

## Report of the Bat Education Program conducted by INSONA, October - November, 2004

G.M. Oza\*

INSONA (International Society of Naturalists) had announced an informative interactive program on Bats with the primary school children of various schools in Vadodara and the undergraduate students of The Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda. The students were to be quizzed regarding the myths and facts about bats, so they were asked to be prepared for such an interaction. They were also asked to gather any information on bats in the form of play cards or put on T-shirts or any garment on this aspect. The idea was to have fun, or do some kind of an intellectual experience connected not just with learning but in the process make the younger minds imbibe the values of conservation and preservation.

The event was co-ordinated by Dr. Sapna Surendran, INSONA volunteer and Ms. Leontien Rosenmuller, AIESAC trainee from The Netherlands, under the guidance of Prof. G.M.Oza (General Secretary, INSONA) and Mrs. Premlata Oza (Joint Secretary, INSONA). The program with the University students was divided into two phases: Day 1 was a very intensive classroom discussion on the different species of Bats, their habits and habitat and the myths and facts. Day 2 was a field trip to a bat colony amidst the hustle bustl of Gorwa main road,

4kms east from the Vadodara railway station. This Banyan tree supports more than 250 *Pteropus maximus*, the Indian Flying Fox (photo attached). Our talk attracted a lot of local children from the neighbourhood who were also taught few snippets regarding the bats. The second program was done with the primary school children of various schools of Baroda at the Motibaugh Palace Compound, the office of INSONA. The children had done their homework well enough and were very enthusiastic in answering the queries put forth. All of them had put on bat badges and tattoos made by themselves. The educational kit on bats provided by the Zoo Outreach Organisation was distributed to the participants which proved to be of great value in terms of giving information on conservation of the Bat species.

Thus the interactive program was very educative and a positive approach towards the awareness of Bats and their habitat was laid thereof in the minds of these youngsters. This shall go a long way in taking care of the Bats for human well being.

---

\* General Secretary, International Society of Naturalists, C/o. Oza Building, Salatwada, Vodara 390 001, Gujarat, Email: <insona@123india.com>



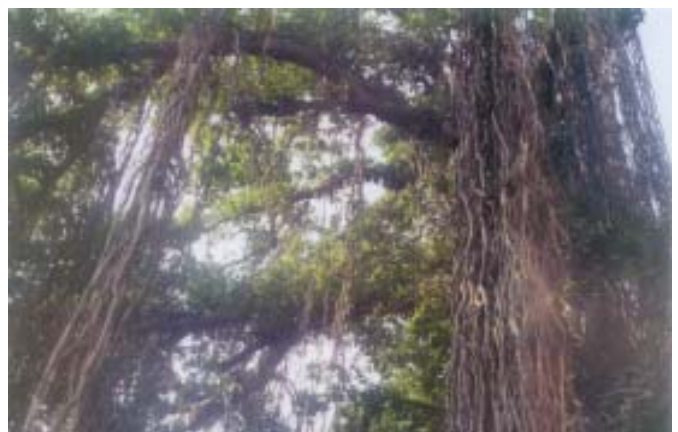
The school children with masks provided by Zoo Outreach Organisation and bat badges prepared by themselves



The quiz program on Bats with the school children of Vadodara. Also seen in photo Mrs. Premlata Oza, Prof. G.M.Oza and Ms. Leontien Rosenmuller



The First year undergraduate students of M.S.University with the local children who participated in the Bat Education program



The Giant Banyan tree which roosts more than 250 *Pteropus maximus* at Gorwa

## Wildlife Week Celebrations in East Godavari District, Andhra Pradesh, October 2004

R.J. Rao\*

It was a great opportunity to celebrate 2004 Wildlife Week in my home district – East Godavari in Andhra Pradesh. In connection with a study on Reintroduction of crocodiles I have been conducting research studies in the Coringa Wildlife Sanctuary, 18 km south of Kakinada, Head quarters of East Godavari District. Since every year I participate in the Wildlife Week celebrations in Gwalior, I discussed with the local people concerned with Environmental conservation to celebrate the 50<sup>th</sup> Wildlife Week in Kakinada. A request was made to Z.O.O. to provide the Educational material.

