

A Guide to Research the Mangrove Ecology and Environmental Degradation of Khor Kalba, Sharjah, UAE

In association with Shell, Our Own English High School, Fujairah and Sharjah Municipality.

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1997



INTRODUCTION

Dear students we wish to inform you that our school has been successful in securing a grant from “*Shell Better Environment Awards ‘97-‘98*”, to conduct an environmental project at Khor Kalba Mangrove. The project title is “*A Research into the Mangrove Ecology and Environmental Degradation of Khor Kalba*”.

The **Aims** and **Objectives** of the **Project** are:

- (1) Field Trip: **Conducting research** on the flora and fauna of the mangrove.
- (2) Identify reasons for “**Environmental Degradation of Khor Kalba Mangrove**” and envisage procedures to counteract them.
- (3) **Installing environmental information billboards** within the mangrove.
- (4) The research will be followed by an **Field Project Report Competition**.

Field Trip

Conducting research on the flora and fauna of the mangrove.

Procedure:

- (1) Drawing an outline of the Mangrove
- (2) Listing the various species present in the mangrove
- (3) Drawing a schematic diagram of the species present in the mangrove
- (4) Recording the distribution of the species:

Random



Patchy













Localised



- (5) Test pH of the Estuary
- (6) Take photographs of the various species
- (6) Measure the changes in water level between the High Tide and Low Tide
- (7) Identify reasons for “*Environmental Degradation of Khor Kalba Mangrove*” and envisage procedures to counteract them.

Programme

	Arrival at school	5.30 A.M.
	Departure	5.40 A.M.
	Arrival at mangrove	6.00 A.M.
	Group Co-ordination	6.05 A.M.
	Introduction to mangrove	6.10 A.M.
	Field Research	6.25 A.M.
	Break	12.30 A.M.
	Pool Research	1.30 P.M.
	Resume Research	5.30 P.M.
	Return	7.30 P.M.

Equipment

- (1) Wader boots
- (2) Nets
- (3) Clipboard
- (4) Binoculars
- (5) Cameras + Spare Films
- (6) Paper, Colour pens, Pencils

Clothing

- (1) Please wear “**loose cotton field clothing**”.
- (2) Camouflaged clothing might be a sensible idea !
- (2) In order to avoid sunstroke it is advised to wear a **Hat/Cap/Scarf**.
- (3) Boys may wear **Shorts** and girls are expected to wear regular **Skirts**.
- (4) It is going to be a long and rough day, so be wise, get **spare clothing**.

Lunch & Refreshments

Students are expected to bring their **own lunch** and **refreshments**. Make sure that you get enough **water reserves**.

Rules

- (1) The estuarine waters are **very turbulent** and a **strong current** travels in and out of the estuary, therefore for your safety, “**No Swimming Will be Allowed**” in the estuary.
- (2) Don't wade in waters above a maximum of **ONE FEET**.

P.S. The school is not responsible for any accidents, although cautious supervision will be provided by the teaching staff.

Field Project Report Competition

The Field Project Report will incorporate the following:

- (1) **Introduction:** Aims and Objectives
- (2) **Methodology:** How you conducted the research ?
- (3) **Results:** Drawings, List, Distribution, pH, photographs, water level
- (4) Identify reasons for “*Environmental Degradation of Khor Kalba Mangrove*” and envisage procedures to counteract them.
- (5) **Discussion:** Interpretation of Results
- (6) Conclusion
- (7) Acknowledgements
- (7) References
- (8) Appendices

The best “*Field Project Report*” will be awarded a **prize**.

Installing Environmental Information Billboards

In order to raise awareness about the mangrove, Our Own English High School aims to install **Environmental Information Billboards** within the mangrove.

The billboards will give information about:

- (1) Flora and fauna of the mangrove.
- (2) Ecology of the mangrove
- (3) Map of the mangrove
- (4) Possible methods to save the mangrove from environmental degradation

The billboards will be **devised** and **installed** by the students of Our Own English High School, Fujairah.