



Puvidham Learning Center

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ENVIRONMENT **awareness and** **conservation**

**An art, a science or a way of
life.**

What is environment ?

- ◆ Is it the trees, the national parks, the reserved forests and community grounds or is it any and every thing surrounding us at all the times!
- ◆ What we understand by environment dictates our approach to its regeneration and conservation.

Awareness of ones environment and a sense of responsibility towards its maintenance and enhancement is the foundation for conservation sensitivity.



How can awareness be created in such a way that the children and adults involved are left agape with wonder? After interacting with the environment they must look on their environment not as a burden but as a treasure to be guarded.



- ◆ The environment must become part of their conscience.
- ◆ The environment must be a source of joy and pride to the individual.



Children collect leaves and observe their shapes, sizes, colors, and variety in venation

The children grade the colors from brown to green and make a shade card from the leaves collected.





When we interact with the environment in this way, using the sensitivity of the child to nature and its colors, we find that the children become aware of the beauty of their surroundings and thereby become conscious of their actions.



Meditation as a way of increasing awareness of the processes of nature around us.

- ◆ Simple processes like soil formation, the different types of soil and the different types of vegetation that grow there can be converted to simple verbal autobiographies. This is related with fervor to a group sitting with eyes closed and we can conduct transient meditation.

This is followed by a search for different kinds of soils, sieving them and then mixing them with water to get an idea of their clay content. The soil are then used to make pictures enhancing the variety in the colors of the soils. Every body is left wondering how they did not notice these various colors!



The experience is complete!

The children then put all the various soil colors on paper. Some simply and some artistically.



The question is what did we study?----- Science, art or environment and conservation??????????

Integrated approach to environment and conservation.

- ◆ To integrate this experience further we ask the child to write a story based on their experience of nature.
- ◆ We ask the children to write poetry about seasons and the changes in the environment.
- ◆ We ask to classify the leaves in different ways based on the sizes, shapes, venation, serration and color. Is this geometry?
- ◆ Further we count the number of types of leaves, how many in each group, and try to get a grip on the number of different varieties of trees, creepers, grasses etc. DIVERSITY OR MATH?

Combine all this with real experience with a visit to a nearby forest or rocky hill and it is very unlikely that the children will forget how soil is formed or what kinds of roots and leaves various plants have!!



Thank you



- ◆ Let us join hands to make the world a better place for our children.....

