

REPORT ON BAT EDUCATIONAL MATERIAL FOR INDIA

Introduction

A Conservation Assessment and Management Plan (C.A.M.P.) is a workshop process for assessing the probability of extinction of species, developed by the Conservation Breeding Specialist Group, *SSC IUCN*. A CAMP for South Asian Chiroptera was conducted from 21-25 January 2002 at Madurai Kamaraj University (M.K.U., Madurai). A total of 43 bat experts from Nepal, Sri Lanka, India, Myanmar, U.K. and U.S.A. participated in the workshop. The workshop was also a five-year review of an earlier C.A.M.P. for Mammals of India conducted in 1997 in Bangalore, Karnataka under the auspices of the Biodiversity Conservation Prioritisation Project (BCPP) for India.

To bring together bat researchers and NGO's in South Asia, Zoo Outreach Organisation (ZOO) initiated a network called "Chiroptera Conservation and Information Network of South Asia *CCINSA* and has run this network very successfully by motivating network members to work for bat conservation in South Asia. Almost every year (depending on funds contributed) in a different South Asian Country the network aided by ZOO conduct bat field training for them. A session on educating the public using bat education material provided by ZOO is part of every training.

During the CAMP workshop the participants were divided into different working groups including education. The education working group members discussed a strategy for tackling the negative attitudes towards bats, which consisted of a variety of educational activities, items and projects aimed at audiences of different ages and in different strata of society. During a session devoted to personal commitments there were many pledges to conduct educational and awareness activities for all levels of people, to start bat clubs, and to conduct a variety of research projects.

Zoo Outreach Organisation has developed education materials on bats distributed to *CCINSA* members, forest department personnel, education institutions, non-governmental organisations and others. since 2002 with the sponsorship of western countries donors. ZOO encouraged our batters and others to start bat clubs with materials needed for the club supplied by ZOO. ZOO been carrying out this service for over a decade. Out of these bat promotion activities ZOO and *CCINSA* has reached out to many thousands of people across India and other South Asian Countries such as Bangladesh, Pakistan, Nepal and Sri Lanka. There bat biologists doing surveys, research and in the meantime make people aware the importance of bats and try to eliminate the negative attitude of bats through well-planned interactive education programmes. With the generous support from **Chester Zoological Gardens** and the **Conservation Breeding Specialist Group, *SSC IUCN*** we made bat education materials for wildlife week 2011.

Report

In 2011 ZOO published 3000 bat education packets and used almost all of them

during Wildlife Week, 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 bats, their behaviour, their qualities and their problems. 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 bat education programmes were generated and published in ZOOS' PRINT, and are reflected below in brief. Unfortunately, not all organisers submitted report.

Of the **3000** packets, **2905** were distributed to organizers and participants for Wildlife Week and few of them distributed in the international meetings and workshops by our staff. The remaining packets were used during Animal Welfare Fortnightly but for a few which we keep for our record.

Click on the URL below to get to the Year of the Bat Educational Literatures.

