

REPORT ON AMPHIBIAN EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS SPONSORED BY AMPHIBIAN ARK

Introduction

Amphibian network was first initiated by the Conservation Breeding Specialist Group India *CBSG India* in 1995 and later it became *CBSG South Asia*. The main objectives of the network are: Identification and networking of amphibian field biologists in South Asia, directory of amphibian field researchers in South Asia, Conservation Assessment of all Indian amphibians, publication of newsletters and amphibian special issue journals, Conduct of a hands-on training in amphibian field methodologies, taxonomy and identification and assisting with the organisation of a conservation assessment workshops and creating amphibian awareness to all strata of people. Zoo Outreach Organisation also hosts the Amphibian Network of South Asia *ANSA*.

ZOO conducted Conservation Assessment and Management Plan *CAMP* workshops for Indian Amphibians in 1997 and for Sri Lankan Amphibians in 1998 to assess their status in the wild under Biodiversity Conservation Prioritization Project *BCPP*. As usual in the *CAMP* workshops the participants were divided into different working groups such as nomenclature, captive breeding, research and education. The education-working group came up with different ideas and methods to educate policy makers, general public and students about amphibian conservation.

As a follow up of this workshops, we developed an educational packet on amphibians named "Helping Herps Amphibians: Global Warning!" and "Amphibian Aark" which contains general information about amphibians, masks, stickers, placard, posters, rakhi and colouring book and it was circulated to zoos, NGO's, amphibian biologists, education institutions during India's two mega environmental events Wildlife Week and Animal Welfare Fortnightly to create mass awareness among the community on conserving amphibians.

For over a decade, *ZOO* has been dynamically involving to encourage amphibian conservation through various awareness programmes. Generally, *ZOO* develops education materials on amphibians during Animal Welfare Fortnight, World Environment Day, India's Wildlife Week and other special events and supplying these materials to zoos, forest departments (National Parks & Sanctuaries), educational institutions (schools, colleges & universities), non-governmental organizations and other government agencies (museums, science centre) to hold their own programmes and create mass awareness on amphibians.

ZOO was part of the Amphibian Ark's 2008 Global Leap Day programme during "Year of the Frog" and promoted amphibian awareness campaign in South Asian region by supplying education kits to its educator network members and others. Again in 2012 Leap Day, we promoted AArk's Leap Day programme in this region.

For Wildlife Week 2011, Amphibian Ark sponsored to produce amphibian education kits.

Report

ZOO published 3000 amphibian education packets and South Asian Amphibian colour posters with the support of Amphibian Ark and used almost all of them during Wildlife Week 2011, the most popular wildlife event of the year with thousands participants. *ZOO* invites the most active educators to conduct a programme with a group of 30-35 students or other participants and utilize the packets in teaching them about amphibians, their problems and its conservation measures. We require them to conduct a real programme using all the materials in the packet to make it more interesting and also to provide a report to us when they are done.

This year for Wildlife Week 2011, we had a wide range of organizers who wanted to run a programme. Some materials were translated into local vernacular and given to organisers for distribution at their own teaching events, etc. Of the expected output the following occurred. Detailed and illustrated reports on the Wildlife Week Amphibian education programme were generated and published in *ZOOS' PRINT*, and are reflected below in brief in the reports. Unfortunately, not all organisers submitted report.

Of the **3000** packets and posters, **2900** were distributed to organizers and participants for Wildlife Week and Animal Welfare Fortnightly few of them distributed in the international meetings and workshops by our staff. The remaining 100 packets we keep for our record.

**Amphibian Packet & Poster Distribution
Wildlife Week 2011
Number of Amphibian packets & South Asian amphibian posters printed-3000**