After obtaining the Educational material on Reptiles from the Z.O.O. several programmes were organised.

### Date 1<sup>st</sup> October 2004

Interactive meeting in the Deltaic Regional Centre, National Institute of Hydrology, Kakinada to develop an action plans for conservation of natural resources in East Godavari District. Participants are Scientists of DRC, NIH; Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute, Kakinada; MS Swaminathan Research Foundation.

### Date 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2004

Lecture on “Measures for Costal Conservation” in the Seminar on Coastal Ecosystems organised by Environmental Centre, Rajamundry.

### Date: 4<sup>th</sup> October 2004

Wildlife Week was celebrated by the A.P. Forest Department in the office of the Conservator of Forests, Rajamundry. Science teachers and students from more than 8 schools attended the programme. Educational packets obtained from the Z.O.O. were distributed to the students by the Conservator of Forests and Dr. R J Rao.

### Date: 5<sup>th</sup> October 2004

Wildlife Week was celebrated in the Mini Zoo, Green Belt area, Nagarjuna Fertilisers and Chemicals Ltd, Kakinada. Dr Rao gave a talk on conservation of Indian Biodiversity to the students of Akshara School, NFCL. Educational packets obtained from the Z.O.O. were distributed to the students. Dr. Rao and Mr. Srinivasa Rao, Curator of the zoo gave a practical training on the importance of captive management of wildlife animals to the staff in the Mini zoo.

### Date: 6<sup>th</sup> October 2004

The Green core centre, Kakinada organised a seminar on Wildlife habitats and their conservation in the Municipal School, Kakinada. The ‘Green teachers’ and the students for several schools participated. Educational booklets were distributed. Dr Rao gave a talk on habitats of Indian Wildlife and concept of Protected areas.

The participants appreciated all the programmes and the local media also highlighted the need of Indian Wildlife conservation in general and East Godavari District in particular. The Educational Booklets provided by the Z.O.O have created enthusiasm among the students particularly the stickers, posters, banners, masks etc. I thank the Z.O.O. to provide the material for distribution to the students of several schools in East Godavari District, Andhra Pradesh.

---

\* School of Studies in Zoology, Jiwaji University, Gwalior 474 001, Madhya Pradesh, Email: <soszool@rediffmail.com>



Students Holding educational material during the seminar on Measures for Costal Conservation



Forest Department Staff & Students of various schools



Students holding educational materials during the seminar



50<sup>th</sup> Wildlife Week celebration



Students & Teachers of different schools



Conservator of Forests, Wildlife week celebrations, A.P. Forest Department

## Wildlife Week Celebration 2004 conducted in AAZP

N. Baskar\*

Arignar Anna Zoological Park has conducted wildlife week celebration with the help of zoo volunteers and forest personal in a successful manner. Three special programmes were organized for students and teachers on the occasion of the wildlife week celebration. The 50<sup>th</sup> wildlife week was celebrated with great enthusiasm to enrich the younger generation on wildlife conservation management. The AAZP zoo staff quarters school children were the target group for the special programme organized by the zoo education section and they belongs to different schools like Government middle and matriculation schools of in and around Chennai. The different age group of the children gathered in the zoo auditorium and they were focused on "care for bears" programme. The different species of bears, puzzle, cross word, rakhi partner, wearing mask activities were conducted for the different age group. Soon after the session they were given T-shirts and taken to the bear enclosure and conducted on spot education on various issues of the bear group, method of exhibits and their way of scientific management in the captivity.

A teacher training programme was organized on 06.10.2004 during the wild week celebration. A total number of 53 teacher participated in the special programme; The target group

comprises from secondary grade and the post graduate level of teachers. A day long programme was organized in the zoo auditorium and they were taught on Biodiversity conservation and their management. The education materials of "Primates on Peril" was distributed to the teachers and explained in the detailed manner on number of primates and their distribution with status to disseminate the same to the peer group, at the concluding session participant certificate was given to the teachers and students. The informative education material was supplied by zoo outreach organization was highly useful and applauded by the participants.

