OBJECTIVE:
To foster behavioural change of students to solve key issues around waste management, including waste reduction, source segregation, proper use of dustbins, harmfulness of plastic pollution, and the benefits of recycling.

INITIATIVE SUMMARY (WHAT & HOW):
Children’s Day is an awareness programme designed for students around the Corbett Tiger Reserve, where Waste Warriors Corbett operates in 20 rural villages. The programme also helps children to become aware of local concerns like forest degradation and wildlife/nature conservation. Waste Warriors organises an interactive practical and creative sessions that connect children with their local environment in engaging ways. Furthermore, after repeated sessions with over 75 schools across multiple years, the programme reviewed all the feedback and designed a book, Guidebook to Children’s Day with Waste Warriors - a comprehensive book on the activities for children’s practice-based learnings about basic waste management.

Impact: Completed around 450 Children’s Day sessions since 2013. Educated more than 8,500 children in 78 schools, inducing behavioural change towards waste.

Resources: School staff, Waste Warriors staff, Cost for implementing green activities, Dustbins, Water filters, IEC materials, Game and craft equipment.

Application: Easy to replicate through the Guidebook, Scalable by collaborating with other organizations.

5Rs/Other Keywords: Reduce, Reuse, Recycle

Innovative Features
• Conduct learning sessions through presentations and videos on waste management, recycling, and the environment.
• Facilitate creative sessions on arts & crafts and upcycling using recyclable waste.
• Conduct participatory games & interactive activities for students, teachers, and principals.
• Organise clean-ups with students in and around their schools and communities.
• Install dustbins for segregated dry and wet waste.
• Provide waste collection services for schools through trained self-help group women.

Educational Features
• Students learn about source segregation using the right bins, and about waste pollution.
• Students learn about being creative through upcycling sessions using recyclable waste.
• Sessions for students on menstrual hygiene and sanitary waste awareness.
• Through clean-ups, students learn about the impact of waste pollution on their environment, wildlife conservation, and habitat degradation.
• Students are encouraged to implement these solutions at home and in their communities.

Useful link
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