http://www.zooreach.org/ZOO_WILD_Projects/2011_Projects/Bat_edu_literatures.zip

Bat Packet Distribution
Wildlife Week 2011
Number of Bat packets printed-3000

S.No	Name & address of the person	Packets ordered	Report
1	R. Gopi Janarthanan, Volunteer - Wildlife SOS India Bangalore, Karnataka	50	Received
2	Santhosh Kumar Sahoo, Chairman, Conservation Himalayas Chandigarh	50	Received
3	A.K. Sivakumar, Senior Education Officer. WWF- India Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala	50	Received
4	Director, Tata Steel Zoological Park Jamshedpur, Jharkhand - 831 001	50	Received
5	S. Sethuramalingam, Scientist E, Regional Museum of Natural History Bhopal - 462016, Madhya Pradesh	50	Received
6	P. Ramesh, Nethaji Snake Trust (NEST) Usilampatti, Madurai - 625532, Tamil Nadu	25	Received
7	Jessie Jeyakaran Ramapuram, Chennai - 600 089, Tamil Nadu	100	Received
8	A.K. Bhowmik, Director, Sepahijala Zoological Park Tripura (West) - 799 102	50	Received
9	Amita Kanaujia, Associate Professor, Lucknow University Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh - 226 010	30	Received
10	Amales Misra, Secretary, Paribesh Unnayan Parishad Phulbari, South 24 Parganas, West Bengal	50	Received
11	State Director, WWF-I, M.P. & CG. State Office Bhopal 462016, Madhya Pradesh	50	Received
12	S.P. Patel, Deputy Director, Geer Foundation Gandhinagar - 382 007, Gujarat	50	Received
13	Vinodkumar Dhamoder, Conservation of Nature Society Calicut - 673 004, Kerala	50	Received
14	Ms. Rani Kirubairaj, Teacher, Idayangudi, Tirunelveli, Tamil Nadu	50	Received
15	V. Deepthi, Cofounder and Manger, Strategic Alliances (YESS Media) Kothapet - 500 035, Andhra Pradesh	25	Not Received
16	P. Gracious, Asst. Conservator of Forests Annapet, ELURU, W.G. Dist., Andhra Pradesh - 534 006	25	Not Received
17	Sudip Kanta Basistha, General Secretary, Kalpadroom Foundation Guwahati, Assam	50	Not Received
18	Abhay Kumar, Director, Sanjay Gandhi Biological Park Patna, Bihar	50	Not Received
19	S. Senthil Kumar, Dy. Conservator of Forests(WL) Port Blair, Andaman & Nicobar	50	Not Received

S.No	Name & address of the person	Packets ordered	Report
20	Ramesh N. Dessai, Asst. Conservator of Forests Margao, Gao	50	Not Received
21	D.N.F. Carvalho, Deputy Conservator of Forests, Junta House Panaji - Goa	50	Not Received
22	G.A. Sodha, Range Forest Officer, Khijodiya Bird Sanctuary Jamnagar, Gujarat	25	Not Received
23	R.D. Kamboj, Chief Conservator of Forests, Marine National Park Jamnagar, Gujarat	25	Not Received
24	R.K. Shilu, Range Forest Officer Dwarka, Gujarat	25	Not Received
25	Director, Sakkarbaug Zoological Park Junagadh, Gujarat	50	Not Received
26	A.C. Jain, Deputy Conservator of Forests Chhotaulclepur, Dist. Vadodora, Gujarat	25	Not Received
27	P.A. Patel, Deputy Conservator of Forests, Nalsarovar Bird Sanctuary Ahmedabad, Gujarat	25	Not Received
28	C.B. Baria, Deputy Conservator of Forests, Baria Dahod, Gujarat	25	Not Received
29	V.G. Chaudhari, Dy. Conservator of Forests Valsad, Gujarat	25	Not Received
30	M.R. Gujjar, Dy. Conservator of Forests, Extension Division Bhuj-Kutchchh, Gujarat	15	Not Received
31	P.V. Raval, Deputy Conservator of Forests Sabar Kantha (South) Division, Gujarat	25	Not Received
32	D.P. Tipre, Conservator of Forests Vadodara, Gujarat	25	Not Received
33	N.D. Patel, IFS, Dy. Conservator of Forests (SF), Junathana Navsari, Gujarat	25	Not Received
34	Deputy Conservator of Forests (SF), Sardar Baug Junagadh, Gujarat	25	Not Received
35	R. L Patel, Dy. Conservator of Forests (SF), Bharuch, Gujarat	25	Not Received
36	RK. Raj (HPFS) DFO, Zoos and Rescue Division, Khalini Shimla, Himachal Pradesh	25	Not Received
37	C.M. Seth, Chairperson, World Wide Fund for Nature, J&K State office University of Jammu, J& K	25	Not Received
38	Shankarappa K.P, Wildlife Conservation Group, Shivanahalli, Bangalore - 560 083, Karnataka	20	Not Received
39	Ramesh S. Bhat, Manager, Office of the Conservator of Forest Kodagu Circle, Madikeri - 571 201, Karnataka	10	Not Received

