoo Outreach Organisation. Mrs. Esther did an evaluation of their understanding. Both these two teachers are well experienced in conducting conservation education programs for the past 10 years. The school management thanked ZOO for the contribution of materials since 2002 through Mrs. Jessie Jeyakaran, the program coordinator. **Submitted by: Mrs. Jessie Jeyakaran, Chennai. Email: jessiejey@rediffmail.com.**

Sloth bear group sharing their information