S.No	Name & address of the person	Packets ordered	Report
	Wildlife Week 2011		
1	R. Gopi Janarthanan, Volunteer - Wildlife SOS India Bangalore, Karnataka	50	Received
2	Naren Sreenivasan, Education Officer, Agumbe Rainforest Research Station (ARRS), Karnataka	50	Received
3	Santhosh Kumar Sahoo, Chairman, Conservation Himalayas Chandigarh	50	Received
4	A.K. Sivakumar, Senior Education Officer. WWF- India Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala	50	Received
5	Baljinder Singh, Incharge Eco-Club, Govt. Senior Secondary Dialpura Mirza, Punjab - 151 102	50	Received
6	S. Sethuramalingam, Scientist E, Regional Museum of Natural History Bhopal - 462016, Madhya Pradesh	50	Received
7	P. Ramesh, Nethaji Snake Trust (NEST) Usilampatti, Madurai - 625532, Tamil Nadu	50	Received
8	Jessie Jeyakaran Ramapuram, Chennai - 600 089, Tamil Nadu	100	Received
9	G. Suma, Science Teacher, Srikantha Balika Proudashala Mysore - 570 004, Karnataka	15	Received
10	M. Rajesh, Asst. Professor, The American College Madurai - 625002, Tamil Nadu	50	Received
11	Amita Kanaujia, Associate Professor, Lucknow University Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh - 226 010	30	Received
12	Amal Misra, Secretary, Paribesh Unnayan Parishad Phulbari, South 24 Parganas, West Bengal	50	Received
13	State Director, WWF-I, M.P. & CG. State Office Bhopal 462016, Madhya Pradesh	50	Received
14	S.P. Patel, Deputy Director, Geer Foundation Gandhinagar - 382 007, Gujarat	50	Received
15	Vinodkumar Dhamoder, Conservation of Nature Society Calicut - 673 004, Kerala	50	Received
16	Ms. Rani Kirubairaj, Teacher, Idayangudi, Tirunelveli, Tamil Nadu	50	Received
17	Ramesh N. Dessai, Asst. Conservator of Forests Margao, Gao	50	Received
18	V. Deepthi, Cofounder and Manger, Strategic Alliances (YESS Media), Kothapet - 500 035, Andhra Pradesh	25	Not Received
19	P. Gracious, Asst. Conservator of Forests Annapet, ELURU, W.G. Dist., Andhra Pradesh - 534 006	25	Not Received
20	A.Senthil Kumar, Dy. Conservator of Forests (WL) Port Blair, Andaman & Nicobar	50	Not Received
21	A.K. Bhowmik, Director, Sepahijala Zoological Park Tripura (West) - 799 102	50	Not Received
22	D.N.F. Carvalho, Deputy Conservator of Forests, Junta House Panaji - Goa	50	Not Received
23	G.A. Sodha, Range Forest Officer, Khijodiya Bird Sanctuary Jamnagar, Gujarat	25	Not Received
24	R.D. Kamboj, Chief Conservator of Forests, Marine National Park Jamnagar, Gujarat	25	Not Received
25	R.K. Shilu, Range Forest Officer Dwarka, Gujarat	25	Not Received
26	Director, Sakkarbaug Zoological Park Junagadh, Gujarat	50	Not Received

27	A.C. Jain, Deputy Conservator of Forests Chhotaulclepur, Dist. Vadodora, Gujarat	25	Not Received
28	P.A. Patel, Deputy Conservator of Forests, Nalsarovar Bird Sanctuary, Ahmedabad, Gujarat	25	Not Received
29	C.B. Baria, Deputy Conservator of Forests, Baria Dahod, Gujarat	25	Not Received
30	V.G. Chaudhari, Dy. Conservator of Forests Valsad, Gujarat	25	Not Received
31	M.R. Gujjar, Dy. Conservator of Forests, Extension Division Bhuj-Kutchchh, Gujarat	15	Not Received
32	P.V. Raval, Deputy Conservator of Forests Sabar Kantha (South) Division, Gujarat	25	Not Received
33	D.P. Tipre, Conservator of Forests Vadodara, Gujarat	25	Not Received
34	N.D. Patel, IFS, Dy. Conservator of Forests (SF), Junathana Navsari, Gujarat	25	Not Received
35	Deputy Conservator of Forests (SF), Sardar Baug Junagadh, Gujarat	25	Not Received
36	R. L Patel, Dy. Conservator of Forests (SF), Bharuch, Gujarat	25	Not Received
37	RK. Raj (HPFS) DFO, Zoos and Rescue Division, Khalini Shimla, Himachal Pradesh	25	Not Received
38	C.M. Seth, Chairperson, World Wide Fund for Nature, J&K State office, University of Jammu, J& K	50	Not Received
39	Shankarappa K.P, Wildlife Conservation Group, Shivanahalli, Bangalore - 560 083, Karnataka	20	Not Received
40	Ramesh S. Bhat, Manager, Office of the Conservator of Forest Kodagu Circle, Madikeri - 571 201, Karnataka	10	Not Received
41	K.K. Poovamma, Head Mistress, Gauthampura Govt. Higher Primary School, Jnana Bharathi Post, Bangalore - 56, Karnataka	30	Not Received
42	T J Ravikumar, KFS, Deputy Conservator of Forests (WL) Shimoga - 577201, Karnataka	25	Not Received
43	H. J. Bhandary, Director, Pilikula Biological Park Vamanjoor, Mangalore (D.K.) - 575028, Karnataka.	50	Not Received
44	Sunil Limaye, Director & CCF, Sanjay Gandhi National Park Mumbai - 400 066, Maharashtra	25	Not Received
45	A.S. Kalaskar, Deputy Conservator of Forests (WL) Gondia - 441 614, Maharashtra	25	Not Received
46	Shikha Shisodia, Project Leader, OASIS Mumbai - 400 007, Maharashtra	50	Not Received
47	S. Dhananjay Singh, Conservator of Forests (WL) Sanjenthong, Imphal - 795 001, Manipur	15	Not Received
48	Chief Wildlife Warden Tuikhuahtlang, Aizawl, Mizoram - 796 001	50	Not Received
49	Prasanna Kumar Behera, Hony. Secretary, NEWS Angul-759122, Odisha	25	Not Received
50	F.R. Ikram Mohammed Shah, Conservator of Forests Dharmapuri - 636 705, Tamil Nadu	10	Not Received
51	Juliet Vanitharani, Professor, Sarah Tucker College Tirunelveli - 627 007, Tamil Nadu	25	Not Received
52	S. Thirunaavukarasu, Conservator of Forests Kavaratti- 682555, U.T. of Lakshadweep	25	Not Received
53	D. Arun, IFS, Conservator of Forests Erode, Tamil Nadu	10	Not Received
54	S. Kalyanasundaram, Conservator of Forests Chennai - 600 006, Tamil Nadu	50	Not Received
55	A.Selvin Samuel, Head Dept of Botany, St. Johns College Palayamkottai - 627 002, Tamil Nadu	50	Not Received
56	Samuel G., Treasure, Compassion Charitable Trust Muthamizh Nagar, Chennai - 600 118, Tamil Nadu	25	Not Received
57	Sujata Lakshmanan, Isha Home School Coimbatore 641 114, Tamil Nadu	50	Not Received

