



# Inside SSI

A Forum for Educators  
of Sustainability

## WELCOME TO INSIDE SSI!

### Editor's Column

January 2021 / Edition 26

#### **Now that we have the coronavirus vaccine, can we go back to normal life?**

The UAE is implementing one of the largest coronavirus vaccinations drives around the world and the vaccine is widely offered at both government and private health facilities.

More than 1.6 million shots have been administered since the UAE approved use of the Sinopharm vaccine, which is about 47,000 shots a day since it has been launched! The UAE plans to vaccinate 50 per cent of its population by the end of Q1 2021.

With the increase of COVID-19 cases worldwide, UAE authorities encourage the continuation of all preventive measures as schools reopen after the winter break.

Global experts expect the impact of the new vaccines to kick in significantly over summer and life to be somewhat back to normal by next winter if the strong drive for vaccinations continues worldwide.

*SSI Team*



# Sponsor's Welcome

Bp is an integrated energy company, providing innovative solutions to improve people's lives. Headquartered in London and established in the Middle East for over a century, it aims to help the world reach net zero. Bp aims to reach Net Zero by 2050, reaching for ambitious aims to reduce emissions, scale up renewables and invest more in low carbon. We will report back here with progress on our #bpNetZero journey!

As a proud partner of SSI for over 10 years, bp supports nurturing the knowledge and means to address global environmental issues through educating younger generations.

And shares the concerns of our community's stakeholders and believes that actions today can solve long term environmental challenges.

Bp's purpose is reimagining energy for people and our planet, and the company encourages action today, that will lead to a healthier and safer tomorrow.



#bpNetZero



## Al Wathba Wetland Reserve welcomes volunteers

The SSI team is delighted to invite student volunteers aged 15 and above to Al Wathba Wetland Reserve, as it has opened its doors earlier this month for visitors. The opening will be from January 1st until March 30th, during Tuesdays through Saturdays, for students. Interested volunteers can learn all about EAD's conservation

efforts at this protected area, receive training from the site experts, and get a participation certificate.

To learn more about Al Wathba, visit EAD's website: <https://www.ead.gov.ae/en/experience-green-abu-dhabi/places-to-go/al-wathba-wetland-reserve>



## SSI participates in UNEP Tide Turners Plastic Challenge:

We are delighted to announce our participation in the UNEP Tide Turners Plastic Challenge, which will take place during the first week of February, to mark the World Wetland Day on February 2nd and National Environment Day on February 4th.

The challenge encourages residents to learn about the issues resulting from single-use plastic and its connection to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The initiative challenges participants through 3 levels, a quiz to test knowledge of the topic, a team survey where students identify about types of plastic and finally, behavioral changes which are weighed by points for a special champion badge!

For more information, visit UNEP's website: <https://www.unenvironment.org/explore-topics/education-environment/what-we-do/tide-turners-plastic-challenge-badge>





# Green Achiever

## GEMS United Indian School recycles over 3000kg of paper

GEMS United Indian School (GEMS UIS) recycled over 3000 kgs of paper waste through the One Root, One Communi-tree initiative by Emirates Environmental Group (EEG) in December 2020. GEMS UIS planted trees as they hit pre-set target of recyclable items. The students routinely deposited old books, charts, and newspapers in several recycling units positioned around the school.

The school has participated in the initiative for 3 consecutive years, totaling approximately 13,070kgs since 2018, and 6460 Kgs in 2019 alone.

