

Headline	NURTURE NATURE		
MediaTitle	New Straits Times		
Date	20 Jun 2012	Color	Full Color
Section	Supplement	Circulation	136,530
Page No	1,6,7	Readership	330,000
Language	English	ArticleSize	2117 cm ²
Journalist	Sheila Sri Priya	AdValue	RM 68,802
Frequency	Daily	PR Value	RM 206,406



NURTURE NATURE

Several parties collaborate to help students of all levels learn about the importance of trees and plants in a natural environment

→ PAGES 6/7



Headline	NURTURE NATURE		
MediaTitle	New Straits Times		
Date	20 Jun 2012	Color	Full Color
Section	Supplement	Circulation	136,530
Page No	1,6,7	Readership	330,000
Language	English	ArticleSize	2117 cm ²
Journalist	Sheila Sri Priya	AdValue	RM 68,802
Frequency	Daily	PR Value	RM 206,406

Jungle lessons for youths

BACK TO NATURE: The Petaling Jaya City Council organises World Environment Day at Urban Park 2 in Damansara Damai for students

SHEILA SRI PRIYA
SHEILA.SRI.PRIYA@citycouncil.com.my

The younger generation may be tech savvy but their understanding and appreciation of mother nature, however, leaves much to be desired. To ensure that the future generation continues to understand the importance of our jungle, the Petaling Jaya City Council, together with Emkay Foundation and Putus Banding Foundation, organised a number of activities for pupils, students and undergraduates at the Urban Park 2 in Damansara Damai recently.

The activities were held in conjunction with the World Environment Day and as part of the council's sixth city anniversary celebrations. Participants came from Universiti Tunku Abdul Razak (UTAR) and Universiti Putra Malaysia (UPM), students from SK Satepak Indah, SK Damansara Damai, SM Damansara Damai and the Orang Asli community from Desa Temuan.

Students were given a short tour of the Urban Park 2 jungle and introduced to the various plants and trees. They were also educated on the importance of jungle sustainability. Students also participated in activities such as treasure hunt and made handicrafts using items found in the jungle. They were also taught how to separate household waste. Emkay Group chief executive officer Ahmad Khalif Munopha Kamal said when the Damansara Damai area was developed by MR Holdings Bhd, 19 hectares of the jungle was retained. The area comprises four parks known as Urban Park 1, Urban Park 2, Urban Park 3 and Urban Park 4. The Urban Park 2 is the biggest

with an area of seven hectares. "The development took place surrounding the jungle area. The 19 hectares were left for recreational purposes and to increase public awareness of the importance of our jungle," he said. Petaling Jaya City Council deputy mayor Phang Md Taib said there are plans to build a cycling path in one of the Urban Parks. Form Five student Norsyahhilla Azlin, 15, said despite living close to the Urban Park 2, she has never set her foot in the jungle. "I live nearby but I have never visited the jungle. However I'm glad I participated in the World Environment Day celebration because I have a better understanding of the importance of jungle to mankind," said Norsyahhilla. Janah Yooch, 29, who comes from the Desa Temuan Orang Asli community, said she learnt handicraft-making skills during

the programme. The trees in the Urban Parks are a mix of local forest and exotic species based on a research by the Forest Research Institute of Malaysia (FRIM). A memorandum of understanding was also signed between Universiti Putra Malaysia, Universiti Tunku Abdul Razak and Putus Banding Foundation to conduct studies at the Belum-Temenggor forest in Hulu Perak. Areas of study will focus on the weather, flora and fauna at the forest. Also present at the event were UTM vice-chancellor Datuk Dr Mohamed Mustafa Ishak, UPM deputy vice-chancellor Dr Tai Sheng Yew, Putus Banding Foundation chief executive officer Dr Daniel Basitana and Institute of Landscape Architect Malaysia president Fadzilah Mohd Taib.



The Orang Asli community from Desa Temuan made handicrafts using items found in the Urban Park 2.



Participants making handicrafts.



Children learning about plant species.



Planting the sapling to inaugurate World Environment Day. Pic by Norul Hafiza Ismenon



A student adding the finishing touch to her picture frame.

Students building a frame.



A pupil colouring a dried leaf.



Pupils creating handicraft from jungle materials.



World Environment Day was celebrated on a grand scale at Urban Park 2 in Damansara Damai.