



Inside SSI

*A Forum for Educators
of Sustainability*

WELCOME TO INSIDE SSI!

Editor's Column

June 2021 / Edition 31

School's out!

Summer is here! As the school year has come to an end, it is time to unwind, relax and recharge. If you are travelling, this is the perfect time to explore nature by visiting parks and beaches and to explore the great outdoors. However, while it may be summertime, we cannot forget about the environment.

As we continuously set initiatives and programs to tackle climate change and combat global warming, the Environment Agency-Abu Dhabi recognizes that the power of change lies within our youth.

During the summer break, we urge you all to continue practicing sustainability and choosing green alternatives to help protect our planet. We wish you all a happy summer holiday!

*Best regards,
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

Winners announced for UN Tide Turners Plastic Challenge-Pilot Phase for Abu Dhabi

In celebration of World Sea Turtle Day on June 16, 2021, Environment Agency-Abu Dhabi announced the winners of the UN Tide Turners Plastic Challenge, launched on World Water Day on March 22, 2021. The challenge, held in partnership with the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), is designed to inspire young people, aged 11 to 18 years old, to think about how they consume plastic, and learn how single-use plastic threatens life in oceans and on land.

20 winners were announced from three schools including 13 students from St. Joseph School Abu Dhabi, 5 students from Private International English School and 2 students from Future International Academy.

The challenge received a total of 385 submissions from 19 government and private schools taking part in the Sustainable Schools Initiative; of which 228 were entry level, 89 were leader level and 80 were champion level.

- **Winners from St. Joseph School Abu Dhabi:**

Michelle Mariya Payammal, Keran Rayana Benchamin, Mahalekshmi Sumesh, Akshara Sajeesh Nair, Leah March Rodrigues, Marisa Paul, Shobhiyaa Panneer, Megha Maulik Munshi, Aiswarya Biju, Dhanishka Vijesh, Hazel Monteiro, Maryam Alia Muhammad Suni and Aakarsha Korada.

- **Winners from Private International English School:**

Nethra Praveen Kumar, Aisha Shah, Akshita Parikh, Divya Chakka, and Gnanasree Donavalli

- **Winners from Future International Academy:**

Najma Belvana Fatiha and Erich Klair De Jesus.



The Young Leaders Plastic Challenge



Environment Agency-Abu Dhabi releases 150 rehabilitated sea turtles back into their habitat

With the participation of His Highness Sheikh Theyab bin Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Chairman of the Abu Dhabi Crown Prince's Court, Environment Agency-Abu Dhabi released 150 rehabilitated sea turtles back into their habitat.

After being rescued last year, the sea turtles are the first group to be released into key marine areas in the Emirate of Abu Dhabi. One turtle, named Al Hederyat, was selected to carry a satellite tracking system on its back for data

collection and behavioral analysis. Data collected will be used to enhance Environment Agency-Abu Dhabi's conservation efforts and initiatives to protect these magnificent creatures and preserve their population.

Read more here:

<https://www.mediaoffice.abudhabi/en/environment/environment-agency-abu-dhabi-releases-150-Rehabilitated-Sea-Turtles/>



Green Achiever

GEMS United Indian School and World Environment Day Celebration

GEMS United Indian School celebrated World Environment Day across grades KG-12 with several engaging activities that included reimagining, recreating, and restoring; a special assembly where young nature lovers pledged to help restore our ecosystems, tap the scrap-students explored the creative ways to reuse materials. Other participating students cooked an environmentally friendly meal to spread awareness on the importance of reducing carbon footprint, while young filmmakers produced short videos on global environmental challenges and suggested solutions to improve quality of life while saving

resources. Finally, students in kindergarten planted their seeds and presented a time-lapse video of their saplings' growth.