S.No	Name & address of the person	Packets ordered	Report
40	K.K. Poovamma, Head Mistress, Gauthampura Govt. Higher Primary School, Jnana Bharathi Post, Bangalore - 56, Karnataka	30	Not Received
41	T J Ravikumar, KFS, Deputy Conservator of Forests (WL) Shimoga - 577201, Karnataka	25	Not Received
42	H. J. Bhandary, Director, Pilikula Biological Park Vamanjoor, Mangalore (D.K.) - 575028, Karnataka.	50	Not Received
43	Ms. Latha Tampi, Vice-President, ZOOWATCH. Trivandrum - 695 006 , Kerala	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	50	Not Received
52	S. Thirunaavukarasu, Conservator of Forests Kavarratti- 682555, U.T. of Lakshadweep	25	Not Received
53	D. Arun, IFS, Conservator of Forests Erode, Tamil Nadu	20	Not Received
54	S. Kalayanasundaram, Conservator of Forests Chennai - 600 006, Tamil Nadu	25	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	25	Not Received
59	R. Aiswariya, Trustee, TREE Kallidaikurichi - 627 412, Tamil Nadu	50	Not Received

S.No	Name & address of the person	Packets ordered	Report
60	S. Vishwanathan, Assistant Professor, Sri Paramakalyani College Alwarkurichi - 627 412, Tirunelveli, Tamil Nadu	50	Not Received
61	S. Balaji, Additional PCCF, Tamil Nadu Forest Academy Coimbatore 641 002, Tamil Nadu	50	Not Received
62	H. Malleshappa, Field Director, Kalakad Mundanthurai Tiger Reserve Tirunelveli - 627 007, Tamil Nadu	25	Not Received
63	S. Panda, IFS, Director, Nandankanan Biological Park, Bhubaneswar, Odisha - 751 007	50	Not Received
64	Anop Singh Khisis, Range Forest Officer, Jodhpur Zoo Jodhpur, Rajasthan	50	Not Received
65	Dy. Chief Wildlife Warden, Jaipur Zoo Jaipur-302 004, Rajasthan	50	Not Received
66	Praveen Rao, Director, Kanpur Zoological Gardens Kanpur - 208 002, Uttar Pradesh	25	Not Received
67	R.K. Mishra, Director, Corbett Tiger Reserve Ramnagar, Nainital, Uttrakhand.	25	Not Received
68	Santanu Mitra, Secretary, Tarakeswar Science Club Tarakeswar, Hooghly, West Bengal - 712 410	50	Not Received
69	Principal Chief Conservator of Forest - cum-Chief Wildlife Warden Talland, Shimla-171 001, Himachal Pradesh	50	Not Received
70	R J Rao, Jiwaji University Gwalior 474011, Madhya Pradesh	25	Not Received
71	K.J. Varughese, Chief Conservator of Forests, Forest Head Quarters Thiruvananthapuram-695 014, Kerala	50	Not Received
72	Ashish Kumar Behera, Divisional Forest Officer, Khariar Post-766107, Odhisha	50	Not Received
73	Alok Kumar IFS, Field Director, Pench Tiger Reserve Seoni-480 661, Madhya Pradesh	50	Not Received
74	Payal B. Molur, Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu	25	Not Received
75	B. Rathinasabapathy, NBNP, Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu	10	Not 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
	Total	2905	

**Report submitted by R. Marimuthu
Zoo Outreach Organisation**

Short Reports of some organisations utilising Bat educational materials sponsored by Chester Zoological Gardens and Conservation Breeding Specialist Group SSC IUCN

Wildlife Week Celebration at Sepahijala Zoological Park, Tripura

As part of the week-long wildlife celebrations a talk on Wildlife Conservation was delivered to the selected students of Sri Nagar Garordhi H.S School & Latiachara High School on 19 & 29-10-2011. Sri A. K. Bhowmik, Director, delivered the lecture. About 700 students attended the lecture in both schools. The lecture was followed by an activity session on bats. The education kit received from Zoo Outreach Organisation used in the programme and Chester Zoo and Conservation Breeding Specialist Group CBSG sponsored the packet. The students were briefed about the packet items. They were told about the kinds, the threats to bats, how they are beneficial to nature and why we have to conserve them. Then they wore the bat masks and holding the placards

took an oath to conserving of bats.
Submitted by: Mr. Ajit K. Bhowmik, Director.
Email:bhowmik_ak@yahoo.com

