

NATIONAL NATURE CAMPING PROGRAMME 2015

AT SACON, COIMBATORE

Report

Submitted by

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Organised by

***Sálim Ali Centre for Ornithology
and Natural History, Anaikatty,
Coimbatore. 641108***



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NATIONAL NATURE CAMPING PROGRAMME

Report submitted to
Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change,
Govt. of India

By
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**SÁLIM ALI CENTRE FOR ORNITHOLOGY AND NATURAL HISTORY
Coimbatore.**

November 2015

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Authors

Introduction

National Nature Camping programme is an initiative of the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change in environment education which is aimed at creating greater awareness, understanding and empathy of children with and for environment. Through this initiative it is hoped that every child who goes through middle school (Classes 6th to 8th) will get at least one opportunity for a 2-3 day camping experience during these years, so as to motivate them towards conservation-oriented lifestyles; to encourage qualities of leadership, exploration, nature observation. The 'Nature experience' to children and teachers has huge potential to trigger the sensitivity towards nature appreciation and conservation, leading to positive environmental actions at different levels.

The pilot phase of this project happened across the country for the last two years. Eight camps were conducted by SACON in the last year another five camps were allotted this year. These five camps were conducted in Sálim Ali Centre for Ornithology and Natural History (SACON), Anaikatty, Coimbatore, between 20th August 2015 and 30th September, with the participation of 250 children in the age group of 6th to 8th Std.

About SACON

The Sálim Ali Centre for Ornithology and Natural History (SACON) is a national Institution devoted to the cause of conservation of India's biodiversity with focus on birds. SACON is situated in the sylvan surrounding of Anaikatty, 24 km North west of Coimbatore City, within Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve. It is an autonomous institution and Centre of Excellence of the Ministry of Environment and Forests, Govt. of India. The management of SACON is vested in a Governing Council comprising 17 members and its chairman is the Secretary to Govt. of India, Ministry of Environment and Forests. SACON's mission is to help conserve India's biodiversity and its sustainable use through research, education and people's participation with birds at the centre stage. SACON conducts research in Ornithology covering all aspects of biodiversity and Natural History. The Division of Nature Education in SACON creates environmental awareness in schools through Sálim Ali Nature Club Network, Salim Ali Naturalist forum and many programmes conducted for inculcating awareness and conservation concerns among the children and people of all walks of life.

Selection of participants

As per the plans this time, the participation was restricted to select schools which are covered under the National green Corps programme of Ministry of Environment and Forests, govt of India. Two schools such as the Kadri Mills Hr. Sec. School, Ondiputhur and PSGG Kanyagurukulam Girls Hr. Sec. School, Peelamedu have been selected for this purpose after the approval from MoEF. The school managements are interested in imparting nature

education to their students. Both the schools are aided schools and the children come from lower middle class to middle class backgrounds. The students from 6th to 8th were targeted as per the camp conditions. Both the school managements permitted and encouraged their participation.

Arrangements made for the camp

- SACON campus is situated in a forested environment where three sides of 55 acre campus are covered by Anaikatty Reserve Forest and the campus itself has considerable wilderness including visits of wild animals day and night.
- Guest house and housing facilities of SACON was used as the place of stay.
- Food and tea were arranged from SACON canteen.
- Apart from campus security, a security was placed round the clock in the place of stay.
- Movement of elephants were tracked all along with the security and research scholars.
- Tents were pitched on the roof of the building for children's safety.
- Minimum two resource people and two volunteers accompanied the children in all the nature walks. Two leading and two in the rear end.
- A welcome kit containing a pencil, an eraser, a sharpener and a notepad were given to all the participants subsequently colours and sheets for their drawing and other creative activities.
- Vehicle arrangements for the participants to arrive and depart from the camp were made from their respective schools to camp site and back.
- A valediction kit consisted of certificate of participation and Publications of SACON listed below
 - ❖ Common birds of Coimbatore by P. Pramod and Chaithra Shree J
 - ❖ Learn about Birds by P Pramod, Divyapriya C and Rajan Pilakandy
 - ❖ How to study birds by P Pramod, Rajan Pilakandy and Suhirtha Muhil M
 - ❖ Fun with Birds by P Pramod, Divyapriya C and Rajan Pilakandy

Brief of activities conducted

- **Nature Walk and Bird watching:** Children were taken on walks in different tracks inside the forest in and around SACON campus. These walks were planned such that they would be able to experience shrub forests and dry deciduous forests and also experience the difference. Bird watching was also introduced to make them understand the importance of keen observation and simultaneously enjoy the beauty and the role of birds in our lives. The tracks were modified according to the movement of elephants in the area.
- **Sounds of Nature:** During dawn and dusk the children were made to sit with their eyes closed and listen to the sounds in the surroundings. Most of the children enjoyed this the most and remarked it to be an enthralling and peaceful experience and many started listening to bird calls and other animal calls and identifying them too.
- **Pick an insect:** Match Sticks of various colours, considered as insects are strewn around. All groups are called out loud one by one and the particular group collects the insects. The colour and number of insects by each group are noted. The children enjoyed playing this game and also understood the concept of camouflage and also why we should not wear bright clothes in a forest.
- **Pick and sort:** Children were divided into groups and asked to collect different leaves fallen in a particular area for each group. They were asked to sort the leaves based on size and shape among the groups and also each type of leaf displayed for all to see. This activity would be helpful in understanding the diversity and uniqueness of leaves and also the plant diversity in the area.
- **Linking Up:** Cards were made of plants and animals belonging to a food chain and distributed among the children (10 sets of cards for 50 children). The children were made to stand in a circle and run around for music. Once the music stopped a number would be called out and that many children should form groups. In consequent rounds along with number relationships like same species and food chain added as criteria. This game made the understanding of concepts like food chain and food web very easy for the children.
- **Bark Fingerprint:** Children were asked to feel the bark of different trees and also smell them as some have characteristic odour and differentiate trees based on that. They will also take the impressions of different barks by shading with pencil or crayon and write a few of their observations about the tree. These impressions will be compared to identify each tree. This will help them understand different trees have different bark characteristics and use their senses of smell and touch.
- **Role Play:** A social issue of environment concern is described to the children and each child is given different parts that is affected by the decisions taken or play a role

