

Educational Trip to TERIGram, Gual Pahari

Prime Minister Narendra Modi's *Swachh Bharat Abhiyan* is a massive movement that involves cleanliness activities for a better tomorrow in India. Keeping in view that children should be the key focus for imparting knowledge on Environment and Energy related issues, TERI ENVIS Centre conducted a one day trip to TERIGram, Gual pahari, Gurgaon for children from TERI Fraternity to make them understand the importance of keeping the environment clean and protected through different techniques. With an aim to inculcate knowledge on different renewable energy methods, these children were given live demonstration of various scientific activities running in TERI, Gual Pahari, including renewable energy, waste water treatment, plantation, Plant tissue culture, vermicomposting and others.

33 children participated from TERI Fraternity in this educational trip. At the very onset of the trip, children were showcased movies about TERI and TERIGram. After that, they were taken around TERIGram campus and were introduced to techniques like earth air cooling, solar photovoltaic, waste water treatment and biomass gasification. Experts from TERI introduced them with the basics of all these techniques through providing information on how do these techniques work and what are their benefits. Apart from this, children were involved in plantation activity where they were asked to plant a sapling. This activity was aimed at acquainting children with the importance of plantation. While they were involved in plantation, our experts from TERI guided them about how essential is it to practice plantation. Experts also guided them step by step on how the sapling has to be planted through a proper process.

Few snapshots of the trip are shown below:



Children briefed about TERI and TERIGram



Children introduced to Earth Air Cooling and how does it work



TERI Experts teaching children about Waste water treatment technique as applied in TERIGram



Children enjoying plantation activity



Children being briefed about Biomass Gasification technique



Children were also shown the medicinal plants grown at TERI through Micro Propagation

After all the sessions children were asked to prepare a trip report where they were also asked to provide their feedbacks about the trip. They prepared reports detailing their lessons and provided their feedbacks. As per their feedbacks, we understood that children gained a lot of insight regarding the methods used in TERIGram for maintaining a sustainable habitat. Most of the children largely wrote about the earth air cooling that is done to replace Air Conditioners in the rooms built in TERI RETREAT. Many of them also detailed out the facts related to earth air tunneling that were provided by TERI Experts to children. On a big note all children in their feedback have appreciated the plantation activity that was arranged for them. They enjoyed this activity while also learning about importance of plantation.

Some of the children were keen to visit TERIGram with their family and friends however most of them were also hoping that TERI ENVIS Centre would arrange such educational tours more frequently. Children were very satisfied with the activities that were scheduled for them. Children also mentioned that they would share their experience with family, friends, teachers, classmates, and relatives and promised that they will adopt these lessons in their routine life. Few of the feedbacks as stated by children are mentioned below:

- *'I want TERI to conduct such types of educational trips twice or thrice in summers'*
- *'It was very informative, I liked it a lot. It was a great experience'*
- *'In the whole trip plantation was the best part. Rest of the things were also good, we learnt to save energy'*
- *'I will tell my teachers, friends, classmates, relatives. I will tell teachers to take the class to RETREAT'*
- *'Visit to Gual Pahari was very interesting. They taught us how to plant more trees, save energy and water'*
- *'I learnt the importance of conserving the three necessities of life: water, electricity and air'*
- *'We studied about how to save energy, water and air'*

The trip ended at a very good note, where children largely appreciated the initiative take by TERI ENVIS Centre. Children while gaining insight on renewable energy and environment also learnt how important it is to keep the environment neat, clean and green. Almost all children have urged to have such fun filled educational trips regularly so that the message of having a better future in India could be spread on a wider scale.

