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Environmental Science, Group 4, SUPW Camps
International Student Exchange Programme

SAVING KENYAN WILDLIFE

Strategies for Conservation



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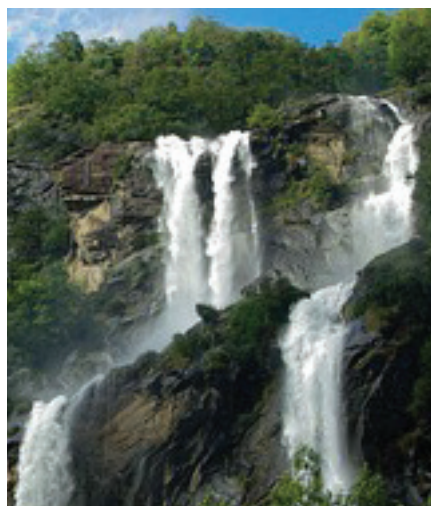
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(West) 400 610

Download softcopy from
www.trailblazersindia.com
Call us to participate in our camps/activities:
022 25891513 or 022 25891490
OR email us on: trailblazers@vsnl.com

Editor : Ranjan Biswas
Associate Editor : Mala Biswas
Reporter : Sachin Sata
Photo credits : Ojas Chavan, Meena Nair,
Sachin Sata



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Education: A Tall Order?

Every year, the months of March to June are times when both parents and children undergo an arduous journey of being tested, getting admitted and being bench marked, notwithstanding the interventions of the government education officers and the glee amongst the journalists of the fourth estate.

The news being created for them free of charge means they have to use less grey cells to write meaningful, impacting, transformational articles or editorials. All the good deeds and misdeeds across the nation come out from all parts of the country. There is woeful lack of clarity and purpose all around, be it examinations, results, admissions, discipline, leaking of question papers, the toppers and the failures, the success against all odds and failure due to missing the train to help you reach the examination hall on time... the train being cancelled, the inability to show compassion by educationists and soulful efforts of a rickshaw puller in Patna whose son or daughter makes the grade.

If we want to negotiate the minefield of education, it is a veritable mess from the nursery to the highest levels of education. That education is a State subject and the Centre has a HRD ministry. Between the two HRD ministries in New Delhi and the State education ministry there is a wide gap. More and more schools are moving out from the clutches of the State Government to become a CBSE or ICSE followers as now they find that too stifling and many of them, the new ones are becoming International schools. Are the teachers prepared? Is the infrastructure available? Is the community prepared to pay the kind of fees it requires? Almost in all the cases the answer is no. Many have created the infrastructure first and in due course got the affiliation.

The school was provided land at a reasonable cost like hospitals so as to benefit the local community. But if the locals cannot afford the education, then the schools import the students from afar to fill the seats as they can afford but the local community cannot. Admissions incidentally in Mumbai and Delhi are only given to students residing within the 5 km radii of the school.

The point being made is simple. Keep it simple. The unnecessary tension faced by all is not even worth the effort because few sell quality in the end. Quality is a

misused word. What we get instead is a compromise. We compromise is selection of the best manpower, we compromise in the selection of the best supplier, we compromise on selecting the best materials, we compromise with safety, we compromise on admissions, examinations and we compromise with education which is now sold as a commodity. In the end we surround ourselves with mediocrity. The market forces are at play and in a matter of a few years the school will lose its sheen. Compromise is a short term game. The game changer is to constantly surround yourself with the best.

Thus what is the magic formula to succeed? Schools impart knowledge and that and that alone should be its focus. Schools will lose out if they assume the term I mentioned earlier. "Knowledge" does not mean books alone; it is imparting all round knowledge for the mind, body and soul. Children are sharp and know when they are being fooled. So transparency, quality, honesty, compassion, understanding and immense subject knowledge of the faculty, well stocked library, intrepid and enquiring laboratories, clean toilets and a humungous playgrounds will define the school. I am aware this costs. Never did I say education comes cheap. Quality outdoor education or camping like quality schools does not come cheap either. Parents must learn to pay and schools should invest in the magic formula. Be it a municipal run school or an ICSE, CBSE, Cambridge, IB or whatever else comes around.

People will pay if they know top and uncompromising quality and safety is on the menu.

Ranjan Biswas

Editor

ecotrail@trailblazersindia.com

On the Brink...

