

## International Day for Biological Diversity, World Environment Day Reports R. Marimuthu

### Zoological Garden, Alipore, Kolkata

Kolkata Zoo organized a programme to celebrate IDBD with the theme of climate change. All zoo staff participated. Inauguration began with a speech by the Director: "Biodiversity and back to safe 350". A quiz contest on biodiversity drew Zoo staff and 40 children. There was provision of "spot prize" for each correct answer with good result. The programme ended on a good note and positive feedback both from teachers and children. **Submitted by: Ms. Piyali Sinha, Deputy Director. Email: piyalisinha2006@yahoo.co.in**



**Biodiversity and back to safe 350 program at Kolkata zoo**

### Museum & Zoo, Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala

During IDBD we took up CBSG/ZOO request and got profound support of our Zoo Director, Mr. B. Joseph IFS and organized a programme to show the "wild face of climate change". Mr. Gangadharan, EO talked about the present CO<sub>2</sub> level in the atmosphere, the reasons for increased CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, how this affects species on earth and also animals in the captivity. Their responsibility is to bring down the CO<sub>2</sub> level to a safe 350ppm in order to save biodiversity. In this event about 200 visitors and all zoo staff participated. **Submitted by: Mr. Gangadharan, Education Officer. Email: gangi123@rediffmail.com**



**Mr. Gangadharan talking about climate change impacts**

### Guindy National/Children's Park celebrated International Day for Biological Diversity and World Turtle Day



**Visitors made to understand about climate change at Children's Park, Chennai**

Guindy National Park, the unique distinction of being the only forest to be located within a metropolitan city which play a vital role as lungs of the city by purifying the air and generating oxygen to the city dwellers. Its rich biodiversity attracts number of nature lovers to have delightful observation of life forms. In order to educate the visitors we have been conducting regular education programs and special education programs on special occasion.

On 22<sup>nd</sup> May, to show the wild face of climate change, an awareness program on 'International Biological Diversity Day' was organized for visitors at selected animal enclosures. Mr. Rajasekar, IFS Conservator of Forests (Punjab) was the chief guest.

On 23 May, on World Turtle Day a programme was organized for the visitors, forest personnel and animal keepers at the Guindy Children's Park. The activity was conducted at reptile section near star tortoise (*Geochelone elegans*) enclosure. Thanks to Ms. Geetanjali IFS, Wildlife Warden for giving permission. **Submitted by: Mr. N. Baskar, Biologist. Email: nbrzoo@yahoo.com**



**Awareness program on Turtles at Children's park**

## World Environment Day Reports

### Tata Steel Zoological Park

On WED 2014, Tata Zoo embarked on a mission to enforce stringent anti-littering measures within the zoo premises. Children from the NGO, Anwasha, portrayed their pledges to save the environment through slogans and banners to raise awareness among the visitors for celebrating the day and conserving nature. The zoo imposed a refundable deposit of Rs 10 on every plastic item brought inside the zoo or purchased within the zoo premises from any of the stalls. Upon returning the empty food package / bottle /carton back to the stall from where it was purchased, the customer will get back their deposit amount. The zoo kiosk/restaurant owners will be provided with eco-friendly paper bags to serve food to visitors and to initiate the ban of use of plastic items. In addition to this, fines shall be imposed on visitors found littering within the zoo premises. The awareness campaign was coordinated and executed by Seema Rani, Biologist cum Education Officer; Sandeep Raj Singh, Zoo Volunteer; and Pratap Singh Gill, Senior Attendant. **Submitted by: Ms. Seema Rani. Email: cmarani00@rediffmail.com**



Anti-littering campaign at TATA Zoo

### WED-Rabindra Murray School, Kanchepuram

The little kids of Rabindra Murray School had set up an island in order to celebrate International Year of Small Island Developing States and World Environment Day 2014. With a help of world map the continents and oceans were identified first. Thrilled to locate the small islands in various places, then slowly they came to know about the islands and compared with the model they had setup. The various marine ecosystems like pelagic and benthic, mangrove, coral reef, seaweed and estuary were explained with the WWF posters. They also learned threats to marine ecosystems such as coral mining, sewage disposal, seaweed exploitation and habitat alteration. The current status of islands due to climate change, the people trade with other parts of the world, biological and cultural richness of the islands seemed to be a new area for the teachers. Few students enacted a drama with masks on sun, clouds, thunder and rain received from Zoo Outreach Organization and concluded that they will be Greenhouse Guardian by following few eco friendly practices. Students planted saplings in the campus. With this input



The Children set up little island and planting at school campus

W.E.D. theme "Raise your voice not the sea Level" was explained. They decided to raise their voice against all sorts of pollution and practice the proper disposal of garbage.

### **Noyes Matriculation Higher Secondary School, Madurai, TN**

On 5 June 2014, the entire campus of Noyes Matric H.S.S. Madurai was so lively with posters, flashcards etc. to attract the parents and general public to celebrate World Environment Day. The stage was decorated with the saplings received from the District Forest Office and masks of animals and human beings received from ZOO and posters from CEE.



**Students danced for the eco song at Noyes MHSS**

Mrs. Georgina Jacqueline, Principal gave welcome address and the programme began with a nature song. The Chief guest Mr. Kremer Suresh, Microbiologist briefed the present condition of the earth. Mrs. Jessie Jeyakaran, member ZEN, the retired staff of this school briefed on the WED slogan "Raise your voice; not the sea level". Students Sophy and Swetha danced for the nature theme song written by Jessie Jeyakaran and music composed and sang by Telfer Alfred and his sister. The Chief Guest gave the Certificate of Appreciation received from UNEP to the Principal. All the staff members with the guidance of Mrs. Rosy Richard and Mrs. Pamila coordinated the day's program.

### **World Earth Day Katie Wilcox MHSS, Madurai**

The summer coaching class students of Katie Wilcox Mat. H.S.S. Madurai enjoyed the Earth Day celebration by engaging themselves in the preparation of the celebration. They were asked to gather information about the Earth Day in advance.

With this information on 22 April 2014 the program started with an eco song. Miss. A. Georgina, Principal I/C welcomed the participants. The students were

divided into groups and given the posters on water, freshwater fish, marine fish and globe and they were asked to come up with more information about the subject and they have to share this with other groups for about 30 minutes. They came up with lot of information about the life on the earth. The theme song was played. Seeds were sown in pots. Students are interested to do projects on water and land, which showed the program's effect. Mrs Nalini proposed the vote of thanks. **Submitted by: Mrs. Jessie Jeyakaran. Email: [jessiejey@rediffmail.com](mailto:jessiejey@rediffmail.com)**

### **Sundarvan Nature Discovery Centre, Ahmedbad programs**



**Bark signature was an enjoyable project for the event**

Sundarvan Nature Discovery Centre, Ahmedabad conducted a summer programme for the children. Activities such as guided zoo visit, nature trail, touch table, clay modeling, snake awareness programme, puppetry, face painting and adventure activities were carried out. Ahmedabad Photowalkers conducted a photo-walk or a photography session on 11<sup>th</sup> May. More than 100 of their members turned and took photographs of animals in exhibit and the free-roaming animals in the premises.

Sixteen students of 10 to 15 years old and 3 faculties from Snowflakes Academy, Ahmedabad, visited the park on 13 May. Guided zoo visit, nature trail and snake awareness programme were conducted for them. Sundarvan and Photophilics jointly conducted a nature photography exhibition at Sundarvan from 30 May to 1 June. The event was widely covered by local media and more than 2500 people visited the exhibition on these days.

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