

**FREE!!**

T-Shirt; Cap; Back pack;  
Naturalist Diary; ID card etc.

**SCHEDULE**

Day 1 April 20	<b>Introduction on Nature studies</b> – ice breaking, eco-games, tips for nature studies, method of field note writing
At TIES Campus	
Day 2 April 21	<b>Flowering plants and trees</b> - Demonstration class and field trip; Bird watching introduction
At TIES Campus & Vennimalakottah	
Day 3 April 22	<b>Bird watching- field trip</b> (in the morning) and class
At IES Campus & Naalumanikkattu	
Day 4 April 23	<b>Dragonflies and damsel flies</b> – theory class and field trip
At TIES campus & nearby rivulets	
Day 5 April 24	<b>Butterflies</b> – theory and field trip
At TIES Campus & Butterfly Garden, Kottayam Collectorate	
Day 6 April 25	<b>Fresh water fishes</b> – theory and field trip
At Thiruvanchoor; Naalumanikkaattu	
Day 7 April 27	<b>Field trips At Kumarakom</b>
Day 8 April 28	<b>Amphibians, mammals, reptiles</b> – theory and field trip
Paddy fields, Palamury	
Day 9 April 29	<b>Field trips At Vagamon</b>
Day 10 April 30	<b>Total Quality Child</b> – Special Personality training
At TIES campus	
May 2-3	Two days; <b>Nature camp at Thattekad bird sanctuary</b>
May 6 Exam	Final Evaluation
May 9 Last Day	Valedictory function



**5<sup>th</sup> Batch**  
**2023 April 17 to**  
**2023 May 6**

*If you are passionate about nature,  
 don't miss the chance !!!*

**JUNIOR**  
**NATURALIST CERTIFICATE COURSE**

For school children (2-8th standard)

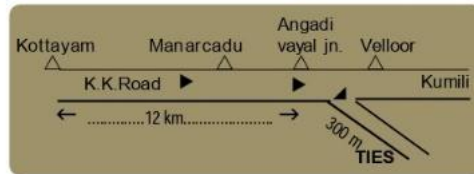
- ◆ Making children more passionate about nature and life through systematic nature studies
- ◆ Trains to watch, observe and identify plants and animals
- ◆ Helps in class room learning, character moulding and personality development
- ◆ Orient towards nature and inculcate the spirit of eco-friendly lifestyles, more health and more vigour
- ◆ Helps to build a career in future
- ◆ Opportunity to interact with renowned taxonomists and scientists



For further details and registration  
 Please contact  
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**PAY REGISTRATION FEE**



Conducted by:



**TROPICAL INSTITUTE OF ECOLOGICAL SCIENCES**

Affiliated Research Centre of Mahatma Gandhi University

## JUNIOR NATURALIST TRAINING PROGRAMME

Children are always nature lovers as they have been learning everything from nature at childhood. Some children are more passionate about nature. Even from the very young age, they start keenly watching and observing various objects in the nature; their curiosity leads them to even try handling plants and animals. Proper training and guidance will make such students the best scientists or conservationists in the future.

**TIES Junior Naturalist Training programme** is a programme for children in order to make them passionate naturalists and conservationists for our country. This is open to seniors also.

### Objectives

- Make the children able to identify scientifically the plants and animals by themselves
- Develop an appreciation on the diversity and beauty of nature among the children
- Inculcate the spirit of nature conservation through nurturing their affection towards diverse life forms

### Target group

Junior Naturalist - School children; 2<sup>nd</sup> standard to 8<sup>th</sup> standard classes. Both boys and girls.

### Duration

14 days - 70 hour programme (14 x 5). 35 hours field trips and 15 hours theory. One nature camp of 48 hours will be conducted at the last lap of the programme.

### Mode of teaching

Demonstration classes of short duration (with power point). Field study trips with experts; assignments; mini project.

### Venue

Classes will be at TIES campus. Field trips are at areas in and around TIES campus and nearby areas (Thiruvanchoor – paddy fields, rivers, Manarcaud kavu, Vennimalakotta, *Naalumanikkaattu* etc.). Nature camp will be at Thattekad.

### Fee

Rs.3500/- (Rupees Three thousand and five hundred only). Fee covers tuition fee, field expert guidance, lecture notes and hand book, morning and evening light refreshments (during each day of the course); Field T-shirt, TIES cap, Book, Pen, and ID card (during field trips uniform cap and T-shirt should be worn).

Participants should reach TIES and other locations of field studies at their own expense (the time table and schedule will be given in advance).

Participants should purchase study materials and field guides for their personal use.

### Certificate

All students successfully completing the course will get a certificate awarding them as Junior Naturalist.



## COURSE SYLLABUS

### 1. Systematic documentation of nature (Basic Level) Introductory session.

This includes training to prepare field notes, naturalist diary, basic knowledge about the equipments and their use; filing of photographs and other digital recourses.

### 2. Bird-watching and field identification of birds

Tips focus on very specific details of common birds, e.g. Plumage, eye ring, etc; habit and habitat of common birds and their details along with a general description of their ecology. In addition, students will be familiarized with common birds, their general shape, colour and behaviour.

### 3. Birds Around Us

Training on detailed study about the common birds around home, paddy fields and wetlands, sacred groves etc; their nesting and migration details; advantages of nest boxes, garden pool, birdbath and hide; bird survey, threats and local conservation issues; bird photography.

### 4. Common Butterflies and Moths

Field identification of common butterflies and moth; larva host plants; Habit and habitat; Life cycle studies of butterflies (How to rear and study butterflies and moths) and moth; photographing butterflies.

### 5. Dragonflies and Damselies

Field identification of common dragonflies and damselies; ecology and habitat; dragonfly photography.

### 6. Common Freshwater fishes

Identification of common freshwater fishes, rural and traditional fishing technique

### 7. Amphibians and Reptiles

Introduction about the reptiles and amphibians of Kerala, Identification of Common Snakes of Kerala, Snake bite and first aid, Identification of common lizards, Turtles and Tortoise, Common toads and Frogs.

### 8. Mammals

An introductory session about the wild animals of Kerala and their field identification with a special emphasize on small mammals like rats and rodents, mongoose, civets and bats which are common around us. The session including the identification of mammals through the signs they are leaving.

### 9. Wildflowers and Medicinal Plants

Identification of plants, medicinal uses, habitat and local trivia.

### 10. Sacred Groves and Village Hedges, Rivulet

Mainly aiming at biodiversity study of a small common habitat and its importance in the ecosystem. Field trips will cover all three types of ecosystems and model evaluation of the biodiversity of each type.