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 was conducted to our Science Club students and they understood many facts about wildlife from the wildlife



education packets of **bats**, bears and amphibians provided by ZOO. They discussed whatever they learned from the programme with teachers and other students. Next Saturday

a programme was arranged for other students of the school so that all school children understood the importance of Year of Biodiversity and their responsibility to save our

planet. Thank you to ZOO for sending education materials to our children.
Submitted by G. Suma, Karnataka.
Email:suma.ecomysore@gmail.com

Wildlife awareness programmes by PUPA, WestBengal

Paribesh Unnayan Parishad conducted wildlife awareness programme with education material support from Zoo Outreach Organisation and the materials sponsored by Chester Zoo, CBSG and UFAW. During the celebration, wildlife awareness on bats and frog amongst the urban & rural school students was created. The programme was held at Jadavpur Sammilita Balika Vidyalaya in Kolkata on 11 November. Twenty students participated. Headmistress inaugurated the programme and Mr. Arjun Manna, WWF-Sundarban and Dr. A. Misra were the resource persons who gave lectures on wildlife conservation especially bats and frogs. On 16 November another awareness programme was held at Phulbari Sitala High School in Sagar Island with 35 students. At the end the students played a mini skit on bats. In both the programmes different activities like group discussion, frog race, a skit on bats, quiz competition shows that this will help in conservation efforts and reduce adverse impacts on wildlife.

Submitted by: Dr. A. Misra, PUPA, Kolkata, WB. Email: amargram.pupa@gmail.com.

TATA Steel



Zoological Park, Jamshedpur

Tata Steel Zoological Park, Jamshedpur celebrated wildlife week from 2-9 October 2011 with different theme based programmes and bat awareness programme was one among them. About 500 students from 40-50 Schools participated in Essay Writing Competition, Debate, Fancy dress and Drawing Competitions. As we are aware that the world celebrating three major campaigns, International Year of Forests (2011), Year of the Bat (2011-2012), and the UN Decade on Biodiversity (2011-2020). The Tata Zoo also designed all the programmes accordingly; the theme of the Essay Writing competition was "Forest a necessity for survival of humankind". The topic of the Debate competition was "Bats- nuisance species or service provider in ecosystem". Fourteen children's of std. IX and X from 9 different schools participated in the programme and in Quiz topic was "Biodiversity and Indian Wildlife".

The educational materials were distributed to the programme participants during the competition to make the programme more interesting especially during the debate and on the spot painting competition. The children enjoyed with informative educational materials provided by the Zoo Outreach Organization, Coimbatore, Tamilnadu. The Zoological Park once again thanks to the Z.O.O for their support and make the theme based programme



success. **Submitted by:**
S. K. Mahato, Curator.
Email:
skmahato196@rediffm

The Wildlife Week celebration was conducted on 10 October 2011. Nearly 40 N.G.C

steps to be carried out to protect and to conserve the BIODIVERSITY were distributed to the



ail.com

Wildlife week 2011 at
St. Mary's Hr.
Secondary School,
Madurai

students received inputs on U.N. Decade of Biodiversity, U.N. International Year of Forest and the Year of the Bats. Copies of the importance, uses and the

students. After the silent study, one student read that aloud and they were decided to spread the information and follow the guidance such as read and gain more

about Biodiversity from newspapers and mass media (T.V), proper disposal of waste, non-polluting the waterbeds, recycling of water and paper besides sharing to the neighbourhood. Just like the 5 fingers of a hand, they decided to carry out the same.