in decision making. The children have to express their views as that character and have a discussion towards a balanced solution.

- **Nature Treasure hunt:** Three sets of five clues were made leading to three different places where treasure (Bird identification Books) was kept. The children were divided into three teams and each team was given one clue. All the clues were kept in a variety of trees and wild plants with the description of their qualities. Children have expressed this as the game which they enjoyed most. This proved to be a fun filled way to teach few facts about nature. Children worked as a team, analysed clues and strolled around the campus with joy.
- **Learning from the indirect evidences:** During the nature walk also during other time in the camp participants are encouraged to look for and recognize the indirect evidence for the presence and activity of wild animals. Within the three days it has been their character to be in constant search for such things leading to an observant nature in their behaviour.
- **Direct sightings of Wildlife:** All the batches of students were fortunate in getting good sighting of wildlife during the camp period most of them sighted elephants very close to their staying place. Other animals sighted includes were spotted dears, Wild boars, Black naped Hare, snakes, more than 70 species of bird, nearly a 50 butterfly species. One of the batches was lucky to observe two elephants in musth from afar and also handle a shield tail snake spotted in the campus with Mr. Anup's guidance.
- **Chat with scientists:** The programme director and team of research scholars involved conducting the programme involved in chats with the participants on various aspects of nature and wildlife. Moreover, one special informal chat session with an invited wildlife scientist conducted in every camp with varied subjects pertaining to nature.
- **Assessments:** Two questionnaires were prepared to understand the knowledge and interest in nature among the participants and find the difference before and after the camps. The first assessment comprised of 13 questions and the second 11 repeated from the first. (refer appendix 2 and 3).
- **Feedback:** As the impact of camp on children's ideology was important they were given a free hand to write their likes and dislikes of the camp.
- **Accommodations:** The SACON guest house was rented to conduct the camps. Apart from the rooms and bedding provided, tents had been raised and half the children slept in tents taking turns for the two nights, to experience the forest. Some even enjoyed sleeping on the terrace surrounded by forest.

CAMP 1

Date: 20th Aug 2015 to 22nd Aug 2015 | No. of Students: 50 | Teachers : 4

The 6thstd students of Kadri Mills Higher Secondary School, Oddarapalayam, Coimbatore, participated in this camp. The students arrived at 10.45 am on 20th Aug 2015. After the short introduction, ice breaking session, initial assessment (refer appendix 2), Ms. Chaithra Shree J imparted the guidelines and safety precautions to live in a forest area in detail. After lunch, from 2.00pm to 4.00 pm interactive session regarding snakes around us was conducted by Mr. Anup Raj and different common birds were introduced in an interactive session by Dr.Pramod. After tea break the children enjoyed the activity 'pick an insect'. They went for a walk till 6.30 pm where they were excited to see and identify birds which were introduced to them. They were given half an hour's time to refresh and assembled by 7.00 pm. Our current lifestyle and its effects on environment were discussed with children by Ms. Kripa Nandini and Wng Cdr. Srinidhi. After dinner the children presented their talents.

The next day, at 6.00am children assembled on the roof and listened to the sounds of nature. They have started the day immersed in the morning chorus of birds near and far with an eagerness to see them close. At 7.00am they had tea and proceeded with the bird watching and Nature walk lead by Ms. Chaithra Shree.J, accompanied by Ms. Suhirtha Muhil, Wng Cdr Srinidhi and the children were interested in looking through binoculars and enjoyed the beauty of birds with a closer look. After breakfast, at 10.00am, activities were conducted by Ms. Chaithra Shree and Ms. Suhirtha Muhil. Bark autographs, linking up and live dumb charades were conducted. Children comprehended the meaning in each game and activity and also enjoyed the process. In between they had a tea break. After lunch, they had an interactive session with Dr. Rajah Jaypal, Principal Scientist, SACON. The participants asked various questions regarding birds and environment and gained a lot of interesting facts in this session. After the chat, the children participated in Nature treasure hunt. They enjoyed hunting for their prize immensely. After tea break they were taken for a walk in the forest. After refreshment they drew, the theme being, 'experience in SACON'. After dinner children had an interactive session where they presented skits.

The next day began at 6.00 am with Sounds of Nature. Children tried to identify the birds listening to their sounds. Then they had a long walk into the forest. The children enjoyed climbing the hill and having a bird's eye view of the place. After breakfast an activity, 'role play' was conducted. Children spoke about the part given to them in practical and real terms. Then valediction was conducted. Children were given a second assessment questionnaire (refer appendix 2). Participant's feedback was received. A few children and teachers shared their experiences. Children left the camp after lunch.