The Indian Sarus Crane or *Grus antigone antigone* is listed as Vulnerable in the IUCN Red List. It is the only resident breeding crane found in India. It is the state bird of Uttar Pradesh which has the highest concentration of these birds in the world (over 6000 individuals). This crane is native to India, Australia, Cambodia, China, Laos, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan and Vietnam. It is the tallest flying bird in the world standing 152-156 cm tall with a wingspan of 240 cm. Their nests are constructed on water in natural wetlands or in flooded paddy fields



Image courtesy: Nayan Khanolkar

The Indian Sarus Crane is omnivorous, feeding on wide range of food items such as aquatic plants including sedge tubers, rice, seeds and other grains, snails and crustaceans.

It is suspected to have suffered a rapid population decline, which is projected to continue, as a result of widespread reductions in the extent and quality of its wetland habitats, the effects of pollutants, agricultural intensification and altered rainfall patterns.

Public awareness programmes, creation of Sarus watch groups, protection of wetlands, direct reward for the protection of biodiversity, agricultural areas as multifunctional systems to produce food for humans and retain wildlife, encouraging ecotourism are some of the strategies that have been adopted to save Sarus Cranes. The International Crane Foundation works worldwide to conserve cranes, their ecosystems, watersheds, and their flyways.



Ancient Mayan Civilization

Water Conservation in Ancient Culture

New research holds fascinating revelations about an ancient society's water conservation and purification method. High-resolution, aerial imagery bears significance in investigating how remote, ancient Maya civilizations used and conserved water. Collection, storage and management of water were top priorities for the ancient Maya, whose sites in Mexico, Belize and Guatemala were forced to endure 7 months out of the year with very little rainfall. As researchers expand their exploration of the civilizations, aerial imagery technology is helping them locate and

study areas that are showing them how less urbanized populations conserved water for drinking and irrigation. The NSF-supported research by Jeffrey Brewer, a PhD student in the University of Cincinnati's Department of Geography, and Christopher Carr, a UC research assistant professor of Geography used a surveying technology called LiDAR (Light Detection And Ranging) along with excavation data to examine the spatial characteristics, cultural modifications and function of residential scale water tanks, a little-investigated component of Maya water management, says Brewer.

Genetic Diversity

Some 75 % of the world's plant genetic diversity has been lost since the 1900's, the FAO reported, as farmers shift from local varieties to genetically uniform, high-yielding crops. About 75 % of the world's food is generated from only 12 plants and five animal species. Unlike large monocultures, small farmers often plant different species of staple crops, improving its resilience and increasing its diversity. While less efficient for large farms, planting a variety of seeds can help food systems build resilience to pests or climate change.



Global Seed Vault



Svalbard Seed Vault, Norway

The National Laboratory for Genetic Resources aims to preserve and catalog the genetic diversity of all of the different varieties of fruits, vegetables and cereals. Located in Colorado, it is the repository of plant germplasm with over 680,000 unique accessions. Like the famous Svalbard Seed Vault in Norway, this Laboratory serves as a library of genetic diversity that farmers and plant breeders can utilize to find plant varieties that are disease resistant or drought tolerant.

TYPES OF INTELLIGENCE



Interpersonal Intelligence (People Smart): Ability to understand and interact effectively with others.



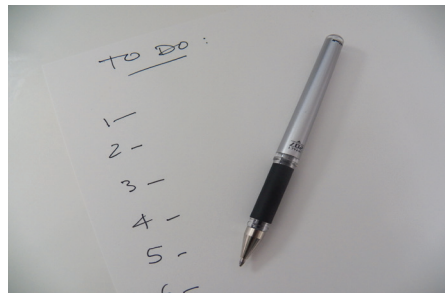
Spatial Intelligence (Picture Smart): those who have an amazing use of mental imagery and artistic skills.



Musical Intelligence (Music Smart): ability to recognize tone, rhythm, timbre, pitch and more.



Logical-Mathematical Intelligence (Number/Reasoning Smart): Ability to calculate, quantify, consider propositions.



Intrapersonal Intelligence (Self Smart): Capacity to understand oneself and one's thoughts and feelings, and to use it.



Existential Intelligence (Think Smart): Sensitivity and capacity to tackle deep questions about human existence.