Regarding the FOREST the ecological, economical, scientific, aesthetic, social and recreational values were explained besides their benefits and services to mankind. As the year of the BAT 2011 promotes the conservation, research and education on these unique flying mammals, St. Marys H.S.S. was coined as it is situated within 1 km of Thirumalai Nayakar Mahal where the bats visits for more than a century and this place is in the heart of Madurai City. The free bat educational packets received from ZOO, India were distributed. Most of the students have seen the bat at school, home and in Mahal. So, it was easy to carry out the programme. Two of the students named the bats as they have studied in Science and English poem. With the bat education materials and posters they understood more good things about bats. They decided to spread this message to other students at their school and other schools, family members and public. Their monthly report will add new information about BATS in Madurai. **Submitted by Jessie Jeyakaran, Chennai. Email: jesseyjey@rediffmail.com**

Conservation of Nature Society Programmes for Wildlife Week 2011

The Conservation of Nature Society arranged programmes for Wildlife week from the 2-8 October 2011. We conducted awareness programmes on all the days since this year is Year of the Forest and Year of the Bats etc., On 5 October a programme on bats was conducted by the Society's executive committee members and they had taken classes on the need of protect bats. ZOO's bat education kit was used in the programme. The photo taken in Mumbai Chembur area how (the shade trees where bats are protected) even in a busy city area the bats have been protected shown to the

took classes based on the same. The methods of capturing bats for taxonomy, their prey in the forests and how they are helping regenerating forests were explained. Using the materials of ZOO's bat education kits created awareness. The participants thanked for ZOO materials.

Submitted by Mr. Vinod Kumar Damodar, Joint Secretary, Conservation of Nature Society, Calicut, Kerala.

NESSA sponsored Wildlife Week at St. Christophers Training College, Chennai
Sixty-one second year teacher training students participated in the

received from ZOO, India on Frog, Bat & Bear. They were explained about sponsoring organizations of education materials ZOO, Chester Zoo and CBSG, IUCN/SSC.

The bats seem to be the regular visitor and inmate of the college campus. As they have witnessed many bats in the campus the students themselves took this session besides the coordinator's assistance. They learned many things about bats through the bat education packets. The Bookmark received much attention to the level of taking copies for the distribution in their teaching days. At the end, all the participants



participants, while the smaller cities and other towns in India are unable to protect them.

On 08.10.2011 another awareness programme was held based on the HINDU article 'Batting for the Bat'. The Society Executive Committee

Wildlife Week Celebration. The TRIO theme..... UN Decade of Biodiversity 2011-2020, UN International Year of Forest 2011 and Year of the Bats 2011-12 were explained which was followed by the distribution of 3 educational packets

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, WAZA and CBSG for the

materials. **Submitted by Jessie Jeyakaran, Chennai. Email: jesseyjey@rediffmail.com**

Madura College, Madurai, TN Wildlife Week celebrations

To commemorate wild life week NEST, an NGO organized one-day workshop on 4 October 2011 in the PG Department of Zoology of Madura College. Mr. Rakesh Kumar Jagenia IFS, District Forest Officer, inaugurated the workshop. 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. The resource persons were gave detailed presentations on frogs, bats, bears and snakes.

Masks, bracelets and placards on bats, frogs, and bears 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. **Submitted by: P.Ramesh, NEST, Usilampatti, TN. Email: ramesh_nsrc@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

(Bharat Scouts' &

competitions were



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

Guides). The students represented from Lucknow University and other 9 colleges and 18 schools.

ZOO's bat and other education kits were utilized to make people aware about these neglected animals. The students were divided into three groups and

organized on bats.