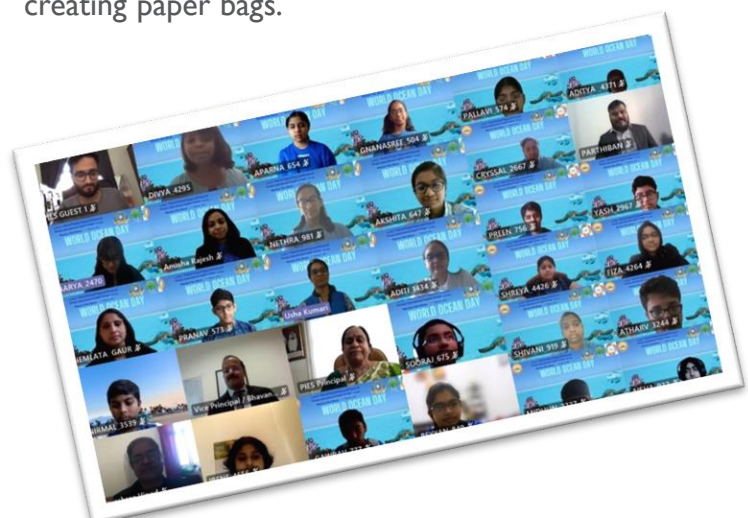


Private International English School marks World Oceans Day

Bhavan Natura, Private international English School's Eco-club, celebrated World Oceans Day on June 8, 2021, with an informative assembly hosted by Grade 9 eco champions. The assembly was attended by Abdulla Almatrooshi, UAE Ambassador for Nature in 2020, Mrs. Girija Baiju, Principal of Private International English School and Mr. Suresh V. Balaskrishnan, Vice Principal of Private International English School, discussed methods and solutions to help save our oceans through teamwork.

The assembly program began with a pledge to reduce the consumption of single-use plastics

followed by speeches and poems dedicated to the environment and single-use plastic alternative activity in which students recycled paper by creating paper bags.



Green Achiever

Grace Valley Indian School observes World Environment Day

Grace Valley Indian School's Eco-club and Science Department organized a number of virtual activities for students across all grades in celebration of World Environment Day. Under the theme of "Ecosystem Restoration", students discussed environmental topics, participated in drawing activities, and prepared videos, slogans and posters to raise awareness and promote sustainability.



Al Aasimah School-Agricultural Garden

School gardens and green spaces positively impact the overall health and well-being of students, allowing them to grow and learn in environments that promote their physical health, cognitive development, and academic learning.

Building on a teacher's idea, Al Aasimah School initiated its own agricultural garden within school playgrounds named "The Giving and Growing Trees". Teachers planted a range of diverse fruits and vegetables to create a colorful and engaging atmosphere. The garden aims to highlight to students the importance of agriculture and will host practical science classes and produce viable crops for the use of school staff.