58	S. Suraj Kumaar, Managing Trustee, The Discover Wild Foundation, Coimbatore - 641 009, Tamil Nadu	50	Not Received
59	R. Aiswariya, Trustee, TREE Kallidaikurichi - 627 412, Tamil Nadu	50	Not Received
60	S. Vishwanathan, Assistant Professor, Sri Paramakalyani College Alwarkurichi - 627 412, Tirunelveli, Tamil Nadu	50	Not Received
61	S. Panda, IFS, Director, Nandankanan Biological Park, Bhubaneswar, Odisha - 751 007	50	Not Received
62	Anop Singh Khisis, Range Forest Officer, Jodhpur Zoo Jodhpur, Rajasthan	50	Not Received
63	Dy. Chief Wildlife Warden, Jaipur Zoo Jaipur-302 004, Rajasthan	50	Not Received
64	Praveen Rao, Director, Kanpur Zoological Gardens Kanpur - 208 002, Uttar Pradesh	25	Not Received
65	R.K. Mishra, Director, Corbett Tiger Reserve Ramnagar, Nainital, Uttrakhand.	25	Not Received
66	Santanu Mitra, Secretary, Tarakeswar Science Club Tarakeswar, Hooghly, West Bengal - 712 410	50	Not Received
67	Principal Chief Conservator of Forest - cum-Chief Wildlife Warden Talland, Shimla-171 001, Himachal Pradesh	50	Not Received
68	R J Rao, Jiwaji University Gwalior 474011, Madhya Pradesh	25	Not Received
69	Mrs. Neeta Khare Govindpura, Bhopal 462 023, Madhya Pradesh	50	Not Received
70	K.J. Varughese, Chief Conservator of Forests, Forest Head Quarters, Thiruvananthapuram-695 014, Kerala	50	Not Received
71	Dr. Gurudutt Sharma, Veterinary Officer (Wildlife) Satpura Tiger Reserve, Hoshangabad- 461001, Madhya Pradesh	50	Not Received
72	Alok Kumar IFS, Field Director, Pench Tiger Reserve Seoni-480 661, Madhya Pradesh	50	Not Received
73	Payal B. Molur, Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu	25	Not Received
74	B. Rathinasabapathy, NBNP, Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu	10	Not Received
Animal Welfare Fortnight 2012			
75	Mr. Dilip Chakravarty, Project Officer, CEE Bhopal-462016, Madhya Pradesh	60	Received
Meetings and Conferences			
	Marimuthu Taipei trip - 3rd Asian Zoos Educators Conference, Taipei Zoo, Taiwan	50	Distribution
	Sanjay Molur - Second Student Conference on Conservation Science, 14-16 September 2011 at the Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore	25	Distribution
	Sanjay Molur - The CBSG Annual Conference, 29th Sept - 02 Oct at Prague, Czech Republic	50	Distribution
	Office Copy	100	
Total		3000	

Wildlife Week Reports



Punjab school students posing with South Asian Amphibian posters

Wildlife Week 2011 at Punjab school

Wildlife Week -2011 programme was organized and celebrated by Eco-Club of Govt. Secondary School, Dilalpura Mirza, Bathinda (Punjab) India from 1-7 October 2011.