Submitted by: Dr. Amita Kanaujia, AP, University of Lucknow. Email: kanaujia.amita@gmail.com

RMNH, Bhopal, MP – Amphibian, Bat, Bear and Elephant Awareness



programmes

Regional Museum of Natural History, Bhopal organized awareness programmes on "Bats & 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. Biological control was the buzzword. Shri. Manik Lal Gupta, Educational Assistant of the museum informed the students that largest bat in the world is *Pteropus vampyrus* with a wingspan of 6 feet and measures 1 Kg. and in South Asia, it is found only in Nicobar Islands. While describing their distribution he told that hog nosed bat found in south and Southeast Asia is smallest bat in the world weighs about 2 grams with 6-inch wingspan that can fit into a matchbox. He disclosed that how fruit bats play an important role in the survival of forests, especially rain forests and in India, short nosed fruit bats are important pollinators. While describing the eco-friendliness of bats, he said one insectivorous bat could eat roughly 600-1000 mosquitoes and other insect pests in one night!. He brought to the notice that they also kill other insects like bugs, which destroy fruit and other trees and small mammals such as rodents that destroy stored grains and other crops. Thus ecologically they play an active role in regeneration of forests. He advised that bats living near the

student's home could keep themselves free of insect bites and other troubles caused by flying insects! He said this is known as biological control.

While he explaining the degradation of various habitats narrated about natural and anthropogenic threats to bats like storms, forest fire, habitat loss, urbanization, hunting for food and medicine, mining, pollution, pesticides and disturbance caused to caves, trees, buildings where bats roost. He appealed to the students to come forward to conserve bats and suggested some steps for similar to the forest conservation; avoid fumigation near to bat roosting sites and not to disturb trees, caves, buildings or any roosting site etc. 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. Email: rmnhsethu@bsnl.in**

Wildlife Week 2011 with the support of ZOO - Activity Report

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 bat awareness sessions, wildlife quiz, painting, and essay writing competitions for all students. All the participants were provided with the education materials on bats from the Zoo Outreach Organization (ZOO), Coimbatore. **Submitted by: A.K.Sivakumar, Senior Education Officer, WWF-India, Kerala State Office. Email: sivanpalode@gmail.com**

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.

On 4 October a programme was organized in Govt. Middle School, Indri, Mandla District, M.P. The children were educated about wildlife. They were sensitized about importance of bats in the ecosystem and how to save them. After the lectures, the participants were asked to give five minutes presentation about their views and a group discussion was also held on nature conservation. All the children took keen interest in the presentation and group discussion. Quiz was also organized just to check the interest of students and we were surprised to know that the participants answered all the questions. The kit on Bats & Biodiversity of Zoo Outreach Organization along with education kit of WWF-I was distributed to all the participants.

On 5 Oct 2011 a workshop was organized on nature Conservation in Govt. Hr. Sec. School, Chilpi of C.G. Children of the age group of 13-18 yrs were sensitized about wildlife and its importance in ecosystem. The children were told about the role of bats in ecosystem and motivated to help

in conserving them. After the lecture a quiz competition was kept to judge the knowledge of the children. **Submitted by: Ms. Sangita Saxena, WWF India, Bhopal, MP. Email: sdwwfmpcg@gmail.com**

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

National Green Corps of Caldwell Centenary Memorial Higher Secondary School arranged various environmental awareness programmes throughout the year in important eco days. 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



Hr. Sec. School, Idayankudi. Email: thompson_d70@yahoo.com

materials sponsors Chester Zoo and CBSG for supplying WLV educational resource materials.



education materials used in our programmes and bat education kit also used in one of our programmes. They were taken to nearby fruit bat roosting area and they were explained about bats by using the literature from ZOO kits. The students made aware of protecting our nature through these activities. **Submitted by: Mr. W. Joel Revingston, HM & Mrs. Rani Kirubairaj, NGC Coordinator, CCM**

Celebration of Wildlife Week 2011 by Conservation Himalayas, Chandigarh

On 1 October, Conservation Himalayas celebrated the Wildlife Week with of 4 - 10 standards students and teachers of the Himalayan Public School (HPS) at Reckong Peo in Kinnaur district of Himachal Pradesh. Conservation Himalayas is indebted to the Zoo Outreach Organization and

