

Government Arts College - Udumalpet 642126

Best Practice - I

1. Title of the Practice

Save Environment and Save Lives

2. Objectives of the Practice

Creating an awareness among students on the importance of protecting environment and thereby planting more and more trees to keep the campus clean and green.

3. The Context

Though there was a vast campus spread in about 37 acres of land and though the soil was very fertility-promoting, there were no concrete initiatives to use the empty land. Though a few more blocks of building are constructed, still vacant land could be found abundantly. Hence the need for protecting the environment was felt with a thought if no initiative were tried here where else it could be possible.

4. The Practice

Periodically a good number of saplings were received from the forest department and from the NGO. The alumni too volunteered to plant more and more of saplings on the campus. Students were encouraged to protect the saplings and to see that they grew with them during their study here. Students were allotted trees on each site and they felt responsible to water them and grow them.

5. Evidence of Success

Now the campus has almost become a forest with a good load of trees on all its empty vacant campus. It has become a shelter to many birds especially, peacocks and peahens. A crowd of neem saplings planted a few years back have become a forest of neem trees. The NGO's support for watering the plants during the hot summer has resulted in greener campus all around.

6. Problems Encountered and Resources Required

When a great number of saplings were planted, watering each one is a great challenge. The idea that each student was given the charge of watering each plant at any cost worked well. There was an element of competition among students; they felt responsible for protecting their own sapling. Moreover, the NGOs were requested to water the saplings as periodically as possible. This way the challenge of watering plants was overcome.

Government Arts College - Udumalpet 642126

Best Practice - II

1. Title of the Practice

Donate Blood and Save Lives

2. Objectives of the Practice

Creating an awareness among students on the importance of donating blood and thereby

3. The Context

The character of the people of the region of Udumalpet is marked with a strange innocence and ignorance. What are common in the region are two things: frequent road accidents and lack of understanding the effects of serious diseases. These two factors always kept the government-run hospitals on the alert with more blood bags in store. This is a great challenge of the region. The youth red cross of the institution understood this challenge of the government-run hospitals and decided to help them overcome this challenge. As a result, it pooled a good number of students and kept ready a list of donors to serve 24 x 7.

4. The Practice

The Youth Red Cross Coordinator, Dr A. Kannimuthu, has a list of blood donors. They are all volunteers; they are hale and health students. The coordinator has a list of donors and their blood group. When there is a need reported, he will immediately check the list and direct the volunteers to reach the hospitals or the patients who need specific blood groups. He also arranges for the hospitals to come to the institutions to "bleed" the volunteers periodically. Awareness programmes are conducted to educate the students on the advantages of donating blood.

5. Evidence of Success

The coordinator is conducted regularly by the hospitals and the patients whenever there is a need for blood. Blood donation camps are organized regularly. More and more of blood donors from students join the YRC, doing a great service to hospitals and patients in the region.

6. Problems Encountered and Resources Required

In the beginning there were less number of volunteer students to donate blood. They feared that donating blood would weaken them physically. Awareness camps were conducted on the advantages of donating blood, which would boost one's goodwill as well as one's physical strength and stamina. Physicians and surgeons were invited to give students pep-talks and it helped students understand the advantages of donating blood. Then, they participated in a good number in the donation camps.