Apart from the usual target group of the educational institution for the wild life awareness programme, one more special programme was organized for the Coast guards and their family members on "Role of zoos in conservation" and they acclaimed the commendable effort of the ex-situ conservation education sections.

---

\* Biologist, Arignar Anna Zoological Park, Vandalur, Chennai 48, Tamil Nadu, Email: <aazp@vsnl.com>



Rocky partner



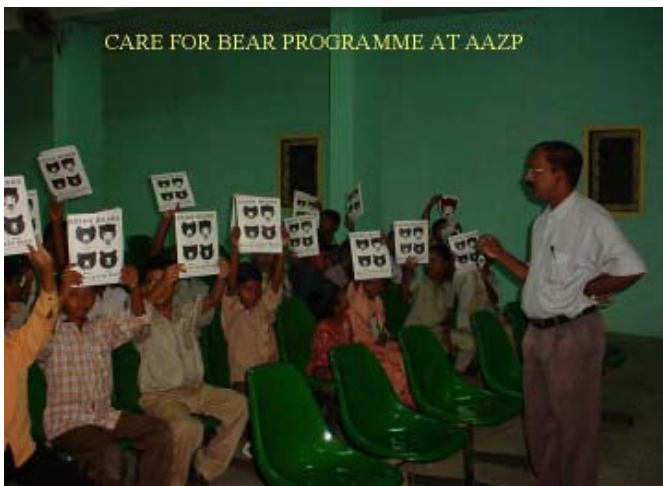
Teacher training programme and distribution & explanation of Education materials



Awareness programme at Sloth Bear enclosure with T-shirts



Distribution of participants certificate



Care for Bear programme



Wildlife awareness programme for Coast Guard family members

# Vanya Jeev Mela (Wildlife Mela), Wildlife Week Programme Report, 4<sup>th</sup> October 2004 Sonal Rathore\*

## Background

School children's are very keen target group for creating awareness about conservation issues. The idea of learning with fun has always been successful with the school children. Our country has history of organizing big events like melas, fairs, festivals where people living around a place are involved in the event. These events are aimed at fun and enjoyment. Many are associated with festivals and nowadays these are more towards commercial consideration. The opportunity of mela blended with education and fun could be very effective in communicating messages.

Keeping this in mind, Centre for Environment Education (CEE) has organized a Wildlife Mela at Lucknow Zoo for school students and visitors during the Wildlife Week (First week of October). The mela was aimed to educate students and visitors about importance of wildlife and its conservation. The mela was organized on 4<sup>th</sup> October (Monday) at Lucknow Zoo.

## Objectives of the Programme

Following objectives were kept in mind while organizing the programme:

- To organize conservation education programme focusing on mammals (Tiger, Bear, Primates, Bat) with school students during Wildlife Week using educational materials provided by Zoo Outreach Organization and CEE own publications like Amazing mammals (English), Endangered Elephants, Standhari Parichya Pustika (Hindi) and several other educational materials.
- To orient teachers of a clusters of schools about providing information to school students about mammals and its importance in our ecosystem
- To motivate students to know more about the mammals and spread the message of conservation among other students.

## Target Group

The target group selected for the programme was the students of standard 5-9 from a school of Lucknow. CEE's network of school eco-clubs set up under the National Green Corps (NGC) scheme of the Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India are participating in the event. Around 50 schools were invited to participate in the programme.

## Preparation

The preparation of the programme was done 15 days ahead where CEE's NGC school network was invited to participate in the programme. The involvement of schools was planned in a way where there were two parts – pre event and the event- 'mela'. The idea behind the thought was that the students prepare their material prior to the event and during the programme they should enjoy the mela.

A students competition was announced in the schools including poster, collage, model and slogan writing competitions on the themes like Wonderful and Fascinating Wildlife, Wildlife in our lives, Threats to wildlife and

Conservation of wildlife. Schools have conducted these competitions in their schools with full enthusiasm.

## The Programme

### The Exhibition Display

The day began with grand exhibition of material prepared by the school children posters, collage, model and slogans developed by school students on the themes like Wonderful and Fascinating Wildlife, Wildlife in our lives, Threats to wildlife and Conservation of wildlife.