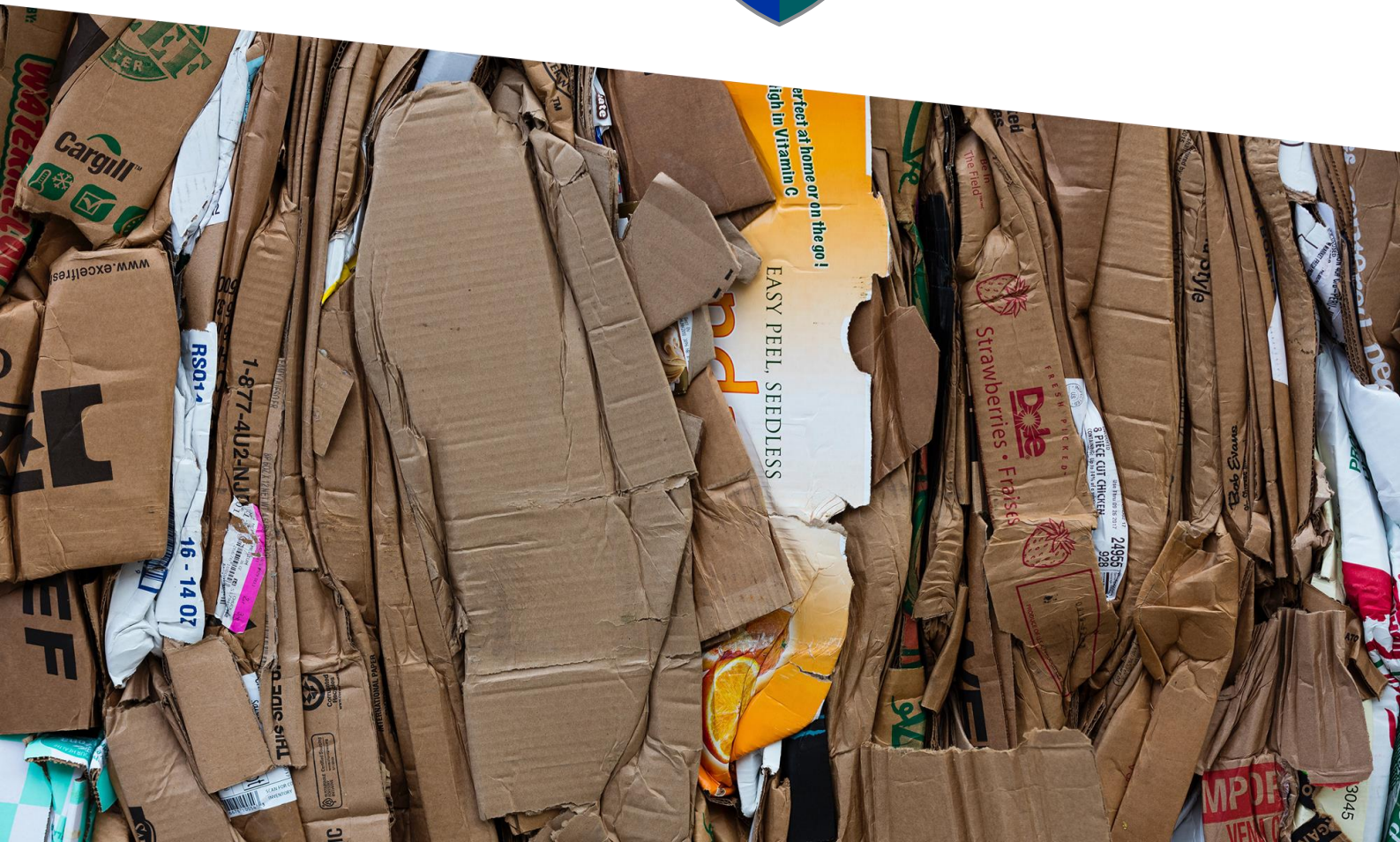
GEMS UIS is committed to spreading awareness and recycling to reverse climate change and protect the Earth and educating and inspiring younger generations to become green leaders of tomorrow.

One Root, One Communi-Tree was launched to involve community members and educate and instill the values of recycling amongst them. The participants are expected to submit the recyclable materials within the span of two weeks and achieve the target quantity.