The theme of the program was 'Understanding and Saving Biodiversity'. Mrs. Aruna Negi, the field program officer of the Conservation Himalayas 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 including bats. 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 bats and other animals in the environment. The bat education was used to teach the facts about bats and their ecological role in the environment. At the end of the program, bat education material was distributed to all the teachers and students and the contents were explained in detail. **Submitted by: Santhosh Kumar Sahoo, Conservation Himalayas, Chandigarh. Email: chimalayas@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 participants were zoo visiting children and their parents. Various theme-based programmes were conducted on that day and one of them was on bats. The children were divided into different batches. The last awareness program on bats was given to the final batch of children and other participants. We shared the knowledge about varieties of bats and their ecological role. We mentioned that United Nation and Bat conservation International declared this year as "International Year of Bats". Children were very eager to know about bats and they asked various questions about bats. Then we issued the "Bat kit" to the children they found many answers about the bats from the "Bat Kit" itself. We conducted small events, play shows, mimic about animals, and dramas in the middle of the programme. 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 programme. 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 Chester Zoo and CBSG of the program kits and their continuous support to the wildlife volunteers.

Submitted by Gopi Janarthanan, Wildlife SOS Volunteer, Bangalore, Karnataka. Email: gopi.janarthanan@gmail.com

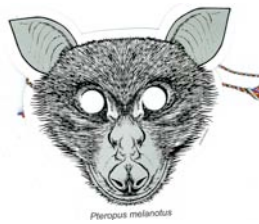
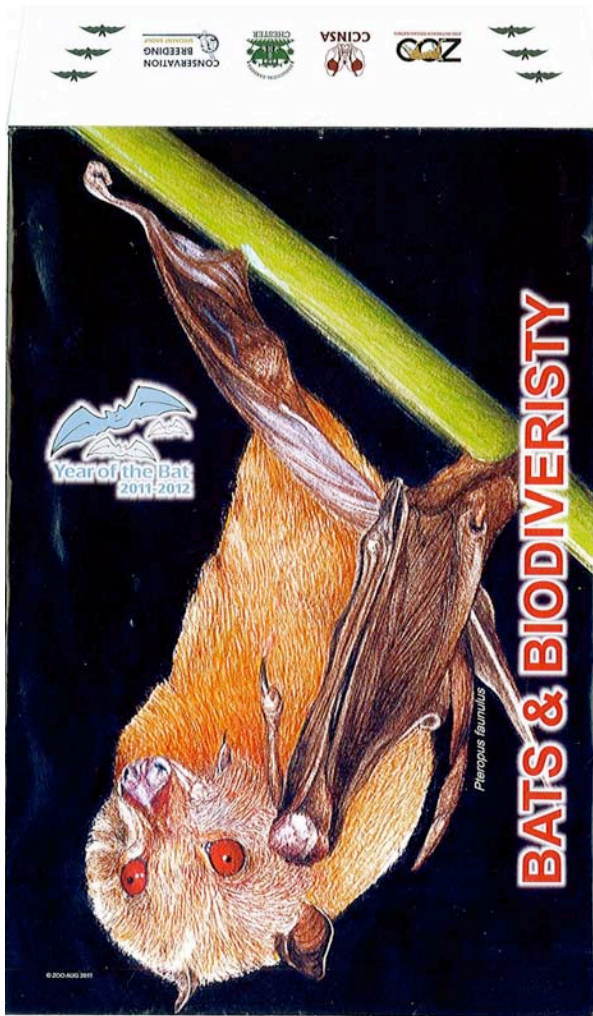
GEER Foundation, Gujarat organized special event on Wildlife Week

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, CBSG and Chester Zoo, 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 bat and other education packets containing wrist band, face mask with the



BAT EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS



BAT BOOKMARK

TRUE facts about BATS

- The world's biggest bat has a wingspan of 6 feet and weighs 1 kilo (Giant Flying Fox).
- Mother bats have babies called "pups" once a year.
- Bat homes are called "roosts" and they live in giant joint families.
- Bats are comfortable hanging upside down.
- Insect bats use ultra-sound to find food and avoid obstacles.
- Insect bats have less vision due to life in caves but fruit bats can see.
- Bats are like cats in washing daily and being clean.
- Also like cats, male bats mark their territory.
- Bats are the only mammals that fly. Flying squirrels glide.
- Bats have been in this world for over 50 million (5 crore) years.

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