Camp 1: 6th Std, Kadri Mills Hr. Sec. School



CAMP 2

Date: 31st Aug to 2nd Sep 2015 | No. of Students: 50 | Teachers : 2

The 8th std students of PSGG Kanya Gurukulam Girls Higher Secondary School, Avinashi Road, Coimbatore, participated in this camp. The students arrived at 11:00 am on 31st Aug 2015. After a short introduction and ice breaking session, the participants were given an assessment questionnaire to fill, after which Ms. Chaithra Shree imparted the guidelines and safety precautions to live in a forest area in detail. The children were divided into groups with an activity. The welcome kit was issued and then broke for lunch. After lunch, from 2.00pm to 4.00pm different common snakes were introduced in an interactive session by Mr. Anup Raj. The children had a lot of queries regarding the misconceptions surrounding snakes. They were made to understand the dangers faced by snakes from humans. After tea break the children learnt about camouflage with an activity 'pick an insect'. They went for a walk till 6.30 pm where they were introduced to few birds. They were given half an hour's time to refresh and assembled by 7.00 pm. The children were asked to prepare a short skit with theme being nature and present in groups.

The next day, at 6.15 children assembled on the roof and listened to the sounds of nature. At 7.00am they had tea and started their trail for nature walk and bird watching lead by Ms.Suhirtha Muhil, accompanied by Ms.Chaithra Shree.J. After breakfast, at 10.00am, activities were conducted by Ms.Chaithra Shree and Ms.Suhirtha Muhil. Bark fingerprints, dumb charades and linking up were conducted. In between they had a tea break. After lunch, they had an interactive session with Dr. P Balasubramanian, Principal Scientist, SACON, about birds, plants and ecology in general. After the chat, the children participated in Nature treasure hunt. They enthusiastically carried on the hunt. After tea break they were taken for a walk in the forest. After refreshment they drew, the theme being, 'experience in SACON'. After dinner the children had an interactive session with Dr. Pramod. They enjoyed posing him questions from various walks of life.

The next day began with Sounds of Nature. Then they had a long walk into the forest. After breakfast an activity, 'role play' was conducted. Children spoke about the part given to them in practical and real terms. Then valediction was conducted. Children were given a second assessment questionnaire. Participant's feedback was received and certificates distributed along with books. A few children and teachers shared their experiences. Children left the camp after lunch.

Camp 2: 7th Std PSGG Kanya Gurukulam Hr. Sec. School



CAMP 3

Date: 3rd Sep to 5th Sep 2015 | No. of Students: 49 | Teachers: 2

The 7th std students of PSGG Kanya Gurukulam Girls Higher Secondary School, Avinashi Road, Coimbatore, participated in this camp. The students arrived at 10.45 am on 26th Feb 2014. After a short introduction and ice breaking session, the participants were given an assessment questionnaire to fill, after which Ms. Suhirtha Muhil M imparted the guidelines and safety precautions to live in a forest area in detail. The welcome kit was issued and then broke for lunch. After lunch, from 2.00pm to 4.00pm different common snakes were introduced in an interactive session with Mr. Anup raj. The children enjoyed this session very much and interacted very well. After tea break the children learnt about camouflage with an activity 'pick an insect'. They went for a walk till 6.30 pm where they were excited to see and identify birds which were introduced to them. They were given half an hour's time to refresh and assembled by 7.00 pm. The children were asked to prepare a skit in teams with nature as theme. The children presented thought provoking skits in a short time. Dinner was served and children went to sleep.

The next day, at 6.00 children assembled on the roof and listened to the sounds of nature. At 7.00am they had tea and proceeded with the bird watching and Nature walk lead by Ms. Chaithra Shree. J and Suhirtha Muhil M. Before starting they were very much excited two tuskars in musth on the highway from a very safe distance. After breakfast, at 10.00am, activities were conducted by Ms. Chaithra Shree. Linking up, dumb charades and bark autographs were conducted. In between had a tea break. After lunch, they had an interactive session with Dr. S Muralidharan, Principal Scientist, SACON on pesticide contamination and their effects. The participants asked various questions regarding birds and contaminants. After the chat, the activity role play was conducted. Children spoke about the part given to them in practical and real terms. After tea break they were taken for a walk in the forest. After refreshment they drew, the theme being, 'experience in SACON'. The next day began with Sounds of Nature. Children tried to identify the birds listening to their sounds. Then they had a long walk into the forest. After breakfast children participated enthusiastically in Nature treasure hunt. Then valediction was conducted. Children were given a second assessment questionnaire. Participant's feedback was received. A few children and teachers shared their experiences. Children left the camp after lunch.