The participants were students of 10-16 yrs and their teachers. Mr. Baljinder Singh guided this programme with the help of Zoo Outreach Organisation's amphibian education materials to create awareness among the students and local community. The school principal, Mrs. Joginder Kur delivered the lecture on "we and our wildlife". Various activities like exhibition of wild animals & bird's pictures, poster-making competition and guest lectures were organized. The activities done by the eco-club members and students spread the awareness to save

animals, biodiversity and create love with animals & birds. The principal and school faculty members gave prizes to the winners. **Submitted by: Baljinder Singh, in charge Eco-club. baljinder2004@gmail.com**

C.C.M. Hr. Sec. School, Idaiyangudi, TN- Environmental Education activities

National Green Corps of Caldwell Centenary Memorial Higher Secondary School arranged many environmental

awareness programmes throughout the year. A lot of biodiversity exists in the school campus. Most of the students come from the Uvari, a Tsunami hit village and they are exposed to nature. The student's involvement in environmental activities is very spontaneous and enthusiastic. Zoo Outreach Organisation various education materials used in our programmes. They are: Elephants, bats, hoolock gibbon and amphibians. The students made aware of protecting our nature through these activities.

To create awareness to protect water bodies such as marsh, swamp, mangroves and the species such as amphibians and reptiles a programme was organised. Mr. W. Joel Revingston gave the introduction of the programme. Nithianatharaj, PG. Asst. Zoology described the importance of amphibians and its



C.C.M. Hr. Sec. School students ready for an amphibian conservation rally

kinds. The NGC students played a skit on amphibians called "Please Spare our Lives". Mr. Avudiappan, District Middle School Coordinator talked about RAMSAR convention. He told the students the importance of protecting water bodies. And he asked the each student should plant at least a tree. At the end students took a oath saying that save biodiversity-save frog, I will not hurt frogs, I will not dump garbage into ponds/rivers etc., Rani Kirubairaj, NGC Coordinator thanked God who crated lovely swamps, marshes, mangrove forests, amphibians and other fauna related to wetland.

Submitted by: Mr. W. Joel Revingston, HM & Mrs. Rani Kirubairaj, NGC Coordinator, CCM Hr. Sec. School, Idayankudi. thompson_d70@yahoo.com

NESSA sponsored Wildlife Week at St. Christophers Training College, Chennai

Sixty-one second year teacher training course students participated in the Wildlife Week celebration. Introduction about sponsoring agencies ZOO and Amphibian Ark were explained. The TRIO theme..... UN Decade of Biodiversity 2011-2020, UN International Year of Forests 2011 and Year of the Bat 2011 were explained. The distribution amphibian education packets followed it.

The frogs seem to be the regular visitors and inmates of the campus. Mrs. Jessie Jayakaran, the Coordinator, shared the efforts taken by the Amphibian conservation Scientists since 2004, in the Year of the Frog 2008, the COUNT DOWN



Teacher trainee students leaping for amphibian conservation at NESSA program

SAVE BIODIVERSITY 2009-2010, and in the International Year of Biodiversity in 2010. As a result the participants were ready to know the U.N. Decade of Biodiversity 2011-2020. As the uses, reasons for the loss and the efforts to be taken to save the frog were easily available, they were so happy to teach and spread the news during the practice teaching in Oct-Nov' 2011. The students went to the level of saying that they will bring out the matter by role play, dramatizations and songs in Schools. At the end, all the participants shared their experience in the campus to the Hr. Sec. School students in the same campus. The Principal Dr. Mrs. Rachel Jebaraj and the Co-ordinator Mrs. Susan David appreciated well and thanked Zoo Outreach Organisation and said they have received a feather on the cap, because Ms. Joy Alurin, the Treasurer of

NESSA, is the old student of their College.

Submitted by Jessie Jeyakaran, Chennai.

Wildlife Week 2011 at Arignar Anna Zoological Park, Chennai

The 40 NSS students of Madras Christian College, Chennai received the inputs given by Dr. Manimozhi of Arignar Anna Zoological Park, Chennai about the animals including amphibians. As 4 students have already

undergone training and learned more about the frog and bat it was so easy to pass on from the known to unknown besides the Co-ordinators sharing. The amphibian packets were distributed to all and carried out the action-methodology starting from tying up of the rakhe. Dr. Manimozhi has taken the lead to make the students to repeat the oath. There were A.V. sessions besides role-play. After gaining knowledge from the Zoo School



Christian college students spreading amphibian awareness to the visitors at AAZP

Auditorium, all the students with a display banner and the materials marched and shared the importance of amphibians and other animals to the visitors. The Slogan prepared by Dr. Manimozhi and the NSS coordinator, Mr. Paul Jeyakaran, Retd. Deputy Registrar of MK University HoD and Mr. Yagna Selvan were energetic to repeat and thought provoking to the visitors. **Submitted by Jessie Jeyakaran, Chennai.**

Madura College, Madurai, TN Wildlife Week celebrations

To commemorate wildlife week NEST, an NGO organized one day workshop on 4 October 2011 in the PG Department of Zoology, The Madura College (Autonomous), Madurai. The workshop was inaugurated by Mr. Rakesh Kumar Jagenia IFS, District Forest Officer, Madurai District. In has been felicitated by Dr. R. Murali, Principal Madura College. Around 84 students from Meenakshi Government Arts and Science College for women, The American College, Sourastra College, Madura College Higher Secondary School and Madura College were participated and enlightened with

information on Wildlife and their conservation especially on amphibians. Dr. S. Dinakaran gave a detailed presentation on "Frogs-Facts and Myths".

