

A REPORT ON WILDLIFE EDUCATIONAL TRIP TO COORG

A two day wildlife educational trip to Coorg was arranged by the school on 20th and 21st of april. On 20th April, we reported at 6.00am at Sri vani education centre, rajajinagar. We left the campus at 6.30am and headed to 'Ranganathittu Bird Sanctuary' in Mysore district.

We went on a boating for a bird watch in the waters of Kaveri. We saw birds of different varieties and hues .A few among them are 'Open Stork Bill', 'Pelicans', 'White Egrets' and 'Spoonbills'. We also spotted a couple of crocodiles.

At 10.30am we had our breakfast and left for Coorg .In Coorg, our lodging and food was arranged at 'Coorg Public School', a residential school with a huge campus amidst greenery. We reached the school at 12.30noon, had our lunch and refreshed ourselves in our allotted rooms.

We were then taken to 'Kantapura Elephant Camp' near Thithmati forest. We were divided into groups of four and were assigned the task of interacting with the Mahouts and their families. We learnt about the lifestyle of the mahout community and behavioral patterns and daily routines of the elephants. We saw Balarama and Abhimanyu, the elephants taken for the Dasara procession. We were then assigned the job of collecting dried elephant dungs and heaping them aside.

We then returned to Coorg Public School. We listened to a talk on birds and types of vegetation in Coorg. After the talk we had our dinner and retired to sleep.

The next morning, finishing our breakfast, we headed to Nisarga dhama for an elephant ride .We enjoyed the silence and greenery of the place, sitting on tree houses.

On returning back to our lodging, we had our lunch and went for a walk in the Palibetta Coffee Estate. A guide accompanied us .He gave us information on the coffee beans, its ripening and harvesting. We were shown machines involved in the production of coffee.

We then returned to Coorg school. We had an interesting talk on biodiversity, conservation of the forests and advantages of coffee plantations by prof.Kushalappa. Then we finished our dinner and assembled in the school auditorium for a video conference to mark the inaugural ceremony of the national museum in North Carolina. Scientists from different time zones were online and students were given opportunity to tell them what conservation of biodiversity means to them.

It was a wonderful experience!

At 10pm, we departed from the Coorg Public School and reached Bangalore at 2am on 22nd April.

The trip was a memorable one. We thank the school authorities for giving us a nice opportunity to experience wildlife. We also thank the teachers who accompanied us to the trip.

THANK YOU.