Linguistic Intelligence (Word Smart): Ability to think in words and to use language to express complex meaning.



Bodily-Kinesthetic Intelligence (Body Smart): Manipulate objects and use a variety of physical skills.



Naturalist Intelligence (Nature Smart): Human sensitivity to the natural world.

Howard Gardner's Theory of Multiple Intelligence

Many of us are familiar with three general categories in which people learn: visual learners, auditory learners and kinesthetic learners. Beyond these three general categories, many theories of and approaches toward human potential have been developed. Among them is the theory of multiple intelligences, developed by Howard Gardner, Ph.D., Professor of Education at Harvard University. Gardner's early work in psychology and later in human cognition and human potential led to the development of the initial six intelligences. Today there are nine intelligences and the possibility of others may eventually expand the list. These intelligences (or competencies) relate to a person's unique aptitude

set of capabilities and ways they might prefer to demonstrate intellectual abilities. Gardner defined the first seven intelligences in *Frames of Mind* in 1983. He added the last two in *Intelligence Reframed* in 1999.

Gardner's MI Theory challenged traditional beliefs in the fields of education and cognitive science. According to Gardner, intelligence is:

- § The ability to create an effective product or offer a service that is valued in a culture
- § A set of skills that make it possible for a person to solve problems in life
- § The potential for finding or creating solutions for problems, which involves gathering new knowledge

In addition, Gardner claims that:

- § All human beings possess all intelligences in varying amounts.
- § Each person has a different intellectual composition.
- § We can improve education by addressing the multiple intelligences of our students.
- § These intelligences are located in different areas of the brain and can either work independently or together.



The biggest mistake of past centuries in teaching has been to treat all students as if they were variants of the same individual and thus to feel justified in teaching them all the same subjects the same way.

— Howard Gardner —

Saving the Sacred Barna



Opportunities to participate in conservation of our natural resources come in many ways. The eldest member of Trailblazers family showed us the path of saving a rare tree. She is fondly called Nanima by all. An avid reader, a Sanskrit scholar and a keen environmentalist, she read an article in a Marathi newspaper on the last flowering of the Sacred Barna tree, which was to be cut for road widening. The Trailblazers Foundation team immediately rushed to the site to see what could be done to save it. The tree was too big to be transplanted. The only option left was to take a few cuttings of the twigs/branches and root them giving them a new life. While the soil bed and pots were prepared to plant them, the twigs were kept in water mixed with a little bit of soil to give it respite from the heat. Appropriate cuttings were then prepared from the twigs with the help of the gardeners by cutting the ends obliquely and planted. Out of 10 cuttings, 2 grew shining new trifoliate leaves! Trailblazers Foundation achieved what it was aiming for: Giving a new life to a rare tree.

Crateva religiosa is popular traditional medicinal tree used in rural India for resolving problems affecting the kidneys and bladder. In Ayurveda, the bark of the *Crateva* has been used to heal kidney stones for more than 3,000 years. Studies undertaken by scientists have authenticated that the bark neutralizes the enzyme responsible for production of oxalates (main component of kidney stones) in the body.

Monsoon Plantation Drive

Trailblazers Foundation was invited by Thane Municipal Corporation to participate and lend their expertise in tree plantation drive for the monsoon season. Trailblazers Foundation suggested conserving rare trees of Thane city and making a tourist circuit highlighting these rare trees amongst other measures. Trailblazers Foundation has been in the forefront of saving trees, replanting them, growing more trees, collecting seeds, nursery development of trees such as Mahua, organizing tree trails and census. It also submitted a report to the Thane Municipal Corporation on saving the trees destined to be cut for the road widening project in Gandhinagar area which also has an old Baobab tree.



ठाणे महानगर पालिका, ठाणे

First Aid Training



Trailblazers prides itself in its motto "Safety First" in all its outdoor programs. Towards that goal the full team undergoes First Aid training and skill development courses each year, updating their knowledge and proficiency.