The day of mela began with arranging the mela stalls. The venue allotted to us was a central place of the Zoo called Baradari which is a historical monument structure based on pillars. The posters, collages and slogans were put up on the pillars in three corners and models were kept on one corner. After setting up things, it became a wonderful sight of student's excellent presentation and their hard work. Around 100 students participated in the competitions while around 200 students and visitors have visited the mela. Everyone was astonished with the work of students.

### Activity Corners

Apart from the students preparation CEE N has planned the fun part of the mela in the form of EE activities at each corner. These corners were designated as: Khel-Khel Mein Sikho (Games Corner), Boojho Main Kaun Hoon? (Guess Who Am I? Corner), Prakriti Bhramar Avam Karke Dekho (Nature Trail/ Perform It Yourself Corner) and Mukhonto Ka Sansar (Mask & Thumb Print Corner). At each corner various activities were conducted related to wildlife where students as well as visitors and teachers had great fun. The programme involved education and fun stalls where games, puzzles, plays, make your own animal masks etc. type of activities were going on.

### Games Corner

The games corner included variety of activities, which made it a corner like by everyone. The activities conducted were:

- Jigsaw puzzles: Puzzles of wildlife animal's & birds was prepared. Everyone had fun with lots of excitement of completing the puzzle on time.
- Compare your height: In this activity a height chart was prepared where animals of particular height were marked on that chart. Students loved to compare their height with animals.
- Heavy weight champions: A weighing machine was kept with a weight chart. The activity brought laughter to every one's face.
- Wildlife Games: Games like web of life, Oh! Deer, Prey predator etc. were played with children to make them understand the intricate relationship among animals, importance of resources like water, food and shelter and struggle for survival.

---

\* Project Associate, Centre for Environment Education-North, 19/ 323, Indira Nagar, Lucknow 226 016, Uttar Pradesh, Email : <ceenorth@ceeindia.org>

### Guess Who Am I? Corner

Various guess who am I? cards were prepared on animals, their appearance, food habits, sizes, actions etc. Initially activity was conducted by CEE representatives later a group of school students were conducting the activity.

### Nature Trail/Perform It Yourself Corner

A nature trail was conducted for students in batches of 15-20 children where a resource person from CEE accompanied them. Students asked their queries regarding animals, zoos etc. to the resource person. Simultaneously students were given a performing art script "Gajraj Ka Nyay" (Animal Court) with in half an hour.

During all these programmes a questionnaire was also distributed among students to find out the opinion of children about zoo, its facilities their liking about the zoo, animals, etc.

### Mask & Thumb Print Corner

This was the hit corner among small children they had fun with crayons colouring the masks of various animals. On the stall photocopies of masks and elephant mask preparation material with thumb print cards was kept for students.

In these stalls everyone either a child or and adult were taking part and having fun.

### Competition Judging

As Mela was going on Judges were doing their difficult jobs of deciding the prizewinners. The judges were from Ministry of Environment and Forests, Regional Office – Dr. Abhiraj Singh, Director and Prof. P. K. Mathur from Lucknow University. Students explained and presented their work to judges. The judges were very impressed with student's hard work, presentation of the idea and strong view for conservation. Every judge was having difficulty in deciding the first second and third prizewinner.

### Prize Distribution

A prize distribution function was organized where prizes and certificates were given away to students and schools for their participation in the programme. There were exciting prizes on the wildlife for participating in games and other activities. The programme was organized in association with Lucknow Zoo with the support of educational material from Zoo Outreach Organization, Tamil Nadu.

The day ended with great joy of learning. Around 300 students and 200 visitors have enjoyed the mela and took message of conservation with them.