Camp 3: 8th Std PSGG Kanya Gurukulam Hr. Sec. School



CAMP 4

Date: 14th Sep 2015 to 16th Sep 2015 | No. of Students: 51 | No. of Teachers: 3

The 8thstd students of Kadri Mills Higher Secondary School, Oddarapalayam, Coimbatore, participated in this camp. The students arrived at 11:00 am on 14th Sep 2015. After a short introduction and ice breaking session, the participants were given an assessment questionnaire to fill, after which Ms. Chaithra Shree J imparted the guidelines and safety precautions to live in a forest area in detail. The children were divided into groups with an activity. The welcome kit was issued and then broke for lunch. After lunch, from 1:30pm to 3.30pm Mr. Anup Raj introduced the common snakes around us to the children. The children enjoyed this session very much and interacted very well. After tea break the children had an interactive session with Dr. Pramod where he introduced various birds and butterflies to the children. All outdoor activities could not be conducted due to heavy rains. They were given half an hour's time to refresh and assembled by 7.00 pm. The children were asked to prepare a skit in teams with nature as theme. The children presented skits very nicely. After dinner the children presented their talents.

The next day, at 6.00 am children assembled on the roof and listened to the sounds of nature. At 7.00am after the tea they had Nature walk lead by Dr.Pramod, accompanied by Ms.ChaithraShree.J and Ms.Suhirtha Muhil. The children were very excited about a carnivore mark on the trail and also enjoyed the sight of bulbuls, bee-eaters and even white cheeked barbet on a hunting spree of termites at close quarters. After breakfast, at 10.00am, activities were conducted by Ms.Chaithra Shree and Ms.Suhirtha Muhil. Linking up, pick an insect,bark autographs and dumb charades were conducted. In between they had a tea break. After lunch, they had an interactive session with Dr. Anbarasu, Research Fellow, SACON and Mr. Ramesh , Research Scholar SACON, regarding animals, birds and plants . They bombarded the scientist with questions from superstitions to science. After the chat, the children participated in Nature treasure hunt. They enthusiastically carried on the hunt. After tea break they were taken for a walk in the forest. After refreshment they drew, the theme being, 'experience in SACON'.

The next day began with Sounds of Nature. Then they had a long walk into the forest. At the start they spotted a shield tail snake and the children handled it with care under the watchful guidance of Mr. Anup raj. After breakfast an activity, 'role play' was conducted. Children spoke about the part given to them in practical and real terms. Then valediction was conducted. Children were given a second assessment questionnaire. Participant's feedback was received. A few children and teachers shared their experiences. After the lunch they left for the school.

Camp 4: 8th Std, Kadri Mills Hr. Sec. School



CAMP 5

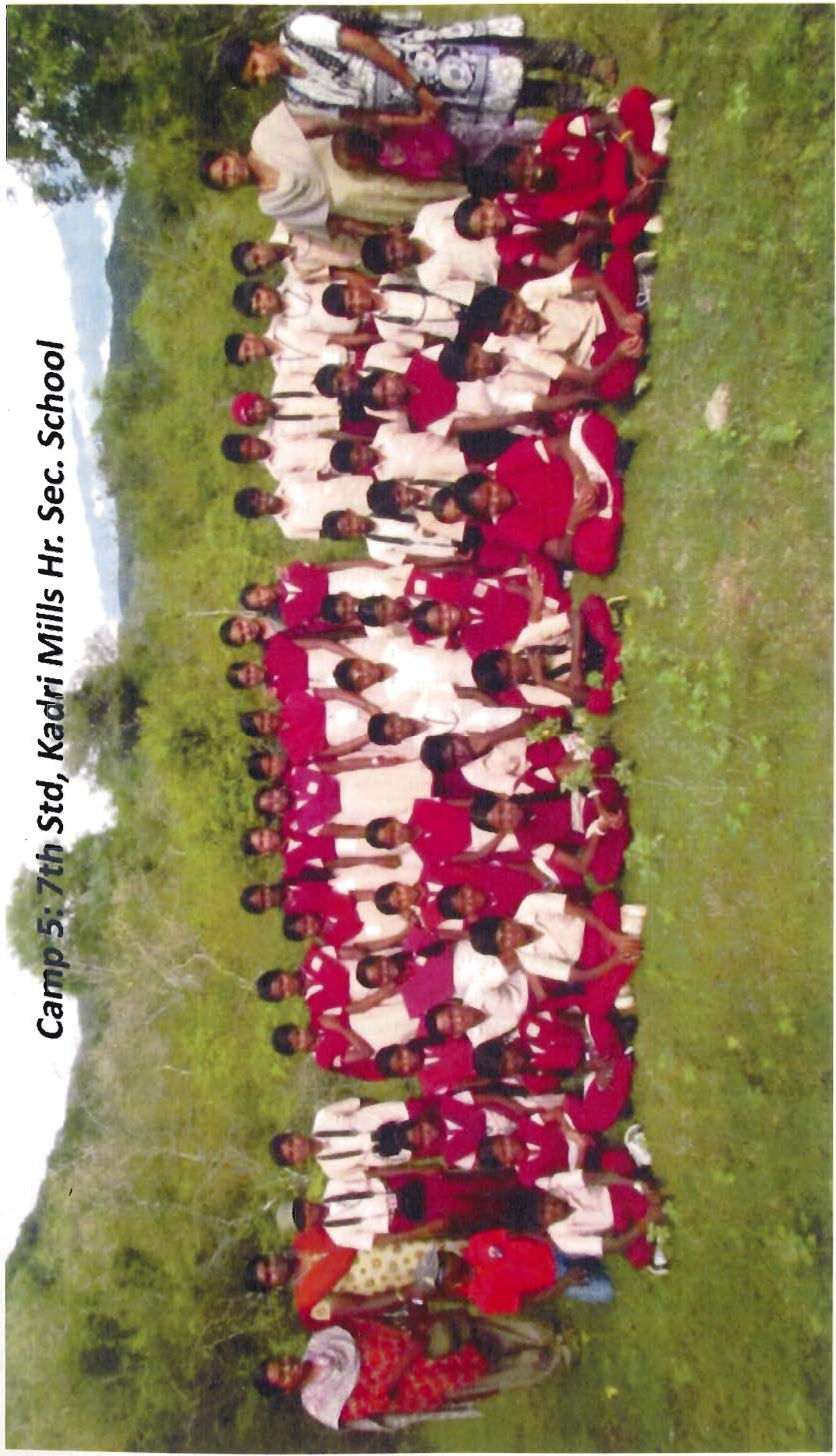
Date: 28th Sep 2015 to 30th Sep 2015 | No. of Students: 50 | Teachers: 3

The 7th std students of Kadri Mills Higher Secondary School, Oddarapalayam, Coimbatore, participated in this camp. The students arrived at 11:00 am on 28th Sep 2015. After their arrival introduction and ice breaking sessions were conducted. The Children proved to be quick witted and came up with good nicknames for themselves and enjoyed this session. After a short introduction about the camp, the participants were given an assessment questionnaire to fill. After lunch, from 1.45pm to 4:00pm Mr. Anup Raj introduced snakes to the children. The children enjoyed this session very much and interacted very well. Many of their superstitions and misunderstandings about different snakes were resolved and scientific basis was explained in explicit manner after which Dr. P Pramod introduced different birds of India. After tea break the children enjoyed 'pick an insect' and later were taken for nature walk. They enjoyed walking through the forest and later sitting in the middle of the forest and listening to the sounds as the sun was setting. They were given half an hour's time to refresh in their quarters and assemble by 7.00 pm. This was followed by an interactive chat session Ms. Chaithra Shree J about life of butterflies. After dinner the children presented their talents.

The next day started early. At 5.45, children assembled on the roof sat on the terrace with closed eyes listening to the sounds of nature. Emerging sounds of bird calls and its build-up around them was most exciting for them. At 7.00am they had tea and proceeded with the bird watching and Nature walk with Ms. Chaithra Shree. J and Ms. Suhirtha Muhil M. The children were interested in looking through binoculars and enjoyed the beauty of migratory birds like blue bearded bee- eater. After breakfast, at 10.00am, activities were conducted by Ms. Chaithra Shree and Ms. Suhirtha Muhil. Bark fingerprints, linking up and dumb charades were conducted. After lunch, they had an interactive session with Dr Mahendran Mayilsamy, Scientist, SACON. Children asked intelligent questions and had a good interaction. After the chat, the children participated in a Nature treasure hunt. They enjoyed hunting for their prize immensely. After tea break they were taken for a walk in the forest. Many were able to identify some birds on their own. After refreshment they enjoyed drawing their most memorable moments in the camp. After dinner children presented a short skit on nature in groups.

The next day began with Sounds of Nature. Children tried to identify the birds listening to their sounds. Then they had a long walk into the forest. The children enjoyed sitting on rocks and watching birds in the valley. After breakfast an activity, 'role play' was conducted. Children spoke boldly about the part given to them. Then valediction was conducted. Children were given a second assessment questionnaire. Participant's feedback was received. A few children and teachers shared their experiences. Children bid adieu to the camp after lunch.

Camp 5: 7th Std, Kadri Mills Hr. Sec. School



Concluding remarks : The experience of Conducting the camps

Venue and Facilities at SACON Campus in Anaikatti is situated in a scrub jungle surrounded by dry deciduous forests of Anaikatti Reserve Forest of Coimbatore Forest Division in Western Gahts. Regular sighting of animals such as Elephants, Spotted deer, Indian Gaur, Wild boars, Black naped hare and more than 140 species of birds, 120 species of butterflies add to the wild biodiversity of this campus. Camps conducted in the campus where the participants stayed in the wilderness half in the tents on roof top and the remaining in the rooms which they interchanged in the two days.

A team of organizer 4-5 persons including the Principal coordinator stayed with the participants 24 hours, all the days of camps. The day started with silent meditation into the sounds of nature which is repeated four times in the camp duration. Lectures (informal with power point presentation were very limited only two events). Most of the programmes are games and hands-on activities which lead to the experiencing and understanding of nature around them. Most of the team have directly sighted elephant herds when they came to drink water near their night stay. They were privy to watch interesting behaviours viz. Two male elephants in musth on the road sides. All the teams sighted spotted deers and other animals. For ninety five percent of the participants, this was their first experience in forests.

All feedback from campers was very Excellent. They enjoyed all the activities conducted. Our observations of specific activities are as below

Nature walk and bird watching:

Children of all age groups enjoyed these walks to the maximum. It could be observed that children adapted to the ways of the forest and started observing their environment keenly with each walk. By the second walk most of them were able to identify a few birds. Their observations on these walks led to meaningful questions during the interactive sessions with scientist and researchers (eg: The difference in flapping of wings by different birds while in flight). The children developed sensitivity towards nature and birds as the number of walks increased.

Sounds of Nature:

This activity improved the children's concentration in listening to various sounds in the forest and they also enjoyed listening to various bird calls. Some were very adept in differentiating closely related calls. The children also started identifying common bird sounds during the walk.

Bark autographs:

All age group children liked this activity and described the trees by their own observations. They enjoyed taking the fingerprints of the trees.

Linking up:

The concept of food chain and importance of each organism in the food chain was grasped very easily by the children from this game. The 6th std children required more guidance for this game but 7th and 8th std understood very easily as they were already introduced to the concept of food chain. They enjoyed the process of understanding and also raised questions on these concepts.

Dumb charades:

The children enjoyed the whole game very much. The 6th and 7th std children participated very enthusiastically but 8th Std children were a bit hesitant in the beginning to participate. But then they were able to overcome their hindrances and enjoy the game. They had a lot of fun trying to express behavior of different animals and learning about them at the same time.

Nature treasure hunt:

All age groups children were very excited to find their treasures. They had a lot of enjoyment hunting down their clues and very happy to receive their rewards at the end. As all the clues were description of different plants or trees and their qualities or their environment they also learnt about those species in the process. But it was observed that the younger children were more observant and able to spot the clues once they reached the place easily whereas the older ones were more analytical but less observant compared to the younger children.

Pick and sort:

Children were amazed to know and understand the difference in leaves of various species and also the diversity of the area by just counting the various types of leaves rather than counting each plant. They enjoyed running around collecting leaves and also sorting them.

Role Play:

This activity brought forth the children's understanding of our environment and social stand on this. The children played the roles given to them very nicely. Once all the children participated the situation and view of each character were analysed in a discussion and more social queries were generated. Children, sometimes, were unaware of certain responsibilities of people in official positions and their roles were explained after which they could reach a balanced solution for the problem.

Animal sightings:

All the batches saw elephants except one. 2 batches spotted deer. All saw wild boars. The children were very excited observe the elephants where they were feeding on the highway. They were interested in their behavior and posed questions regarding the same. After talk from Mr. Anup the children understood the importance of snakes and stopped fearing them on sight. One batch even handled an uropeltid snake under the watch of Mr. Anup, which they spotted and were overjoyed with it. All of them were highly exhilarated after handling it.

Appendix 1: Camp Schedule

DAY 1

Time	Programme
10:00- 12:30	Arrival, Introduction, Ice breaking sessions, Initial assessment
11:00- 11:10	Tea Break
12:30- 13:00	Lunch
13:45- 16:00	Introduction to the world of birds/butterflies/and wildness interactive session
15:00- 16:00	Introduction to snakes- Interactive session
16:00- 16:45	Nature Games on camouflage (Pick an insect)
16:45- 17:00	Tea Break
17:00- 18:00	Nature Walk
18:00- 18:30	Sounds of Nature I (dusk)
18:30- 19:00	Break
19:00-20:00	Interactive session with resource persons
20:00-21:00	Dinner
21:00-22:00	Star gazing/ Nature skit

DAY 2

Time	Programme
06:30- 06:45	Sounds of Nature II (dawn)
06:45- 07:00	Nature Walk Begins
7:00- 07:15	Tea
07:15- 09:00	Nature walk/ Bird watching continues
09:00- 09:30	Breakfast
09:30- 12:30	Nature games and activities
11:00- 11:15	Tea Break
12:30- 13:30	Lunch
13:30- 15:00	Discussion with Scientists/ Researchers of SACON
15:00- 17:00	Nature treasure hunt
17:00- 17:15	Break
17:15- 18:30	Nature Walk, Sounds of Nature III (dusk)
18:30- 19:00	Break
19:00- 20:00	Drawing / painting
20:00- 21:00	Dinner
21:00- 22:00	Star Gazing / Nature skit

DAY 3

Time	Programme
06:15- 06:45	Sounds of Nature IV (dawn)
06:45- 07:00	Nature walk / bird watching
07:00- 07:15	Tea
07:15- 09:00	Nature walk/ Bird watching continues
09:00- 09:30	Breakfast
09:30- 11:15	Nature games and activities
11:15- 11:30	Tea Break
11:30- 12:30	Valediction (Final Assessment, Feedback, Sharing of experience)
12:30- 13:30	Lunch
14:00	Departure

Appendix 2: Assessment Questionnaires

Pre camp assessment

NATIONAL NATURE CAMPING PROGRAMME

Salim Ali Centre for Ornithology & Natural History, Coimbatore

Name :

Class :

Home Address :

School Name :

Phone Number :

1. What do you mean by the term 'Nature'?
2. How many species of crows you have seen? Name them.
3. Have you seen a forest? If yes, what forest? Where?
4. How will you explain a forest?
5. How will you explain a river?
6. How will you explain wind?
7. How will you explain a flower?
8. How will you explain Sky?
9. What all have you seen in dawn?
10. What all have you seen in the dusk?
11. Name as many birds as possible.
12. Name as many butterflies as possible.
13. What are your necessities to lead a happy life?

Signature :

Post Camp Assessment
NATIONAL NATURE CAMPING PROGRAMME

Salim Ali Centre for Ornithology & Natural History, Coimbatore

Name :

Class :

School Name :

1. What do you mean by the term 'Nature'?
2. How many species of crows you have seen? Name them.
3. How will you explain a forest?
4. How will you explain wind?
5. How will you explain a flower?
6. How will you explain Sky?
7. What all have you seen in dawn?
8. What all have you seen in the dusk?
9. Name as many birds as possible.
10. Name as many butterflies as possible.
11. What are your necessities to lead a happy life?

Signature:

Appendix 3 : Name List of Participants

Camp 1: Kadri Mills Hr. Sec. School 6th Std Students

- | | |
|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. SurabiSudeer S | 29. Pooja Sri M |
| 2. Sasteka A | 30. Mariammal K |
| 3. Gopika P | 31. Boobalan R |
| 4. Bhuvaneshwari K | 32. Madhan Kumar R |
| 5. Hariharn V | 33. Thirulokesh H |
| 6. Josewin A | 34. Muthukodilingam T |
| 7. Subas B | 35. Partheeban S |
| 8. DheenaDhayala A | 36. Harichandhiran M |
| 9. Saran Kumar R K | 37. Poovarasam N |
| 10. SubhaBharathi P | 38. Parkavi R |
| 11. Keerthana R | 39. Malini C |
| 12. Kavinaya A D | 40. PoorvaSandhiya M |
| 13. Bhuvaneshwari V | 41. Sankara Narayanan M |
| 14. Priyadharshini B | 42. Jenson S |
| 15. Gopika A | 43. Sugan K |
| 16. Menaga P | 44. Vignesh C |
| 17. Şaprina P | 45. Madesh S |
| 18. Mahalakshmi S | 46. Dharani K |
| 19. Vishal S | 47. Swathi M |
| 20. Stalin S | 48. Gokulraj M |
| 21. Manikandan K | 49. Sarukesh S |
| 22. Vishwanathan R | 50. Nachammai S |
| 23. Tamil Selvan K | Teachers |
| 24. Muthumari P | 1. Indirani K |
| 25. Kavitha K | 2. Muthmeenai R M |
| 26. Ananthi S | 3. Ravichandran G |
| 27. Abinaya Dharani M | 4. Shanthamani. M |
| 28. Nivetha S | |

Camp 2: PSGG KanyaGurukulam Hr. Sec School for Girls 7th Std Students

- | | |
|---------------------|------------------------|
| 1. Mahalakshmi K | 28. Renuga M |
| 2. JerniKeerthana J | 29. Thulasimani M |
| 3. Rajeshwar K | 30. Deepa V |
| 4. Bhuvaneshwari S | 31. Kanmani K |
| 5. KarthigaiJothi S | 32. Sangeetha P |
| 6. Roshini U | 33. Nandhini S |
| 7. HemaSrinithi N | 34. AnnammalAbitha C |
| 8. Kanimozhi P | 35. Manisha S |
| 9. Anandhi I | 36. Niranjana G |
| 10. Haripriya T | 37. HarishmaSree R |
| 11. Suganthi N | 38. Sneha S |
| 12. Anitha T | 39. Nandhika Mohan T M |
| 13. Kanchana R | 40. Naveena S |
| 14. Sujitha R | 41. Harini V |
| 15. Rajalakshmi S | 42. Harshini M S |
| 16. Varshini J | 43. Vaishnavi Devi V |
| 17. Nithyasree B | 44. Chitra M |
| 18. Jayasree B | 45. Aparna K |
| 19. Jeea R | 46. Pandipriya P |
| 20. Abtha S | 47. Kavya A K |
| 21. Nithya J | 48. Krishnaveni P |
| 22. Kalaiselvi M | 49. Santhanalakshi V |
| 23. Pavithra R | 50. Nithya V |
| 24. Sujitha R | Teachers |
| 25. Jayasree K | 1. Selvi. T |
| 26. Jothipriya M | 2. Kowsalya S |
| 27. Anitha S | |

Camp 3: PSGG KanyaGurukulam Hr. Sec School for Girls
8thStd Students

- | | |
|--------------------|---------------------|
| 1. PandiSelvi S | 27. Aarthi K |
| 2. Nagadevi P | 28. Sangeetha K |
| 3. Tamililakkiya S | 29. Charumathi M |
| 4. Priyadarshini V | 30. SathyaPrabha R |
| 5. Srimathi K | 31. Thakshana R |
| 6. Bhuvaneswari S | 32. Sumetha K S |
| 7. Saranya M | 33. Akshaya P |
| 8. Janani A | 34. Aashika K |
| 9. Sandhiya S | 35. Shamili R M |
| 10. Kiruthika R | 36. Megavarshini K |
| 11. Sowmiya D | 37. Pooja S |
| 12. Divya | 38. Rithiga S |
| 13. Jananisri V | 39. Rathimeena S |
| 14. MunyaSelvi R | 40. Kaveri R |
| 15. Sakthimeena S | 41. Sathya S |
| 16. Jeevitha M | 42. Vaishnavi K |
| 17. Kiruthika S | 43. Manimala M |
| 18. Brintha R | 44. Sabitha |
| 19. Kowsalya M | 45. Keerthana A |
| 20. Maheshwari A | 46. Bhuvaneshwari R |
| 21. Divya Sri H | 47. Ruthra D |
| 22. Surekha B | 48. Suseethra M |
| 23. Mahalakshmi R | 49. Roshiny G N |
| 24. Gowsalya M | Teachers |
| 25. Shenbagam M | 1. Sri Priya G |
| 26. Muthurathiam P | 2. Vidya Shri |