Masks, bracelets and placards on frogs were distributed to the students and asked them to wear and dramatize the need for conservation to the audience in the form of skits and feedback was received from them. Posters on amphibians was displayed in the venue and distributed to the representatives of the colleges who attended the workshop. **Submitted by: P.Ramesh, NEST, Usilampatti, TN. ramesh_nsrc@yahoo.com**

Wildlife Week celebrated by Wildlife SOS at Bannerghatta Biological Park

We conducted the program on 5th October 2011 at Bannerghatta Biological Park, Bangalore. Organizers were Wildlife SOS Staff and few other volunteers. The program was awesome like all our previous programs. This time we mainly concentrated to give awareness to children on bears, primates, amphibians and bats. The amphibian awareness programme was conducted at the



Dr. Arun Sha interacting with kids on amphibian conservation at Bannerghatta Biological Park

children play area. We shared valuable facts about different frogs and their part in environment ecology. We issued the "Amphibian Kit and the Amphibian posters" to the children and asked them to act like frogs. Many children wore the frog mask and they jumped like frogs, mimic like frogs and their parents also enjoyed the show. Many zoo visitors gathered while the show was conducted. We almost conducted small events, play shows, mimic about animals, and dramas in the middle of all the awareness shows. Many children found happy by knowing the facts about animals especially in a zoo visit. All children and other participants took pledge to save wildlife and conserving nature at the end of program.

wildlife in future also. Our special thanks are to Wildlife SOS & Staffs, Volunteers and Bannerghatta Biological Park Management. **Submitted by Gopi Janarthanan, Wildlife SOS Volunteer, Bangalore, Karnataka. gopi.janarthanan@gmail.com**

Amphibians Conservation Awareness programme at ARRS, Karnataka

'Amphibians!!!' was held on the 6 November 2011 at the Agumbe Rainforest Research Station. The program was targeted at the 8-9 Std students of the Agumbe English medium school. The program was a success during which twenty-two selected students were exposed to a broad introduction to amphibian ecology with a detailed focus on frog biology. The program began with an interactive presentation on Amphibians with a primary focus on frogs. The backbone of the presentation was created using the 'Frogs are a part of our biodiversity' package sent to us by the Zoo Outreach Organization. Also included in the presentation was: a talk and video clip on the

Children and their parents appreciated us very much because of the wonderful program organized in a zoo, which they never experienced in their previous visits to the zoo. All the credit goes to Zoo Outreach Organisation and the sponsors of the program kits and their continuous support to the wildlife volunteers. We wish ZOO to bring out more volunteers to save



Madura College students wearing amphibian ark mask during the lecture on amphibian myths & facts



Agumbe students with AArk sponsored amphibian kits at the awareness program



Students are thrilled to see a ceacilian during amphibian field exposure visit

“United Nations Decade on Biodiversity”; types of amphibians; an introduction to frogs, their importance and their current status in South Asia; possible conservation strategies and their implementation; a basic checklist of common found frogs and toads in Agumbe along with video clips and pictures of them.

The next phase of the program was an

interactive session with the students wherein students were encouraged to express their experiences with amphibians. Concepts such as habitat loss, climate change, biodiversity and endemism were brought up in an interactive manner. Focus was given to frogs in explaining the importance of food chains and food webs, the uses of frogs as bio indicators to detect the health of ecosystems was

thoroughly presented. The ACAP, Amphibian Ark and frozen Zoo’s were introduced.

A field exposure to frogs was conducted. Students were trained in identifying frogs to genus level and some to species level in addition to safety protocols. On their request, a challenge of sighting 13 of the common found species in one hour was taken up. The site selected was optimum for practical exposure to differential habitat use of different species of frogs. All frogs found and the students noted their numbers down. Seven of the 13 listed species of frogs were found which then raised a conversation on nocturnal and diurnal lifestyles in animals.

The program ended with a talk on the importance of wildlife education and how every single person can contribute in his or her own way to protecting forests.

Students and faculty members were given the education packages and instructed in ways of involving and educating their classmates in what they had learnt through the day. The group dispersed after lunch wearing the materials provided in the education packages, the walk back to the Agumbe School formed a small procession through the Agumbe town.