Displaying models-posters-slogan



Drawing



Prize distribution



Ram Boojh addressing students and teachers



Joy of learning



Guest of honour



Student displaying poster



Students displaying models

## Press reports about the programme



**वन्य प्राणि सप्ताह में पपेट शो का आयोजन**  
सहारा समाचार  
लखनऊ, 4 अक्टूबर

वन्य प्राणि सप्ताह-2004 के चौथे दिन प्राणि उद्यान के बागदरी में विभिन्न प्रतियोगिताओं का आयोजन किया गया। एक तरफ जहां पर्यावरण शिक्षण केन्द्र द्वारा वन्य जीव मेले का आयोजन हुआ वहीं दूसरी ओर 'पपेट शो' एवं वन्य जीवों पर आधारित प्रश्नोत्तरी प्रतियोगिता आयोजित की गई। परन्तु सुझावना मौसम होने के बावजूद प्रतिभागियों की तादाद कम की अपेक्षा आधी से भी कम रही।

पर्यावरण शिक्षण केन्द्र द्वारा आयोजित मेले में दो दर्जन स्कूलों के करीब 200 बच्चों ने भाग लिया। इस प्रतियोगिता में बच्चों ने वन्य जीव संबंधित विषयों जैसे 'अदभुत एवं आश्चर्य वन्यजीव', 'हमारे जीवन में वन्यजीव', 'खतरे में वन्यजीव' और वन्य जीव संरक्षण पर पोस्टर, मॉडल, कोलाज, स्वीगन बनाकर भाग्य ले।

कार्यक्रम की प्रभारी प्रो. कनिष्का ने प्रथम पुरस्कार गरिमा श्रीवास्तव, अनुश्री गुप्ता को द्वितीय तथा प्रियंका नेगी को तृतीय पुरस्कार प्रदान किया। साथ ही इस प्रतियोगिता के सभी प्रतिभागियों को प्रमाण पत्र दिया गया। वहीं बागदरी में ही आयोजित प्रश्नोत्तरी प्रतियोगिता में फर्जुद्दीन को प्रथम, बिलासुद्दीन, ललित, इतेशार, योगेश, अंकित सिंह, प्रवीर, आराज तथा राहुल को द्वितीय पुरस्कार दिया गया। प्रश्नोत्तरी प्रतियोगिता के निर्वाचक प्राणि उद्यान के उच निदेशक व वन्य चिकित्सक डा.उत्कर्ष शुक्ला थे।

**दैनिक जागरण** लखनऊ, 4 अक्टूबर

**'शेर की दहाड़ से भाग खड़े हुए बच्चे'**

लखनऊ, 4 अक्टूबर (जा.सं.)। 'मैं जंगल का राजा शेर हूँ।' माइक से निकली तेज दहाड़ को सुन कर आगे बैठे सात-आठ बच्चे डर के मारे भागने लगे। कुछ देर बाद जब उनको माऊस समूह में आया तो वह वापस अपने स्थान पर आये। यह नजारा या आज प्राणी उद्यान की बागदरी में कठपुतली कार्यक्रम का। यहाँ आज वन्यजीव सप्ताह के अन्तर्गत कठपुतली कार्यक्रम प्रस्तुत किया गया। कठपुतली के शो ने आज बच्चों को पेड़-पौधों व वन्यजीव के संरक्षण की शिक्षा दी। इसके साथ ही यहाँ प्रश्नोत्तरी, मॉडल, पोस्टर प्रतियोगिता का भी आयोजन किया गया। वहीं डब्ल्यूडब्ल्यूएफ-नेचर संस्था ने वन्यजीव पर आधारित व्याख्यान का आयोजन किया। वीसी गौर, डॉ. रामभूल ने व्याख्यान दिये। साथ ही इस मौके पर बच्चों ने भी अपने विचार रखे, जिसमें प्रथम स्थान पर गरिमा श्रीवास्तव, द्वितीय स्थान पर अनुश्री गुप्ता व तृतीय स्थान पर प्रियंका नेगी रहीं। वहीं प्रश्नोत्तरी प्रतियोगिता में प्रथम स्थान पर फर्जुद्दीन व द्वितीय स्थान पर बिलासुद्दीन, ललित गौतम, इतेशामुद, योगेश कपिल, अंकित सिंह, प्रवीर कुमार, अराज चतुर्वेदी, राहुल कुमार रहे।

**THE PIONEER**  
LUCKNOW FRIDAY OCTOBER 1, 2004

**Wildlife Week celebrations from today**

Lucknow: PRINCIPAL SECRETARY, Forest, Sujit Kaur Sandhu will inaugurate the Wildlife Week celebrations starting from Friday at the Lucknow Zoological Garden.

