

JBCN INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL , BORIVALI

TERRESTRIAL SAMARITANS



India has a coastline of more than 7,000 kilometers, but sadly, it's not all pristine beaches and stunning cliffs. In fact, for Mumbai's citizens, the shore is more like a landfill. The beaches are covered with trash -- colorful plastic bags, bottles and food packages are everywhere, often entangled in old fishing nets or rotting fabrics.

Most people are outraged by the situation, angry at the city government for not cleaning it up or at those who throw their trash in the streets or even straight onto the beach.

This hugely impacts the marine life, particularly the tortoises, and the other shell fishes such as crabs, who are habitants to the beach during the conceiving time.

Once during our school assembly when our teacher shared with us about whales and dolphins dying due to consuming plastics, it really made us uncomfortable and we wanted to do something to save these marine species and guess what we were a part of GSL.

As a part of our **GSL** activity, the school administration along with **Mr. Afroz Shah** and his team encouraged us to clean such beaches and save Marine life. We are the students of **JBCN International School, Borivali, Mumbai**, and our group consists of 7 members all from grade 6 .We have taken this pledge to keep our beaches clean and as a part of this initiative, we visited the **Dana Pani** beach , Mumbai with the purpose to clean the beach and save the Marine species. We began this journey on 9th Feb, 2019 and it has been a smooth sailing so far. We have conducted beach clean –up drive every fortnight during weekends since the past two months. Many other students from different grades have helped us in this initiative. This is a sustainable project and we'll be continuing with this activity. We also intend to clean other beaches and national parks in the coming years.



Project objectives:

- to identify the sources of the litter, and to change the behaviours that cause pollution.
- to engage people around the world to remove trash and debris from beaches and water bodies.

Sustainable development Goals



- **Goal 14: Life Below Water:** We are trying to keep our beaches and surroundings clean since our beaches are the bridge between our world and the ocean. Marine life, dwelling only in the water, is also affected by waste on beaches. When the tides rise, we collect items on the beach and take the items out when the water lowers, including trash



- **Goal 15: Life on Land:** We have seen and loved **sparrows** since childhood. Unfortunately, our sparrows are on the way of getting extinct. To educate the public about the threat of polluted urban environments and non-caring humans to the house sparrow population, and to conserve their population, we installed bird feeders in our school campus and distributed bird feeders among teachers and children on world Sparrows day which was celebrated on 20th March 2019.

Highlights :

- Before we started working on this project, none of us had any basic knowledge about marine biology or aquatic life. But now we are able to create awareness among other students of different age groups and also reflect on our own actions.
- We have managed to collect sacks of plastic waste from the beach
- We have learnt to be more collaborative and better communicators during the GSL journey.
- The impact of Celebrating World Sparrow Day in our school has been significant in spreading the message that it is just as important to conserve common species as it is to conserve and protect rare and exotic species.
- Once during our beach clean-up drive, we were able to witness small crabs at the beach, which we had not witnessed earlier at the beach which made us realize the fact that marine species will continue to thrive in places which is litter free. **This was also evident at the Versova beach, Mumbai when Mr. Afroz Shah managed to clean it after three years of regular beach clean-up drive, there were turtles visiting the beach during the breeding season.**
- The recognition and appreciation we have got from our own classmates is a big achievement for all of us. Now we have become more responsible towards the environment and always brainstorm on strategies to reduce our carbon footprints. Thanks to **GSL**.

Introducing our team:

- **Project leader** : Ms. Samara Rawat:
- **Asst. Project leader/Poster designing** : Ms. Rheana Banodkar
- **Spokesperson** : Ms. Kriti Rao
- **Report Writing** : Ms. Marika D'britto and Ms. Fiona Fernandes
- **Logo designing / digital submission** : Mst. Sarvesh Bharanidharan
- **Logistics** : Mst. Hriday Joshi



Funds & Donations:

- Hand gloves, masks and sanitizers were provided by our school management
- Travelling costs was also borne by our school management. Beach clean –up drive was conducted with the help of our local partner Mr. Afroz Shah and his team of volunteers.
- Sparrow feeders were donated to us by the Nature forever society.

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