The program was a big success and the students were very involved and interested in discussions. ARRS would like to acknowledge the sponsors Amphibian Ark, Zoo Outreach Organization and Wildlife Information Liaison Development. **Submitted by Naren Sreenivasan, Education officer, ARRS, Karnataka naren.arrs@gmail.com**

Celebration of Wildlife Week 2011 by Conservation Himalayas, Chandigarh
Conservation Himalayas celebrated the Wildlife Week with students and teachers of the Himalayan Public School (HPS) at Reckong Peo in Kinnaur district of Himachal Pradesh. On 1 October 2011, the students of 4 - 10 standards and teachers joined the team of the Conservation Himalayas in a small gathering to celebrate the Wildlife Week enthusiastically. Conservation Himalayas is indebted to the Zoo Outreach Organization for supplying WLW educational resource materials for this program. The theme of the program was ‘Understanding and Saving Biodiversity’. Mrs. Aruna Negi, the field program officer of the Conservation Himalayas



The kinds of South Asian Amphibians explained by the poster to HPS students

taught the kids about the basic concept of biodiversity by a play way method in which a few students played the role of wild animals wearing paper masks of a variety of wildlife. Thirteen students participated in this role-play activity to understand and make the audience to understand the meaning of biodiversity. With the help of this play way method the students were taught how living organisms in an ecosystem depend on each other for survival. Aruna Negi explained to the students the role of frogs and bats in the environment. The ZOO kits on Amphibians and Bats were used to teach the facts about the frogs and bats and their ecological roles in the environment. At the end of the program, ZOO educational resource materials on amphibians, bats and bears were distributed to all the teachers and students and the contents were

explained in detail.

Conservation Himalayas is especially thankful to the ZOO Outreach Organization and Amphibian Ark for the resource materials. We are also thankful to the Principal of the Himalayan Public School for giving permission to the students. **Submitted**

by: Santhosh Kumar Sahoo, Conservation Himalayas, Chandigarh. chimalayas@yahoo.com

Wildlife Week Celebrations at the American College, Madurai, TN

The Department of Zoology, The American College has organized Wildlife Week

Celebrations on 4.10.2011 to commemorate the culmination of United Nations Decade on Biodiversity (2011-2020), International Year of Forests (2011), World Animal Welfare Day (Oct. 4th) and Wildlife Week Celebrations (Oct.1-7). More than 200 students belonging to various Departments of the college participated. Various inter-departmental competitions like essay writing, pencil sketching and slogan writing were conducted on the theme of Wildlife Conservation. Dr. M. Davamani Christofer, Bursar elaborates about the India's wildlife resources and list out the species found only in India including amphibians and the importance of conservation in his felicitation. Thiru. Rakesh Kumar Jagenia, I.F.S., Chief Guest of the function emphasized the importance of conserving Wildlife and aim & significance of these celebrations. Zoo Outreach Organization



The American College students wearing AArk logo masks and holding placards

education materials on amphibians distributed to the students and they were explained in detail. Students wore the masks and tied the rakhi by pledging to conserve the amphibians. **Submitted by M.Rajesh, American College, Madurai, TN.** lillyrajesh@yahoo.com.

University of Lucknow Celebrated Wildlife Week

The Department of Zoology, University of Lucknow organized Wildlife Week from 1-7 October in Collaboration with "Z.O.O.'s Educator Network" ZEN and Regional Science City, Lucknow. The programme was conducted at Regional Science City, Lucknow, involving high school students, Intermediate, Graduates, Postgraduates, N.S.S (National Service Scheme), N.C.C. (National Cadet Corps), and Rovers & Rangers (Bharat Scouts' & Guides). The students represented from Lucknow University and other 9 colleges and 18 schools. ZOO's amphibian poster and packets were utilized to make people aware about these wonderful animals. The students were divided into three groups and the following competitions were organized. And they were: short essay on wildlife crime, debate on "Keeping animals as pet ethical or non ethical!" Poem Recitation (Hindi/ English) on wildlife themes, art Competition (painting), greeting cards making and slogan writing on wildlife themes, face painting and fancy dress and Rangoli with the theme animals in Indian culture. **Submitted by: Dr. Amita Kanaujia, AP, University**



Lucknow university programme motivated students in species conservation including amphibians

of Lucknow. kanaujia.amita@gmail.com

RMNH, Bhopal, MP – Amphibian Awareness programme

Regional Museum of Natural History, Bhopal organized awareness programmes on "Frogs are part of Biodiversity" at "Pragya School, Rajharsh Colony" on 18 October 2011. Eighty enthusiastic students from class 9-12 participated in this programme and expressed their solidarity towards animal welfare. Shri. Manik Lal Gupta,