The day that we all were waiting excitedly had come - time for a refresher course and update on latest first aid techniques. The course conducted by Dr. Nariman Doctor was detailed and started with the most important topic of Cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR). We practiced CPR on a manikin to perfect chest compressions and learnt to give rescue breaths. Functioning of automatic electronic defibrillators (AED) and artificial manual breathing unit (AMBU) bag were taught to us. Certain myths of treating a particular condition were busted. Bandages and sling sessions were very informative. The team is now equipped with latest knowledge, ready to heal. - **Team Trailblazers**

Trailblazers office welcomes Ruchira Ghosh

As the sun rose and the new day dawned, our office was abuzz, awaiting the visit of Ms. Ruchira Ghosh, Regional Director South Asia (Cambridge International Examinations), for a special “Chai pe charcha” on Cambridge IGCSE Global Perspectives and outdoor education programmes.

The Regional Director shared her vision and was effusive in her praise of the Cambridge education system as well as the immense benefit of outdoor education. Her vast knowledge and experience of the Cambridge curriculum was very valuable to Trailblazers team comprising of our R&D team, camp Instructors and field educators. Ms. Ghosh shared her thoughts and ideas to encourage more and more Cambridge schools to take up Global Perspectives programmes.

She has extended her full support to our Associate Editor, Mala to publish a special issue of ECOTRIL with a focus on Global perspectives camps & programmes which Trailblazers has already delivered to schools and continues to deliver. Ms. Ghosh also identified many areas where her office could collaborate with Trailblazers in the coming years, to enhance the relevance of outbound education and the greater learning outcomes from these experiential learning for the benefit of students. Sipping on hot Darjeeling cuppa tea and picking on the grey cells simultaneously,



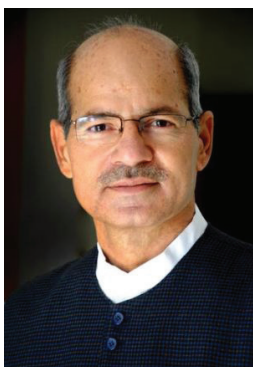
Ruchira Ghosh with Ranjan Biswas

the discussion's outcome was indeed very productive for both. Trailblazers will ensure more engagement with Cambridge board school, heads, coordinators, teachers, students and parents providing a collaborative development of shared vision. It was indeed an invigorating and stimulating meeting with ideas and plans emerging, all to benefit the Cambridge

board schools. For my team and me it was also a learning curve. Before we parted for the day we all wished her every success and also to all the schools, the faculty and the children which partner the Cambridge curriculum that she leads with suave & sophistication, commitment, grace, generosity and compassion.

-Editor

Greetings to New Ministers



An environmentalist, river conservationist, writer, Member of Parliament and an amateur pilot - this is how **Shri Anil Madhav Dave**, the new Minister of State (Independent Charge) of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, is known for his various roles in society. Shri Dave is Masters in Commerce with a specialisation in Rural Development & Management from Indore. He was a student leader during his college days.

He is well-known for his work on river

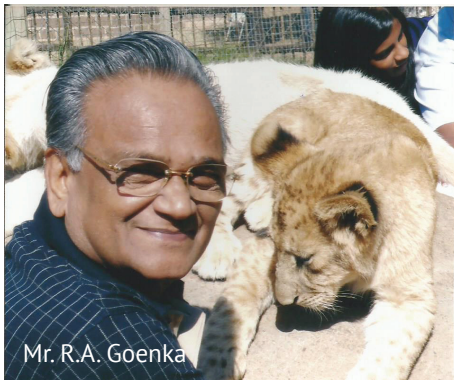
Narmada through an organisation 'Narmada Samagra' founded by him, which works on conservation of river and its catchment area through activities and events. He is the driving force behind the organisation of a biennial event 'River Festival.'



Shri Prakash Javadekar is Minister for Human Resource Development, Government of India and Rajyasabha Member of Parliament, elected from Madhya Pradesh state as a member of Bharatiya Janata Party. He has worked with the Bank of Maharashtra and was senate member of Pune University for more than a decade. He led the students movements under the Akhil Bharatiya Vidyarthi Parishad in various capacities. He has written

300 articles in various newspapers on contemporary subjects; has also written booklets on unemployment, infiltration, IMF loan and other political issues. He has travelled to many countries to attend various conferences and seminars.