The Principal Secretary will also inaugurate a battery-operated vehicle in presence of the Principal Conservator of forest K Prasad, Chief Conservator of forest (WMBR) Mohd Ahsan, Director of the Zoological Garden Eva Sharma said that the week-long programme will commence from Friday. She said that Chief Minister Mulayam Singh Yadav was invited to grace the function on October 7. She said that during the Wildlife Week, various competitions including photography, rangoli, wildlife quiz, debate, fancy dress, poster and cartoon drawing, puppet show and lectures on different subjects would be organised.

According to Sharma, a photography competition will be organised for students, professional and non-professional photographers at the Nature Care centre on the occasion of Gandhi Jayanti on October 2. On the same day, a lecture on importance of serpentine and a drama would also be organised, informed Sharma.

On October 3, mehndi competition and rangoli competitions will be organised for the students from class I to XII in different categories. On October 4, a wildlife quiz will be organised at the zoo baradari, fancy dress show based on wildlife will be organised on October 5 and poster drawing and face painting competition will be organised on October 6. Chief Minister Mulayam Singh Yadav will give away prizes to the winners on concluding day.

Meanwhile, the Centre for Environment Education is organising a Wildlife Mela at Lucknow Zoo for school students and visitors.

The mela is aimed at educating students and visitors about the importance of wildlife and its conservation. The mela will be open for everyone on October 4. A poster exhibition on the theme -- 'Wonderful and Fascinating Wildlife, Wildlife in Our Lives, Threats to Wildlife and Conservation of Wildlife'.

Pioneer News Service



Students displaying models



Students explaining models



Students joy of learning



Teacher explaining the poster



A section of the student participants

# Report of Wildlife Week 2004 celebrations in and around Mysore by Regional Museum of Natural History and Mysore Amateur Naturalists® for the Zoo Outreach Organization

## S. Sethuramalingam\*

### **Kutta –Wildlife Week Program. On 2<sup>nd</sup> of Oct 2004**

CEE – Virajpet had weeklong Wildlife Week celebrations spreading over all the five taluks. It comprised of an entourage, of a team of student and teachers, performing a street play depicting the plight of Indian wildlife. The inauguration was held at in the Jyothi Cinema theatre where 500 children from various schools of Coorg had gathered. Mr. Poonacha President of the Coorg Wildlife Society inaugurated the function and flagged off the Jatha. It was followed by the inaugural show of the street play. Later gave Mr. Manu made a slide presentation on the Western Ghats the Biodiversity hotspot. In the post lunch session at the Coorg Club there was an activity based 'Save the bear' session by Mr. Kishen Das of Mysore Amateur Naturalists. After the distribution of the material, the Jatha team left to perform and Srimangala to be followed at several schools and public places.

### **Programmes for students of various schools in Thadiyanda mol**

On 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> of October 2004, The International Academy for Mountaineering and Allied Sports (IAMAS), Mysore had arranged a wildlife week Camp at Thadiyanda mol in South Coorg for the students of Mysore. Mr. Govindaraju, veteran Mountaineer and Mr. Solanki, secretary requested the RMNH and MAN to conduct the Nature related activities for the 50 kids in the camp. In the two-day camp, Bird watching-slides show – Nature trail- Tiger tool kits-high altitude forests –habitats were some of the topics dealt with apart from the actual trek. Mr. Mohan and Mr. Nagesh of Kokkare Bellur were the resource persons.

### **Viveka Tribal Center for Learning – Just Bats about Bats**

Date: 9<sup>th</sup> October 2004 it was a beautiful morning, When we left towards the fringes of Bandipur and Nagarhole National Parks. We traveled by a Govt. Bus, which will shuttles just twice a day. It was noon by the time we reached the destination, in the fringes of N. Begur forest. It is the unique school for the children belonging to Kadu Kuruba, Jenu Kuruba and Soliga tribe. Vivekananda Tribal School is situated near Hosahalli with a backdrop of the dry deciduous trees. The North east monsoon had blessed a few showers and the forests were in its emerald glory.

