



**CHINMAYA INTERNATIONAL RESIDENTIAL SCHOOL**  
**Winter Vacation Assignment 2007-08**  
**Class 5 and 6**

***Let us Save Mother Earth***

*There is a sufficiency in the world for man's need but not for man's greed.*  
Mahatma Gandhi.

**A real story**

This is a story of a milk man's family who lives in a village in the State of Andhra Pradesh. He is a humble milkman who had a cow. He earned a living by selling the cow's milk to the villagers. Life for the milkman's family was very simple without much needs and they could meet the basic necessities of life.

One day he found that the cow refused to eat and he was very worried about it. This continued for many days until the cow became very thin and sickly. It no longer gave milk and his family suffered because he could not make money for his livelihood. A kind neighbour offered to take the cow to a veterinary surgeon. After testing the cow, the doctor declared that the cow suffered from "anorexia" (lack of appetite). Further tests revealed that the cow had eaten something unsuitable. The cow was later operated upon and they removed 10 kgs of plastics from the cow's stomach. But by that time, the cow could not be saved and it died.

He realized that when the cow was taken for grazing to the nearby residential area, it had eaten away the polythene bags littered all over along with the grass. The family lost its only source of income.

**Children, what do you think is the cause for the sufferings of the milk man's family and why did this happen?**

**Your task**

We have launched the **SSS (Sacrifice, Save, Serve)** project in CIRS and made a promise to ourselves to stop using plastic bags and use cloth or jute bags instead. Your holiday assignment for December is to create awareness in your locality to protect Mother Earth by not polluting her with plastics. Your project should be presented in a scrap book of size 10 x 14 inches. Some activities are suggested as a guideline for doing your project.

1. Speak to your neighbours (at least ten families) in your locality about how plastics degrade the environment and find out the number of plastic bags used by the family per week and express it as a bar-graph in your scrap book. Please remember to take your parent or an elder member of your family with you when you meet families for discussions.

2. While discussing with the families in your locality, please emphasize the need to use cloth or jute bags.
3. In your scrap book, mention how we can use plastics in our daily life so that they do not degrade our environment.
4. List out at least five methods by which you can be eco-friendly at home and school.
5. You can also create a slogan in English or Hindi and write it on a card paper of post card size. Make ten such cards and distribute to the families you have spoken to. Please remember to stick one post card with your slogan in your scrap book.
6. If you feel like, you may also choose to write a poem or compose a song in English or Hindi supporting your idea.
7. Accompany your parents to a market/shopping mall on any seven days of your stay at home. List the items that your family has purchased. Classify the items into bio-degradable and non-biodegradable and also as items which can be reused / recycled. Express this information pictorially (You may use Pictograms or Bar graphs). These graphs should be pasted in your scrap book.

### **Instructions**

1. Discuss your ideas with elders at home.
2. Your scrap book must contain your name, class and roll number.
3. The scrap book should be hand written only and should not exceed ten pages.
4. You can refer to resources like books, journals and internet.
5. Whenever you refer a book, journal or website, take a note of it (like the title, author, publication if it is a book or the URL of the website). List them in your assignment under the heading "References"
6. Please do not "cut – copy – paste" material from the internet.
7. All assignments must be submitted on 6<sup>th</sup> January 2008 to your house mothers.

### **Basic materials that you may need**

- Scrap book of size 10 x 14 inches (it could also be home made)
- 12 cards of post card size.
- A packet of sketch pens.
- Cuttings from news papers, journals and magazines (computer print outs are not permitted).



**CHINMAYA INTERNATIONAL RESIDENTIAL SCHOOL**  
**Winter Vacation Assignment 2007-08**  
**Class 7 and 8**

***Let us Save Mother Earth***

**Modern technology owes Ecology..... an apology.**

~Alan M. Eddison

As members of the CIRS family, we have to be proud of the fact that we live in a part of the Nilgiris ecosystem that is considered to be one among the world's biodiversity hotspots.

The Nilgiris Biosphere comprises of Natural vegetation ranging from dry scrubs to evergreen forests and swamps. The altitude varies from 250m to 2500m. The climatic conditions vary widely that supports and nourishes different vegetation types. It has rich diversity in flora and fauna.

Such a rich natural wealth is slowly endangered due to the following factors:

- Human pressures, particularly from forest dwellers.
- Human interference by way of grazing, fire, illicit felling, leading to habitat degradation.
- Encroachments leading to disturbance to the migratory tract of animals like elephants leading to man-animal conflict.

It is our duty to safeguard such a lovely environment that we are part of and live an eco-friendly life.

**Such environment degradation happens to our home town localities also.**

**Your task**

You may assume the role of a CIRS student / a common man / a journalist or a news reporter of a television channel dealing with environmental issues of your home locality. As your holiday assignment, you could write a report expressing your views in eight to ten pages.

The ideas for your assignment may be collected by doing the following activities:

1. Take a walk in your locality.
2. Talk to the elders and list the factors in your locality that contribute to environmental degradation. You may represent this data in the form of a table.
3. Do not forget to suggest remedial measures to minimize those factors.
4. Your assignment may also include ...
  - a. Advertisements/slogans relating to environmental awareness of your locality.
  - b. Pictorial representation (pie-chart, bar graph, histogram etc.) of the data collected.
  - c. The cover page of your assignment can be a painting /drawing /sketch/ poster that depicts the environmental degradation to Mother Earth.
  - d. Your assignment may also contain imaginary characters, songs, of your creation. The lyrics can be in English, Hindi or Sanskrit. Please remember not to divert yourself from the theme.
5. You may also visit Google Earth to take a look at the satellite view of your locality. Take a print out of the zoom-in view of your locality and link it to your assignment.

### **Instructions**

1. Your assignment must contain your name, class, roll number
2. Your assignment should be hand written only and presented in tag file of size 10 x 14 inches.
3. The number of pages should not exceed 12.
4. You can refer to resources like books, journals and internet.
5. Discuss your ideas with elders at home
6. Whenever you refer a book, journal or website, take a note of it (like the title, author, publication if it is a book or the URL of the website). List them in your assignment under the heading "References"
7. Please do not "cut – copy – paste" material from the internet.
8. The assignment should be submitted to your house mother on the 6<sup>th</sup> of January 2008 to your house mothers.