Educational Assistant of the museum informed the students that frog soaks harmful substances through their skin, which could threaten human beings. Frogs eat bugs and insects, which destroy crops and carry harmful pathogen to us. He made an appeal to the students that they should not disturb their habitat and they should avoid using shampoo, soap or detergent in excess to save frogs. During the programme study materials received from Zoo Outreach Organisation, Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu,

like rakhi, mask, posters and booklets were used. **Submitted by Dr. S. Sethuramalingarn, Scientist- E, RMNH, Bhopal.** rmnhsethu@bsnl.in

WWF Kerala observed Wildlife Week

WWF-India, Kerala State Office observed Wildlife Week 2011 with the support of Zoo Outreach Organization (ZOO) at KPSMMV Higher Secondary School, Varode, Palakkad on 7 October 2011 with the participation of around 150 students from nearby five Higher Secondary Schools. The event included programmes like awareness sessions, wildlife quiz, painting, and essay writing competitions on wildlife including frogs.

The event was inaugurated by Mr. S. Guruvayurappan, South India Coordinator, Wildlife Protection Society of India (WPSI). He also led the technical session on Wildlife of Kerala. All the participants were provided with the



Students expressed solidarity towards amphibian welfare at RMNH programme



The Amphibian education kits used to teach an overview about amphibian conservation

education materials on bats, bears, and amphibians etc. from the Zoo Outreach Organization (ZOO), Coimbatore. Posters also were exhibited at the venue and distributed to participated schools for their notice board.
Submitted by: A.K. Sivakumar, Senior Education Officer, WWF-India, Kerala State Office. sivanpalode@gmail.com

Wildlife Celebration in Goa by the Wildlife and Eco-Tourism Division

Wildlife and Eco-Tourism (South) Division celebrated wildlife week with variety of programmes including nature camps for students in the sanctuaries. On 04 October 2011 a nature camp for students of Government High School Netravali Sanguem was arranged. A total of 51 School Children and 3 teachers from 5-9 standard attended the camp. On 05 October 2011 a Nature Camp for students of Shri Shradanand High School Poiguinim was conducted. Fifty-three

students attended the same along with teachers. During the daylong programme, slide show, quiz and on the spot drawing



Goa forest department arranged a programme on amphibians

competition based on forestry and wildlife were arranged. The educational material on amphibians supplied by Zoo Outreach Organisation was distributed and explained to the students and they were very much useful for the students to know more about the species.
Submitted by Ramesh N Dessai, Asst. Conservator of Forests, Wildlife & Eco-Tourism (South), Margao, Goa.

Wildlife Awareness Programme during Wildlife Week by WWF-India, M.P & Chhattisgarh

The primary focus of the wildlife week celebration was to enhance the knowledge of wildlife among students. There could be no better way of celebrating wildlife week than conducting competitions on wildlife & environment by involving the students and teachers. WWF-I, M.P. & Chhattisgarh State Office organized various competitions for different age group of people during the entire wildlife week. Apart from these programmes on 3 October 2011 a workshop was organized on amphibians in Govt. Middle School, Tatri. Children of the age group of 8-12 yrs were

sensitized about amphibians. After the lecture and the distribution of kits a quiz competition was kept to judge the knowledge of the children. The children took great interest in the programme and all the winners of the quiz competition were awarded with some prize by WWF-I. The children were told about the role of amphibians in ecosystem and motivated to help in conserving amphibians. Even a handprint competition was done to motivate the children towards conservation of Nature. The packet of kit on Amphibian, i.e. Frogs are part of Biodiversity obtained from Zoo Outreach Organization was distributed to all the participants. The children were thrilled to get the frog stickers and mask of the frog. **Submitted by: Ms. Sangita Saxena, WWF India, Bhopal, MP. sdwwfmpcg@gmail.com**

Wildlife awareness programmes by PUPA, West Bengal

In International Year of Biodiversity, Paribesh Unnayan Parishad conducted wildlife awareness programme with education material support from Zoo Outreach Organisation



Students thrilled to receive amphibian education kits

and the materials sponsored by Amphibian Ark. During the celebration, wildlife awareness amongst the urban & rural school students created. The programme was held at Jadavpur Sammilita Balika Vidyalaya in Kolkata on 11 November. Twenty students were participated. Headmistress of the school inaugurated the programme. Mr. Arjun Manna, WWF-Sundarban and Dr. A. Misra were the resource persons. Lectures were given on wildlife conservation. After the presentation, plantation was held. As a follow up of the programme, Miss. Mousree Pradhan of class IX planned for massive plantation drive of Neem tree in the rural area of her own. On 16 November another awareness programme was held at Phulbari Sitala High School in Sagar Island. Thirty-five students were participated. A talk on Wildlife Conservation was given. At the end the students played a mini skit on wildlife. In both the programmes different activities like group discussion, frog race, a skit, quiz competition shows that this will help in conservation efforts and reduce adverse impacts on wildlife.
Submitted by: Dr. A. Misra, PUPA, Kolkata, WB.
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Wildlife Week programme at Srikantha Balika Proudashala, Mysore
 Wildlife Week was celebrated in Srikantha Balika Proudashala in Mysore. Programmes were conducted on two Saturdays, on one Saturday a programme