Saving Wildlife: Lesson from Kenya



Mr. R.A. Goenka

The dynamic and soft spoken visionary Mr. R.A. Goenka, Honorary Consul of the Republic of Kenya in Mumbai, in conversation with our Associate Editor Mala Biswas, as he shares his experience and thoughts on an array of subjects related to environmental conservation, fostering India-Kenya ties and learnings from the cooperation. He is also a very successful businessman and a philanthropist. He is the Executive Committee Member of Indo-African Chambers of Commerce and is also running Charity organizations working in the field of education and healthcare of underprivileged children.

1. How is the Elephant conservation programme going on in Kenya?

The future of African elephants is critical to the government of Kenya as well as the world. Elephants are a species of conservation concern, as their numbers have reduced dramatically over the last 100 years, mainly due to trade in ivory. In Kenya alone the elephant population declined from around 167,000 in 1973 to just 20,000 in 1990. They are keystone species with significant roles in ecological dynamics, and therefore their existence is important to the conservation of other elements of biodiversity. These factors gave rise to

the need for a new strategy in saving them.

The existing framework for the conservation and management of elephants is covered in the 1991–1996 Kenya Wildlife Service (KWS) policy framework and development program. This largely focused on addressing the high levels of elephant poaching occurring at the time. However, enhanced capacity of the KWS anti-poaching unit and the international ban on trade in ivory has reduced elephant poaching, enabling population recovery. Kenya's elephant population as of 2010 was estimated at about 35,000 animals, and increasing.

The Elephant Conservation and Management Strategy (2012-2021) provides a new framework. The long-term vision for the strategy is “a secure future for elephants and their habitats, based on peaceful and beneficial co-existence with people, now and for generations yet to come.” The overall goal is to “maintain and expand elephant distribution and numbers in suitable areas, enhance security of the elephants, reduce human–elephant conflict and increase value of elephants to people and habitat.”

This will be achieved by focusing efforts and resources on seven broad strategic objectives, each associated with a set of specific actions and measurable targets to gauge performance: protection, population expansion and habitat maintenance, research and monitoring for management, human–elephant conflict, incentives, capacity, and coordination and support.

The strategy seeks to engage and devolve responsibility to various groups in elephant conservation and management, particularly in key strategic

locations. There is still a lot that needs to be known about elephants for their effective conservation and management, and therefore more focused research and monitoring in partnership with research organizations and individual researchers is important.

2. What efforts are being made by the Kenya Park rangers to eliminate poachers hunting Elephants and Rhinos?

Wildlife crime is one of the main challenges in wildlife conservation. Poachers are getting tougher in their quest to profit from international black markets where ivory and rhino horn can be worth more than cocaine. “As demand for ivory and rhino horn remains high, some poachers and anti-poaching forces are becoming increasingly militarized, using military-style weapons and adopting more aggressive tactics,” reads the Small Arms Survey 2015: Weapons and the World.

“Despite the efforts of national wildlife agencies, security providers, conservancy organizations and U.N. bodies to combat illegal poaching, armed groups continue to kill elephants for their ivory,” the report says. “Without a substantial reduction in the demand for ivory and rhino horn, efforts to deter poachers through armed interventions may disrupt poaching, but not stop it.” **At the global level, demand for illegal ivory is a strong predictor of poaching trends.**

The Kenya Wildlife Service (KWS) conserves and manages Kenya's wildlife and enforces related laws and regulations. The Security Division is the functional arm of KWS which ensures that wildlife resources and their habitats are secure. This division has greatly reduced the level of poaching and has strengthened Parks and Reserves management.

Continued on next page...



BLAZING AN ECO TRAIL

This Division has four departments that deal with the different aspects of wildlife security. Wildlife Protection Department with professionally trained ranger workforce, a SEAL unit which is specialized in rapidly responding to emerging threats, an Intelligence Department in charge of collecting and analyzing information and an Investigation Department tasked to carry out investigations of all wildlife crimes.

Northern Rangelands Trust (NRT)

security teams with the support of the International Elephant Foundation, has been instrumental in significantly reducing previously rampant elephant poaching in the North and South of Ewaso Nyiro River. Supported by Kenya Wildlife Service, Kenya Police and intelligence gathering and sharing by the 22 community conservancies operating in these regions, significant strides have been made in the reduction of poaching. **Recently Kenya torched as many as 120 MT of ivory, the largest stockpile of ivory ever destroyed by any country, as proof of commitment to zero tolerance for poaching and illegal ivory trade.**

3. What is the effort being made by the Kenyan government to promote conservation education amongst locals and visitors?

To increase awareness and to promote conservation education, Government of Kenya has formed many societies/agencies to educate locals as well as visitors.

Nature Kenya, the East African Natural History Society is Africa's oldest environmental Society. It was established in 1909 to promote to study and conservation of nature in eastern Africa. Nature Kenya implements these aims through the mission "Connecting nature and people to take action for biodiversity conversation".

The first members of East Africa Natural History Society collected and identified specimens. They founded a museum to house the collections and educate the public. This museum was later transferred to the government of Kenya, eventually becoming the famous National Museums of Kenya.

Nature Kenya members today continue their active interest in natural history by joining working groups such as the

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Extreme left in black suit: Mr. R. A. Goenka with PM Narendra Modi in Kenya

Bird Committee. They take part in monitoring surveys and produce lists of plants, insects, birds and other living things. They publish an ornithological journal, books, articles, DVD's and photographs. They lead outings and share information.

4. What can school children and educationists from India do to help Kenya - India relationship evolve to the next level?

Kenya has immense conservation lessons that our school children can imbibe and understand. Similarly India's rich flora and fauna can inspire young students from Kenya. I would be happy to see school students and educationists visiting both countries and exchanging best practices in conservation and appreciation of wildlife and biodiversity of our two countries. There is a lot to learn from each other. Influencing young minds towards the preservation of nature will go a long way in making the future a better place to live.

The Lewa Wildlife Conservancy undertakes the Conservation Education Programme (CEP) that was established in 2010 with the aim of providing a holistic, cutting-edge conservation and environmental education for visiting school groups. Its aim is to introduce and promote behaviour change in conservation and create environmental awareness especially to the younger generation.

This goal is achieved through conducting outdoor environmental education lessons for various primary and secondary schools. The establishment of Environmental clubs in schools have also had a positive impact on students and help them in understanding the need for environmental conservation.

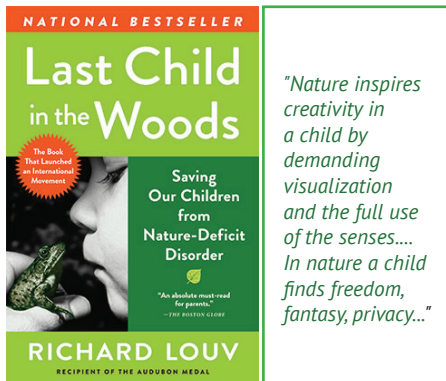
5. Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi recently concluded his visit to Kenya. What is your take on his visit and do you see a boost in Indo-Kenyan ties?

Prime Minister Shri Modi's visit to Kenya can be termed as highly successful. In fact he is the first PM of India to visit Kenya since 1981. He began his banquet speech on July 11, by saying "From over two millennia ago, the waters of the great Indian Ocean have facilitated the inter-mingling of our two peoples. We are maritime neighbours". He then went on to say how our community relationship goes way back to 19th century "They are a strong bridge between the two countries. And, we value this joint heritage. This visit may have been short but the outcomes have been significant". Shri Modi also stressed "Both India and Kenya have young populations. Both cultures value education. Now is the time for skill development. We can also unite our efforts with other developing countries, not just for the well-being of the weak and the poor but, also to help preserve our Mother Earth. We can learn from each other in the crucial area of conservation of natural assets. As Mzee Jomo Kenyatta said, "Our children may learn about heroes of the past. Our task is to make ourselves architects of the future".

This visit augurs well for Indo-Kenyan ties and I wish His Excellency, President Uhuru Kenyatta of Kenya and Shri Narendra Modi, PM of India a long and fruitful relationship between the two countries.



Book Review



"Nature inspires creativity in a child by demanding visualization and the full use of the senses.... In nature a child finds freedom, fantasy, privacy..."

In his groundbreaking international bestseller *Last Child in the Woods*, Richard Louv, recipient of the Audubon Medal, spotlights the alienation of children from the natural world, coining the term Nature-deficit disorder and outlining the benefits of a strong nature connection—from boosting mental acuity and creativity to reducing obesity and depression, from promoting health and wellness to simply having fun. *Last Child in the Woods* is the first book to bring together a new and growing body of research indicating that direct exposure to nature is essential for healthy childhood development and for the physical and emotional health of children and adults.

The book explains the social, psychological, and spiritual implications of the changes – and proposes ways to heal the broken bond.

Nature Deficit Disorder

As described by Louv, "nature-deficit 'disorder' is not a medical diagnosis, but a description of the human costs of alienation from nature. Among them: diminished use of the senses, attention difficulties and higher rates of physical and emotional illnesses. This disorder damages children; it also shapes adults, families, whole communities, and the future of nature itself. Yet, exciting new studies show us the benefits -- biological, cognitive and spiritual -- when we give the gift of nature."

Disconnect from Nature

Competition from television and computers, more homework and other time pressures, and lack of access to natural areas is keeping kids indoors. While technology is expanding our access to the virtual world, it is diminishing our children's access to the physical world in a multitude of ways. "I like to play indoors better 'cause that's where all the electrical outlets are," reports a fourth-grader. Never before in history have children been so plugged in—and so out of touch with the natural world."

The Healing Power of Nature

As children's connections to nature diminish and the social, psychological and spiritual implications become apparent, new research shows that nature can offer powerful therapy for such maladies as depression, obesity, and attention-deficit disorder. Experience in nature can increase a child's (and an adult's) powers of concentration. In addition, anecdotal evidence strongly suggests that creativity is stimulated by childhood experiences in nature. Environment-based education dramatically improves standardized test scores and grade-point averages and helps children develop skills in problem solving, critical thinking and decision making.

Reconnecting Children with Nature

What you do is less important than how you do it. One of the most important gifts to give a young person is an infectious enthusiasm for the outdoors. This gift will last for the rest of a child's life – long after the video games have disappeared. *Last Child in the Woods: Saving our Children from Nature Deficit Disorder* has spurred a national dialogue among educators, health professionals, parents, developers and conservationists. This is a book that will change the way you think about your future and the future of your children.

TRAVELLER PROMOTION

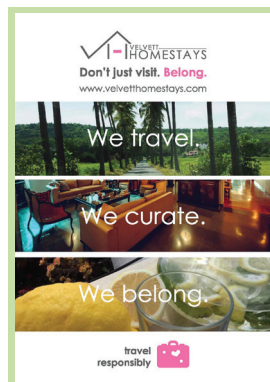
Velvett Homestays a brainchild of Gouri and me was created as a result of our having jumped at every opportunity to travel to as many diverse places as we could after getting married. Born from the sheer joy of being travel crazy together, we found enrichment in living authentically vs. choosing clinical hotel rooms. What travel means to us, however, is the pleasure we get from immersing ourselves into a new culture and a new way of life to broaden our horizons. So, although we have enjoyed many touring holidays, the times spent in one location, in one small village, have been the happiest and most fulfilling times of our lives. It is when you get to know a place that you can truly feel at home and connected with the surroundings and the people you are visiting. By living in Homestays you get a local experience that hotels cannot provide.

Imagine a place where you can reach out of your bedroom window to pick lemons growing in the wild outside. It is a place where you feel at home, without any care in the world. Freedom is a part of the contract. We are excited about this newly founded way of pursuing our

passion to travel and keen to share this formula with like-minded travelers. This is where Velvett Homestays comes into play. We started off with curating a select set of Homestays in the Konkan belt from Mumbai to Goa and moved onto Spain along the Mediterranean coast. These are places we have visited personally and have experienced the local life. With each place we can guide you to select the right Homestay for your visit and give you tips with local activities and spaces. We would also like to share with you our value of responsible travelling. This is borne out of an understanding that resources belong to the global community but they are finite and must be used responsibly. By respecting local cultures and traditions we are in turn preserving them. We travel. We curate. We belong. We look forward to sharing some of the beautiful moments and

memories we have created together. Don't just visit. Belong.

Mohit Gupta
Founder / Travelogist | Connect with us on:
velvetthomestays@vikasgroup.com



TRAILBLAZERS CURRICULUM BASED OUTDOOR PROGRAMS



← Environmental Science Camps

Group Four Camps →



← Socially Useful Productive Work Camps

International Student Exchange Programmes →



TRAILBLAZERS is an organization committed to increasing environmental consciousness and scientific thinking through its various divisions. Eco-camps, learning and adventure programmes, eco-tourism are just a few methods we employ to realize our goals. Trailblazers

aims to share with people the necessary knowledge and experience which will enable them to become environmentally conscious and sensitive. The success of every Trailblazers programme is due to careful research, analysis and consultation with expert advisors.

Connect us with at:
kiran@trailblazersindia.com
ojas@trailblazersindia.com
sachin@trailblazersindia.com
 for Global Perspectives, G4, CAS, Economics; Heritage; Wildlife & Adventure camps.

Julia Roberts on Conserving Nature

Some call me Nature,
others call me mother nature

I've been here for over four and a
half billion years
Twenty-two thousand five hundred
times longer than you

I don't really need people
but people need me

Yes, your future depends on me
When I thrive, you thrive
When I falter, you falter or worse (?)

But I've been here for aeons
I have fed species greater than you,
and I have starved species greater
than you

My oceans, my soil, my flowing
streams, my forests,
they all can take you or leave you

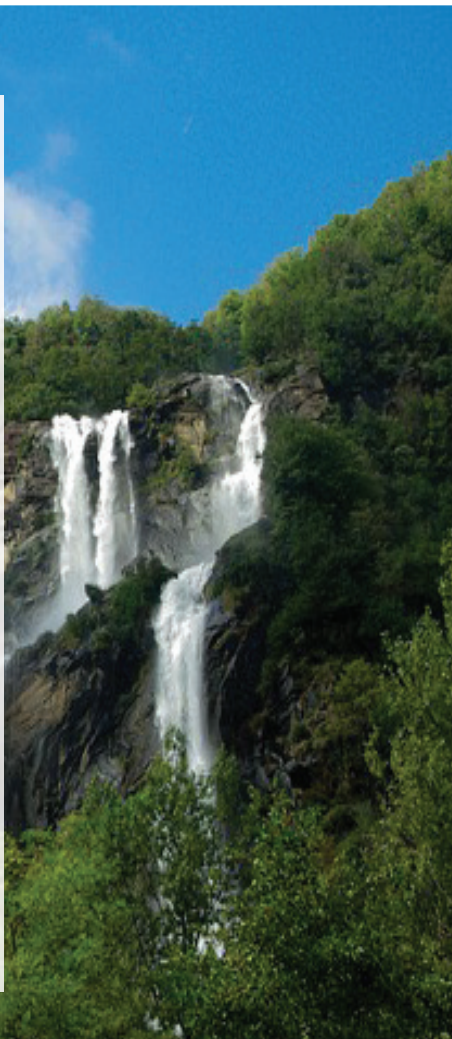
How you chose to live each day
whether you regard or disregard me
doesn't really matter to me

One way or the other your actions
will determine your fate not mine

I am nature I will go on
I am prepared to evolve

Are you?

<https://youtu.be/WmVLcj-XKnM>
Source: Conservation International
and youtube.



Days to remember

11 July -World Population Day

15 July-World Youth Skills Day

18 July-Nelson Mandela International Day

29 July-International Tiger Day

30 July-International Day of Friendship

9 August- International Day of the World's
Indigenous Peoples

12 August-International Youth Day & World
Elephant Day

19 August-World Humanitarian Day

**INTERNATIONAL
YOUTH DAY
12TH AUGUST 2016**



UNESCO declares Bihar's ancient site - the ruins of Nalanda Mahavihara - a world heritage site, barely 98 km away from Patna. The ancient seat of learning, one of the world's oldest universities construction of which began in 5th century AD, flourished under the Gupta rulers.

I TEACH

I am Trailblazers

**I FACILITATE THINKING
I ENGAGE MINDS
I LISTEN TO QUESTIONS
I ENCOURAGE RISK
I SUPPORT STRUGGLE
I CULTIVATE DREAMS
I LEARN EVERYDAY**

LOOK FOR US ON

Trailblazers.TheOutdoorSchool

TheOutdoorSchool@trailblazers_india

@trailblazers.India

www.thetrailblogger15.blogspot.com
www.trailblazersfoundation.blogspot.com

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Edenwoods, Bay House, Ground Floor A, Gladys
Alwares Marg, Off Pokhran Road No. 2, Thane
(West) 400 610

Download softcopy from
www.trailblazersindia.com
Call us to participate in our camps/activities:
022 25891513 or 022 25891490
OR email us on: trailblazers@vsnl.com