Camp 4: Kadri Mills Hr. Sec. School
8th Std Students

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|------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. Dhakshana G | 29. Nitheesh V |
| 2. Gomathi R | 30. VellaiDuraiPandiyan M |
| 3. Elakkiya S | 31. Dinesh Kumar R |
| 4. Srikanth S | 32. Vishnu S V |
| 5. Vijay Anand G | 33. Naveen Kumar J |
| 6. Harish Ragavendra U | 34. Kalaivani S |
| 7. Aswin Raj R | 35. Dharshana K |
| 8. Ragavendhar S | 36. Swathi K |
| 9. Vishajith M | 37. Deepika M |
| 10. Deevan Raj D | 38. SathyaPriya M |
| 11. Shanmugam D | 39. Kerthana M |
| 12. Mohana P | 40. Barath G |
| 13. Hemalatha M | 41. Parthasarathi S |
| 14. Jothika M | 42. Vignesh S |
| 15. Divya G | 43. Mathan Kumar R |
| 16. Subhashine J | 44. Sarath L |
| 17. Thaslima Begum T | 45. Akash S |
| 18. Saravana Kumar T | 46. Ayyappan R |
| 19. Naveen E | 47. Indhuja V |
| 20. Kumaravel P | 48. Vignesh R |
| 21. Naveen Kumar S | 49. Akila S |
| 22. Sri Ram K | 50. Jeeva V |
| 23. Kerthana S | 51. Sri Vaishnav |
| 24. Sakthilswarya R | |
| 25. Pavithra S | Teachers |
| 26. Deepika D | 1. Chokkalingam A |
| 27. Mohanlal G | 2. Bhagyalakshmi P |
| 28. Mathan Kumar T | 3. Gowri M |

Camp 5: Kadri Mills Hr. Sec. School
7th Std Students

- | | |
|----------------------|---------------------|
| 1. AbinayaSree R | 28. Aniha M |
| 2. Dharshini P | 29. Masila Mani V |
| 3. Preetha R M | 30. Swethi V |
| 4. Ramya R | 31. Mathiyalagan V |
| 5. Sandhiya V | 32. Raghul M |
| 6. Preethi P | 33. Vijaya Kumar R |
| 7. Subash M | 34. Shibi M |
| 8. Varun K | 35. Sajith E |
| 9. Gokul A | 36. Senthil Raj P |
| 10. Sujith R | 37. Gopika R |
| 11. Paul Raj V | 38. Swarnamugi M |
| 12. Gugan M B | 39. Thrisha R |
| 13. JonsRogith Raj R | 40. Janani R |
| 14. Abinaya S | 41. Koushi N |
| 15. Deepa S | 42. Divya M |
| 16. Bhuvaneswari M | 43. Padmapriya R |
| 17. KaviPriya V | 44. Sathish M |
| 18. Mahalakshmi S | 45. Sanjay S |
| 19. Shalini Devi P | 46. Karthik M |
| 20. Vaisali M | 47. Madhan Kumar A |
| 21. Aravinth R | 48. Srikanth U S |
| 22. Raj Kumar S | 49. Gowtham J |
| 23. Vasanth | 50. Kishore Kumar V |
| 24. Veerasamy M | Teachers |
| 25. Yuvaraj P | 1. Anitha S |
| 26. Lavanya S | 2. Ruby Mani E |
| 27. Mehasree M | 3. Kiruthika S |

Nature Walk and Sounds of Nature



Eager to identify a bird



Traversing the scrub land



Enjoying the view from binoculars



Crossing a forest stream



Helping a friend to spot a bird



Excited to be friends with a snake



Climbing through deciduous forests



Experiencing the ups and downs



View from a rock



At dawn



Experiencing the tranquility



Enjoying the sounds in the evening



Interactive Sessions and discussions



Chat with scientist



Introducing butterflies



Enjoying discussion with Scientists and Research scholars



Introducing the snakes



Awaiting to pose questions

SACON Library



PR149

Games and Activities



Pick and sort



Pick an insect



Excited to collect the 'insects'



Watching elephants



Dumb Charades



Acting, guessing and fun



Bark Fingerprint



Getting acquainted with the tree



Noting observations



Presenting Skit



Grouping



Treasure hunt begins



Analysing clues



With their treasure



Linking up



Finding relationships among the cards



Drawing their impressions



During role play

Other Programmes



Initial Assessment



Writing feedback and post camp assessment



Sharing their experience



Valediction





Administration and Finance Personnel of SACON



House Keeping, Security and Maintenance Staff of SACON

Resource Personnel



Dr. S. Muralidharan
Principal Scientist
SACON



Dr. P. Balasubramanian
Principal Scientist
SACON



Dr. Rajah Jaypal
Principal Scientist
SACON



Dr. M. Mahendiran
Scientist
SACON



Mr. Ramesh Kumar
Research Scholar
SACON



Wng Cdr Srinidhi
Research Scholar
SACON



Dr. Anbarasu
Senior research Fellow
SACON



Ms. Divyapriya. C
Research Scholar
SACON



Ms. Kripa Nandini
Research Scholar
SACON

Core Team Members



Dr. P. Pramod
Principal Scientist
Nature Education
SACON



Ms. J. Chaithra Shree
Research Scholar
SACON



Ms. Suhirtha Muhil M
Research Scholar
SACON



Mr. Anup Raj
Researcher
SACON

Support Staff



Mr. P. Subramanian
Driver
SACON



Mr. R. Ravi
Driver
SACON