One of the students teaching about saving amphibians to other students in Mysore

was conducted to our Science Club students and they understood the each and every concept of the wildlife education packets of bat, bear and **amphibians** provided by ZOO. They discussed whatever they learned from the programme mutually and with teachers and others. Next Saturday they conducted programme on the particular topic to other students of the school. By this way all school children understood the importance of Year of Biodiversity and their responsibility to save our planet. Thank you for sending education materials to our children.
Submitted by G. Suma, Karnataka.
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GEER Foundation, Gujarat organized special event on Wildlife Week
 Wildlife Week is an opportunity to reach many, many people. Wildlife Week is probably one of the most participatory wildlife events in the world. This year in association with Zoo Outreach

Organisation (ZOO), Wildlife Information Liaison Development, (WILD) Society, Amphibian Ark, Chester Zoo, UK, Conservation Breeding Specialist Group, USA, CCINSA, Alertis – Fund for Bear and Nature Conservation, GEER Foundation had organized a special event “Understanding Biodiversity” during the Wildlife Week 2011 celebration at Indroda Nature Park, Gandhinagar. In this event Young Eco Ambassadors of the Gujarat state were given education packets containing wrist band,

face mask with the message of Biodiversity is Life – our lives and wildlife’ during a specially designed workshop for Young Eco Ambassadors, organized at GEER Foundation, Gandhinagar. There were three different educational packets i.e. Amphibians, Bats and Bears.

After the distribution of educational packets, they were explained about Biodiversity and importance of Biodiversity Conservation by Shri S.P. Patel, Dy. Director, GEER Foundation in first session. In his speech he



Young Eco Ambassadors of Gujarat taught about amphibian conservation

emphasized on equilibrium of humanity and natural biodiversity. After that they all masked themselves with different masks they got from the packets. In session two, they explored the Indroda Nature Park with the concept of conserving biodiversity, and also interacted with the visitors of the Park to make them aware of biodiversity and their importance. They also accompanied the visitors during their visit to the park and made them aware about the importance of wildlife for our own existence in third session. All participants highly appreciated the educational materials kits supplied by Zoo Outreach Organisation. **Submitted by S.P. Patel, Dy. Director (E.E), GEER Foundation, Gandhinagar, Gujarat. dydir-geer@gujarat.gov.in**

Animal Welfare Fortnight Report

CEE Madhya Pradesh Animal Welfare Fortnightly 2012 awareness programmes

Animal Welfare Fortnight is a popular animal's event celebrated every year for over 50 years in India in the last two weeks of January i.e. 14-31 January. Animal Welfare Board of India AWBI organizes the event. Zoo Outreach Organization and other sponsors help educators of all kinds use the event to create awareness by providing complimentary educational material. The material developed for specific animal is oriented toward both conservation and welfare.

Centre for Environment Education, CEE Madhya Pradesh State Office, Bhopal conducted 5 programmes using the materials to create an enjoyable and meaningful

experience for school students and participants. CEE representative Mr. Dilip Chakravarty, Project Officer organized specific lecture on Bear, Monkey, Frog, Amphibians and Bats to the selected 5 schools (class VI to X) of Hoshangabad district of Madhya Pradesh. He highlights the animal welfare components in the kit/packets developed by Zoo Outreach organization. The emphasis is given on the fact that if all wildlife conservation practiced properly, it benefits the domestic and wild animals in the long term. Mr. Joseph Kujur, CEE facilitated the sessions. On 28 Jan, frog awareness programme was held at SNG Higher Secondary School, Hosangabad. One hundred and fifty students and 10 teachers participated. Another amphibian awareness programme was held on the same day at Government Boy's and

Girl's School, Koti Bajar, Hosangabad and 80 students plus 5 teachers took part in it.

Each awareness programme was lasted for an hour. Introduction about ZOO and CEE were given to the participants for about 10 minutes and detailed information about amphibian was given about 30 minutes. The students and teachers used another 20 minutes for demonstrating the ZOO education kits and their usage. Session on wildlife or animals was very much interested to students and teachers, as the programmes on such theme are never happened in the schools. Students took oath for not harming the amphibians by using flap card or pledge card. Group of students was called for tying of *rakhi* and take message to conserve and protect the frogs. Stickers were given to students to use as an attraction to



SNG HSS students leaping forward for the cause of amphibian conservation



Students who participated in the amphibian welfare and awareness programme

animal. Animal mascot is used to resemble the animal and think of it.

Information booklet was generally given to teachers for further

follow up of programmes in the schools. **Submitted by: Dilip Chakravarty,**

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AMPHIBIAN KIT - EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS

