

National Museum of Natural History, New Delhi

Winter Nature Camp-2012

To make children aware of Delhi's rich natural heritage and to expose them to natural flora and fauna of the region, a 3-day Winter Nature Camp was organized from 27 to 29, January 2012 for the children in Delhi & NCR region. The selection of the fifteen participants for the Nature Camp was made from the children of class VII, VIII & IX, who got themselves registered in response to an advertisement appeared on 30th December 2011. The registration was done from 3 to 5 January 2012, followed by a face-to-face interaction on 7 January 2012 for final selection, and an orientation camp on 11th January, 2012. The Winter Nature Camp schedule was as follows:

27- 28 January, 2012
29 January, 2012

Two days and one night camping at Aravalli Bio-diversity Park
One Day camp at Asola Wildlife Sanctuary

Louise Braille Day (4th January 2012)

To commemorate Louise Braille Day, NMNH organized an Essay Writing Competition in Braille for Delhi & NCR region, for the following two categories of Visually Challenged children with their respective themes, on 20th January 2012.

Junior category (classes V-VII): "Make the country clean and green, Come together we all should be keen"
Senior category (classes VIII-XI): "For a healthy and better life, Please protect the forest life"

A Declamation Contest was also organized for the Visually Challenged from class VIII- XI on 27 January 2012. The participants included children from different schools for the Blind in Delhi & NCR. The topic of the Contest was: "Man is such a creature, who always disobeyed the Nature, has polluted the environment and made wildlife endanger"

Programme for Specially Challenged Children

An Annual Programme for Specially Challenged Children has been organized by the Museum in collaboration with National Bal Bhavan from 31 January to 8 February 2012. The children with special needs in different categories like Physically Challenged, Mentally Challenged, Visually Challenged and Hearing Impaired have been participating in the programme, invited through Special schools and NGOs.

The programme aims at creating environmental awareness among Special Children through various activities like Animal & Bird Clay Modeling, Waste Paper Craft, Nature Painting, Dance, Wood Craft and various contests.

All participants will get a token gift, besides many prizes to be awarded on the valedictory function of the programme

Meeting of Senior Officials

A meeting of Senior Officials of the NMNH and RMNH was organised on 10-11 January 2012, to review the Annual Action Plan for the current financial year, as well as to prepare a new Annual Action Plan for the next Financial Year, i.e. 2012-13. Scientists, other officers and senior officials from all the Centers under the umbrella of the NMNH (New Delhi, Mysore, Bhopal, Bhubaneswar and Sawai Madhopur) attended the meeting. There was a session on Roadmaps to the new Regional Museums at Sawai Madhopur and Gangtok. An Expert Committee meeting was also arranged in order to get inputs on the proposals for the 12th Five Year Plan. Dr M V Nair (Professor at National Museum Institute), Dr Sudha Gopalakrishnan (Executive Director, "Sahapaedia") and Dr. H. B. Singh (Scientist G and Head, Raw Materials Museum and Herbarium, NISCAIR) presented their expert opinions for incorporation in the 12th Five Year Plan proposals.

Regional Museum of Natural History, Mysore

Winter Nature Camp-2012

The Museum organized a three-day Winter Nature Camp at Dandeli Wildlife Sanctuary, North Karnataka, from 3 to 6 January, 2012. The camp started with 15 participants and five resource persons and supporting staff on 4 January, 2012. The various activities undertaken by the participants on the first day of the Nature camp included a Nature Trail, a presentation on Bio-diversity of the Western Ghats, a leaf collection activity leading to identification of plants, trekking to 'Cyntheri rocks and a discussion on conservation of biodiversity.



Participants watching birds at Dandeli Wildlife Sanctuary

On 5 January, 2012- the second day of their camp, the participants had a Jungle Safari in Dandeli Wildlife Sanctuary, worked on a Nature Trail at Scantha falls, visited an Interpretation Centre in the Sanctuary, and submitted their feed back on the camp. The participatory certificates were given to the participants by the expert. On 6 January, 2012 the team moved back to Mysore.

Regional Museum of Natural History, Bhopal

Winter Nature Camp

A Winter Nature Camp (WNC) was arranged at Amarkantak (Achanakmar – Amarkantak Biosphere Reserve) during January 10-12, 2012. Twelve participants from various schools of Bhopal participated in this Nature Camp. Shri P.K. Khatri, Range Officer, Amarkantak; Shri V.K. Diwan, free lance Environmentalist and Shri R.N. Verma, Chairman, Herbal Nursery were the resource person at Biosphere Reserve.

Regional Museum of Natural History, Bhubaneshwar

Winter Nature Camp

The Museum organised a Winter Nature Camp at Bhitarkanika National Park from 15 to 17 January-2012. The camp was attended by 15 students of M.Sc. Life Science from Utkal University, Sambalpur University and Ravenshaw University, selected through a written quiz test on nature, wildlife and environment, on 8th January-2012. The participation was invited through Circulars and Posters sent to all the Universities of Odisha. Around 38 students got registered, out of which 28 students appeared in the quiz for selection.

The objective of the camp was to expose participants to mangrove bio-diversity, gain knowledge about conservation aspects of mangrove habitats, nesting sites of Olive Ridley and understand the impact of socio-cultural aspects of Bhitarkanika National Park.

The students visited Gahirmata Marine Sanctuary on the first day of their Camp and explored the unique habitat of Olive Ridley nesting site, took note of the coastal erosion by the sea and its impact on mangrove ecosystem. On their second and third day the participants visited Dangmal and gained exposure to the habitat of the Estuarian crocodile, mangroves flora and fauna and its adaptation to salinity, zonation of mangrove species, mangroves regeneration and rearing and release activities under the Project Crocodile. The participants interacted with experts and gained understanding through Interpretation Centre and by interaction with local people. Later, all the participants were awarded with participatory certificates.

Rajiv Gandhi Regional Museum of Natural History, Sawai Madhopur

Winter Nature Camp

A Winter Nature Camp was organized by RMNH, Sawai Madhopur from 14-16 January, 2012, for the students of class 9 to 12 in the World Heritage Site at Bharatpur National Park (Rajasthan). Fifteen students from in and around Sawai Madhopur got exposure to the various natural heritage aspects of the Park, besides witnessing diversity of plants and birds, and other animals in the National Park.

Prize Distribution Function

The Prize Distribution Function was held on 8th January, 2012 to give away prizes and certificates to the winners who participated in the International Day for Preservation of Ozone Layer held on 16th September, 2011 and Wildlife Week Programme held from 2-8 October, 2011. Shri Yugal Bihari Sharma was the Chief Guest and Shri Jagdish Prasad Sharma, and Shri Sharad Kumar Sharma, were the Guest of Honour at the function.

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