The daylong programme was conducted by Mr. Manu. K and Mr. Mohan of Mysore Amateur Naturalists. It was all about bats, 'Just Bats about Bats' for the students of high school. Seventy-five students and six teachers participated in the programme that went on in two sessions. The first session was a slide show on Bio-diversity of Western Ghats. Apart from dealing with habitat types and wildlife in them the central focus was upon conservation of small mammals. The duration of the slide show was about an hour and a half followed by interaction concerning the topic.

The post-lunch session being activity based, the students were called on to the playground. The theme was bats and activities related to its understanding were in line. It began with a few

energizers and some explanation on the anatomy, life style and importance of bats in our ecosystem.

The students were grouped into four and were used to show the percentage of bats among the mammals. Later they were explained the functioning of the sonar and the radar in ears and nose of bats. A few kids were made to hang up side down to a tree and parallel bars in order to experience the feel the world upside down. In a moment, the students also realized the difficulties in hanging on for long. The situation was used to explain how a bat manages to do the same all day long.

### **Green gate junior school –Tiger toolkit**

On Monday 8<sup>th</sup> of Nov 2004 the outreach programme was conducted in the Green gate junior school, Mysore. This was a different programme where was used a puppet to compare. At first we started with a slide show on Indian wildlife that was narrated by a puppet by the name "Mr. Darwin" performed by Mr. Manu. Through out the show children were inquisitive and asked many questions. The setup was made in such a way that, the room was totally dark and only the narrating puppet was illuminated by a spotlight.

The slides show impressed the kids. Children were taken outside the classroom were they were given the tiger tool kit for exploration. The kids tied the 'raakis', put on the masks, and enacted as tiger cubs. Some of the typical tiger expressions were demonstrated by Mr. Mohan that was faithfully followed by the kids. In a short while the little campus resounded the roaring cubs. The final call "let's save the tiger" came out with a roar.

Certificates were then distributed to all the kids. Mr. Anil secretary of Green gate institution was also present during this programme. Program was a great learning experience, as the kids came looking (with in the baggage) for 'Darwin the puppet' as the organizers started packing.

### **Vijaya Vittala Vidya Shaala High School – Primates in Peril**

On the 30<sup>th</sup> of Oct 2004 "Primates in Peril" programme was conducted in Galaxy Nature Club of Vijaya Vidya Shala. Thirty students participated in the programme in which Mr. Manu made a presentation on evolution of primates. He explained how the tree shrews chose an arboreal life and graduated to rule the forest are facing. In order to stress the fact that evolution is a unidirectional phenomenon and the individuals cannot adapt to the fast change of the environment caused by Humans, an activity was performed. The kids wore the monkey masks and gave a hand to pick up and eat groundnuts thrown on the ground the ground, without using their thumbs. It was indeed a difficult task for most; one or two who had a better control over their fingers managed to munch a few nuts.

---

\* Scientist-in-charge, Regional Museum of Natural History, Siddarth Nagar, Mysore 570 011, Karnataka, Email: <rmnhsethu@sancharnet.in>

Apparently, primates and wildlife are in a alike situation finding it hard to cope with the changing environment. After that, usage of palm, leg and tails in primates was explained. In addition, the usage of tools was demonstrated. An activity was conducted to demonstrate the use of thumb in performing jobs. Here students were asked to collect and eat groundnuts, which were thrown on ground. Where they have to open it with the help of the thumb.

After that 'Primates in peril' kit was distributed to the students. The students were told to open the kit at a time and to ware the mask, then made them to find their groups. Some of the group activities/games were played. Finally, there was a photo session followed by certificate distribution.

In this program all school staffs were participated including Head Madam Mrs. Rajini and Mrs. Anuradha, in-charge of Nature club.