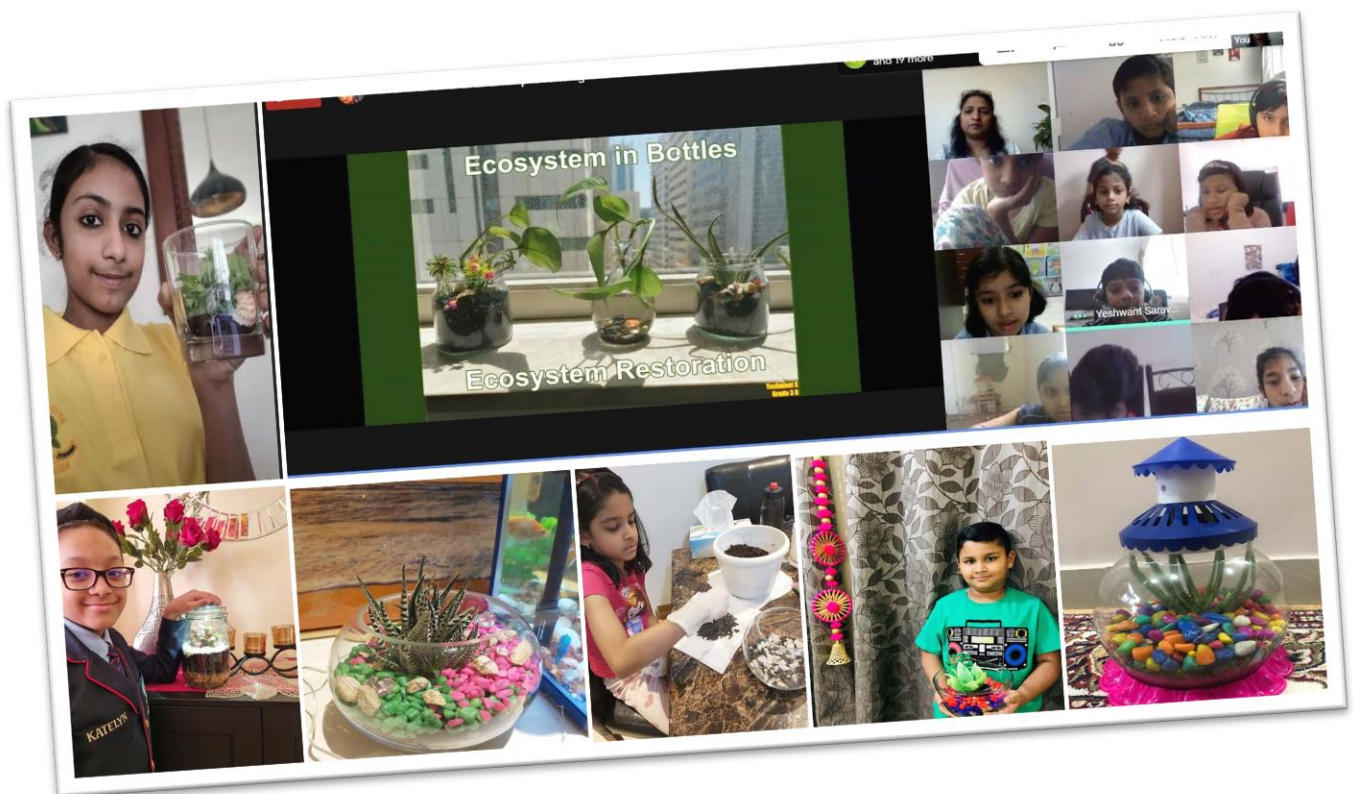
Green Achiever

Mayoor Private School: Lets Restore our Ecosystem on World Environment Day

As we experience unprecedented global events, we must persist in our support of the environment! World Environment Day, which takes place every year on June 5, was celebrated by Mayoor Private School virtually due to the COVID-19 pandemic. All students from KG to Grade 12 were invited to participate in the “Ecosystem in a Bottle” project. The exercise aimed to show students how an ecosystem would sustain itself by creating different types of terrariums with colorful pebbles and a variety of

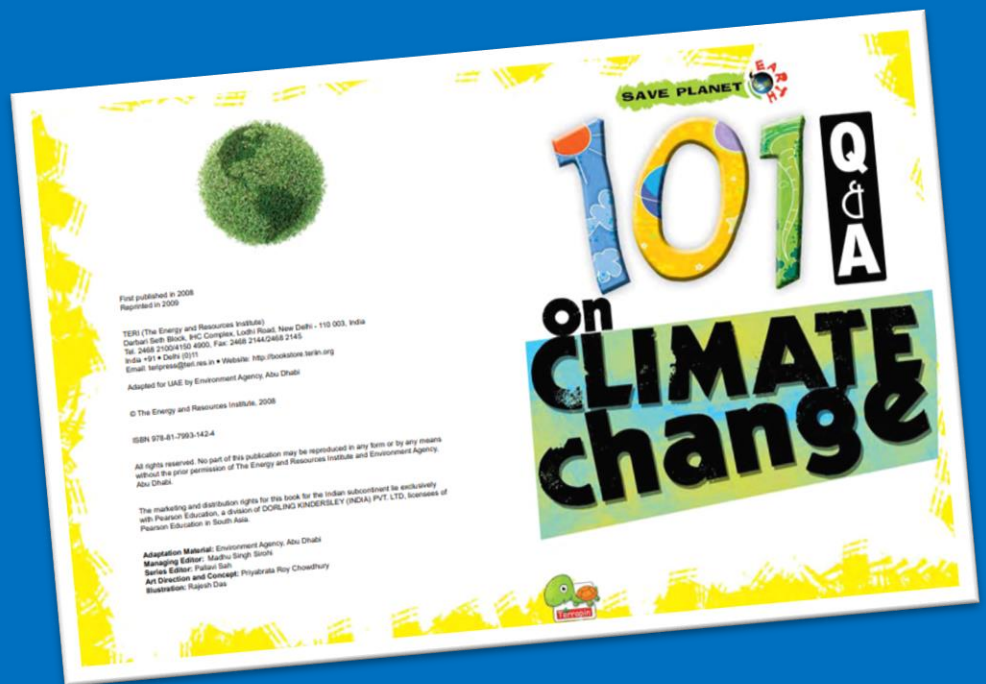
plants. As part of the celebration, Eco-club members participated in other activities such as drawing, filmmaking, outdoor activities, creating presentations or taking part in plantation programs to highlight the need to protect our planets and restore our ecosystem.

Eco-club member, Srishti, created a video titled “Closing the plastic loop” which was shared by all students to limit single-use plastic in their daily lives.



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.



Save the Planet 101 Q&A on Climate Change

The original title “Save the Planet 101 Q&A on Climate Change” answers all your common questions on climate change and global warming. The book is divided into 3 sections; Phenomena, which covers the many factors that affect climate change, Habitat, which covers how land and oceans are affected by climate change and finally Conservation, which tackles people and protocol, and explores the work of scientists and researchers, who focus on climate change and several protocols which countries follow to combat climate change and global warming.

<https://www.ead.gov.ae/storage/Post/files/50ca1741bfcbbd340aee28a2fbe65861.pdf>

What's Next?

Wondering what's coming up next? We have so many exciting opportunities that are currently in development for the new school year. In the meantime, here are some environmental occasions for you to mark on your calendars:

- July 14, 2021 Shark Awareness Day
- July 31, 2021 World Ranger Day