

KUMARI ARIVIAL PERAVI
YOUNG SCIENTISTS PROGRAM 2010 – 2011
WATER AND LIFE STUDY CAMP
UDAYAGIRI FORT,PULIYOORKURICHI
28-11-2010
REPORT BY
FEBY A.T
LEADER, BLUE TEAM



Water and Life study camp was organized at Udayagiri Fort .I reached the meeting spot by 1:45am.It was raining torrentially, ditches, pits were filled to overflowing with water and during that time the below quote struck my mind “Healing rain is a real touch from God. It could be physical healing or emotional or whatever.” So by thinking rain as a good experience I was loitering around and I found several quotes, instruction, and history of birds and animals printed on board’s .This enriched my mind with thoughts of conservation of trees and animal species to a great extend.

The meeting commenced by 2:00 am in the aquarium display room. Mr. Mullanchery M.Velaian gave the introductory speech and he congratulated the students who had done some proficient things for this programme . After the meeting we moved with our respective team members to have the team meet. As I was the team leader for blue team it was my ultimate responsibility to commence the team meet. Our team was guided by our team scientist, Er.S.Ingersol (Div.Head, ISRO Mahendragiri), Team Coordinator: Mrrs.D.STELLA, Resource Person: Shri.P.Gopalan, Guide teacher Ms Subika. We discussed about our last camp and shared our negative feeling about that camp to others though it was a good experience.

As we had to tell others about our specific topic Ajilsha explained about De nitrification. During this discussion I heard a bulk of information about which I have never heard before and it was really exciting to store new ideas in my brain. Then we had sudden guest by District Forest Officer Shri V. Sundar Raju. I hoped at that moment that my team was lucky enough to have a discussion with our DFO on an wide topic “Palayar River and Water Shed” He said that “A watershed is a basin-like landform defined by highpoints and ridgelines that descend into lower elevations and stream valleys. A watershed carries water "shed" from the land after rain falls and snow melts. Drop by drop, water is channeled into soils, ground water, creeks, and streams, making its way to larger rivers and eventually the sea. Water is a universal solvent, affected by all that it comes in contact with: the land it traverses, and the soils through which it travels. The important thing about watersheds is: what we do on the land affects water quality for all communities living downstream.

Then he gave us a wide information on Palayar river he said us that “Palayar river originates from Asamphu hills. This river has taken its name even in the story of Silapathikaram. But now it is highly polluted as people of KK Dist are dumping garbage, sewage , animal dung human excreta etc.... into the river and in the same river people of Suchindram are taking bath and performing their daily routine. He said as its highly polluted people of KK Dist should take the initiative to clean up the river. And an interesting fact that he said was people are applying fertilizers to the lotus that are grown in ponds and thus the ponds have got polluted in KK Dist .It was quite interesting for me to hear exotic information about our district but at the same time I felt ashamed due to the activities of our district people. I promised myself to take some steps on my part to protect pond and rivers. By4:00am our DFO finished his talk and we raised out several questions for which he gave us satisfactory answers. By 4;30 am the rain stopped and we were in the closing session Mr.Mullanchery M. Velaian Gave a thanking speech and then the meeting dispersed. It was a fine after noon in the rainy season. The breeze was softly warm; there was a smell of slight sun shine on wet grass and soil. I went home with my mind full of fresh feelings and thoughts of the coming meeting.