Vijaya Vittala Vidya Shaala High School – Bats 'n' Rats. On 7<sup>th</sup> of November 2004 the students of Galaxy Nature Club of VVVS (HPS) were participated in the Bat 'n' Rats programme. This was conducted by the members of Regional Museum of Natural History and Mysore Amateur Natural History. About 25 kids participated including five teachers. Mr. Manu briefed about the Natural History of Bats and Rats. Mr. Mohan explained about the role of Bats and Rats in the ecology. Then Mr. Nithin spoke about the population dynamics of both the species. He compared the other mammalian orders with the order Chiroptera. Finally, kids made to understand the importance of Bats and Rats, and scope for studies on Bats and Rats in their future. Kids were distributed with the Bats and Rats kits. They played some activities on flight and hanging of Bats. The posters and the kids were displayed on the notice board to reach out to other students in the school.



Kids with Tiger masks



Outdoor programme about bats



Students with Rat masks



Primates in peril - Students with masks.



RMNH Education programme on Bats



All about bats...

## **Students for Tigers**

### **S. Joseph Prem Kumar \***

Venue: Corporation Middle School, Pappanaikkan Palayam, Coimbatore –641 037

Date: 3.12.2004

No. of Participants: 50 Approximately

Age Group: 12-14 Years

Duration: 1 hour 15 minutes

The programme commenced at 2.30 p.m. in the afternoon Mr. R. Dhandapani welcomed the Students. The Head Mistress gave an introductory note on what they are about to experience.

I explained the need to know more about Tigers, distributing the Tiger-Packets among students. I explained its contents. Then I divided the class into 8 groups and indulged them in Concept –Mapping: –kit. After much guidance, they were able to pool together the various information they already had about tigers.

I then described the various sub species of tigers, their habitat, body size and weight, their hunting techniques, its speed in comparison with a Cheetah, etc. I also discussed the different ways of censusing tigers. The groups were given the task of identifying tigers from their body markings and strips.

I explained to the class that a striped animal like the tiger, is more adapted to thick jungles and grass lands. And how felling trees and clearing the forest for agriculture, greatly endangers the tiger population. We took an oath to save the worlds Greatest cat. After having some refreshment, we departed.

Jai Hind.

---

\* Corporation Middle School, Pappanaikkan Palayam, Coimbatore 641 037, TN



A scene from class room

## Zoo Bikaner organised 50th Wildlife Week Bhupendra Singh\*

Zoo Bikaner organised 50th Wildlife Week with full enthusiasm on the fifth day of wild life week i.e. 5.10.04, 104 children took part in drawing competition and after competition different games suggested by Zoo Outreach Organisation were played by children. They happily took part and enjoyed the games. They put marks and tied rakhies to each other with the oath to save the wild animals. Educational literature regarding wild animals were distributed to them and their teachers. Teachers training programme was also organised on the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of wildlife week. Teachers and students visited zoo. Dr. Pratap Singh of Dungar college Bikaner gave useful lecture and exhibit different specimen like seahorse, poisonous snakes, starfish, various species, pangoline, crocodile etc.

\* Wildlife Warden, Zoo Bikaner, Bikaner 334 001 Rajasthan



Students playing a game with the masks on



Students Playing game that they are Wild animals...



Children tying Rakhies



Children with mask demanding safety for there animals and their habitat



Students tying Rakhies and taking oath to save the wildlife and their habitat



Students tying Rakhies and taking oath



Wildlife warden Bhubendra Singh addressing children



Wildlife warden distributing literature



Wildlife warden distributing literature

## **Open Day for Wildlife Week Wildlife at KFRI**

**P. Padmanabhan\***

Wildlife Week was celebrated at Kerala Forest Research Institute, Peechi, Thrissur during It was celebrated as an "open day" for the public and students of various educational institutions during October first week 2004. . The programs included workshops, seminars, slide show and exhibitions of various materials of different divisions like wild life biology, Botany, Entomology, Pathology, Silviculture, Biotechnology, Genetics etc. The exhibits of Wildlife included rare specimens of fishes, amphibians, reptiles, mammals etc. and display of posters and charts of animals. The exhibits included Bat Appreciation Programme Kit of CCINSA, *Bats 'n' Rats*, stickers, posters, and masks of Zoo Outreach Organization. Thousands of students and public visited.

---

**\* Scientist, Kerala Forest Research Institute, Peechi, Thrissur**