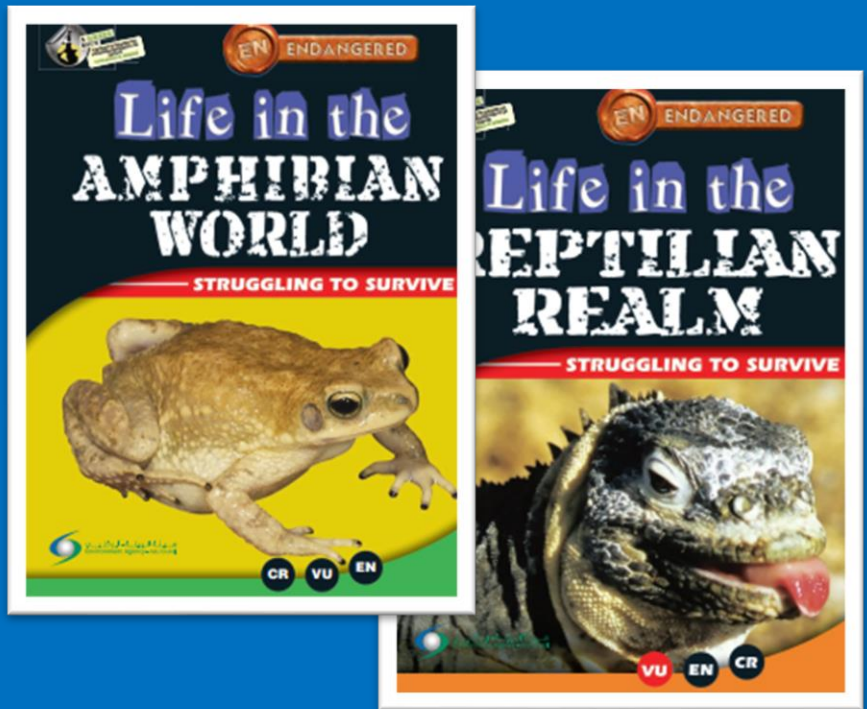
# GEMS

United Indian School  
ABU DHABI



# All Things Sustainable

This month's collection of All Things Sustainable features the latest environmentally themed books to keep everyone entertained as they begin the new semester.



## Life in The Amphibian World

Life in The Amphibian World takes readers on an amazing journey to explore the world of amphibians and all their interesting characteristics. Throughout this book, you'll discover the double lives that they live in both land and water! Have a read to discover the places where they can be found, what they eat, and the importance of these creatures in nature – both as predators and prey!

<https://www.ead.gov.ae/storage/Post/files/e17b425f0f3aab0153cdc8cd2daef909.pdf>

## Life in The Reptilian Realm

Life in The Reptilian Realm takes readers into a journey filled with educational discoveries and interesting facts about different reptile species including snakes, lizards, crocodiles, and many others! After readers learn all about these beautiful species, they understand the challenges they face and how they have become endangered.

<https://www.ead.gov.ae/storage/Post/files/f2a19b3643dc36e49acbc36fbed4f556.pdf>

# What's Next?

Stay tuned for updates on meeting the experts, virtual tours, panel discussions and lots of other interactive activities. Join our upcoming sessions which include:

## How to adopt a sustainable mindset?

*Date: January 28, 2021* Join Liwa School, Aisha AlMazroui and Amna Al Suwaidi from EAD's outreach team in this virtual discussion on "Green Awareness". Participants can learn different ways to adopt a new mindset that will help individuals and communities make sustainable decisions every day.

*Tim: 12:00-1:00pm*

Registration: Send an email to [sustainableschools@ead.gov.ae](mailto:sustainableschools@ead.gov.ae)

## Threatened Species of Abu Dhabi

*Date: February 16, 2021* Join our virtual session to learn about threatened and endangered species in Abu Dhabi and the IUCN Red List with Amani Fares Bin Humaid and Amna Al Suwaidi from EAD Outreach Team.

*Tim: 4:30-5:30pm*

Registration: Send an email to [sustainableschools@ead.gov.ae](mailto:sustainableschools@ead.gov.ae)

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