



Biology Research Projects

Project Summary

Location: Danum Valley, Sabah, Borneo, Malaysia.

Duration: 5 days, 4 nights

About the Programme

A programme for young scientists set against the backdrop of the incredible Danum Valley Conservation Area in Sabah, Borneo.

Covering 43,800 hectares (438 square kms), the Danum Valley Conservation Area is one of the largest and best-protected expanses of pristine lowland forest remaining in SE Asia. On its eastern border is the Danum Valley Field Centre - probably the leading rainforest research centre in the Old World tropics.

This programme focuses on the access to facilities that help students carry out simple environmental science projects. Mixed lowland dipterocarp forests, rivers, hills and valleys offer varied and interesting landscapes to do data gathering in while the Field Centre offers access to equipment related to hydrology, soil studies and biodiversity measurements.

The Royal Society's SEARRP (South East Asia Rainforest Research Programme) is based here and students get a chance to observe serious scientists at work on one of the many research projects ongoing in Danum,

Amongst other activities, we also invite students to take part in learning and practising forest transect methodologies, animal spotting techniques and observe diurnal and nocturnal wildlife, as well as introducing the wonder and complexity of the rainforest and how ancient tribes use the rainforest as their home.

Accommodation and Food

Student accommodation at Danum Valley Field Station consists of large dormitories, one for female students and one for males.

Accompanying teachers can choose to stay with the students or in the en-suite rooms that are in a separate building attached to the dining area. Each room offers a twin-sharing option.

Meals are served at the field station dining hall and offer a mixture of Western and Asian food (special diets can be provided for). All meals are included in the programme cost.



Dormitory accommodation at the field station

Transportation

All transfers are included in the package cost, and are by registered operators who are checked regularly to ensure they meet health and safety requirements.

Flights to and from programmes are not included. We recommend that you purchase your flights through a reputable travel agent.

Health and Safety

The health and safety of your students are our top priority. Many schools opt to bring their own qualified nurse/ first aiders along on the trip. However as an add on, we can also provide a fully qualified nurse to accompany the group for the duration of their time on our project. Please contact us for more information.

Itinerary

Day 1	Activity	Learning Outcomes
Morning	-Arrive in Sandakan before noon and travel to Danum by road OR Fly into Lahad Datu and travel to Danum by road -Arrival in Danum by 6 p.m.	-Observe oil palm plantations and land –use patterns.
	-Welcome and programme overview -Dinner served at 6 p.m.	
Evening	-Night walk	-Experiential learning about nocturnal life patterns

Day 2	Activity	Learning Outcomes
Morning	-Walk along Nature trails	-Learn transect methodology for measuring biodiversity and abundances -Observe and learn about habitat
Afternoon	-Visit to Infapro	-Learn about dipterocarp seedling propagation -Partner in reforestation

Day 3	Activity	Learning Outcomes
Morning	-Science project	-Data gathering for science project making use of field station resources and facilities.
Afternoon	- Science project	
Evening	-After dinner session for consolidation of knowledge	-Data gathered is collated and analysed

Day 4	Activity	Learning Outcomes
Morning	-Science project	
Afternoon	-Science Project	
Evening	-After dinner session for consolidation of knowledge	-Data gathered is collated and analysed

Day 5	Activity	Learning Outcomes
Morning	-Breakfast and check out to travel to Sandakan/ Lahad Datu	-Transfer to Sandakan or Lahad Datu Airport.

<p>Logistical Inclusions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Meet and Greet at Airport - 4 breakfasts - 4 lunches - 4 dinners - 4 nights dormitory accommodation - Overland transfers indicated in programme - Drop off at Sandakan Airport or Lahad Datu Airport 	<p>Project Inclusions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Wild At Heart (WOX) file & stationery - Factsheets and datasheets - Use of Field Station equipment and facilities - Habitat restoration: reforestation, seedling collection, maintaining nursery work etc - Contribution to conservation
---	--

Please note the above itinerary is a guideline only and activities and the locations may be subject to change as a result of weather, wildlife, community or logistical considerations. Learning outcomes will be met.

Terms and conditions apply.

Logistical Considerations

The project site for Biology Research Projects is part of the Heart of Borneo Project, situated in the east coast town of Lahad Datu in the central forest of Sabah. The Field centre is 2.5 hours driving from the town of Lahad Datu.

The state capital of Sabah is Kota Kinabalu. Sandakan is approximately 228 km east of Kota Kinabalu.

There are no international flights to Sandakan or Lahad Datu. We suggest you fly into one of Malaysia's many international airports and then take a connecting flight to Sandakan/ Lahad Datu. There are, however, many international carriers that fly into Kota Kinabalu, from where you can opt to fly to Sandakan/ Lahad Datu.

Some suggested airports with direct flights to Sandakan (SDK):

- Kuala Lumpur International Airport (Malaysia Airlines)
- Kuala Lumpur Low Cost Carrier Terminal (Air Asia)
- Kota Kinabalu International Airport (Malaysia Airlines)

Please check with your travel agency to find the best route from your Country of origin. Our team will meet you on your arrival in Sabah and bring you to the project site.



Other Activities & Extension of Programme

Sabah offers a fantastic range of activities that can be easily added to the existing Biology Research Project programme. These activities are not operated by WOX but are conducted by reputable travel and adventure agencies. While we can recommend partners, we also suggest you ask your travel agent for advice on a good itinerary.

Among the more popular activities:

Destinations	Activities	Duration	Distance from Sandakan / Kota Kinabalu
Gomantong Caves	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- See the nesting area of the swiftlets and how the bird's nest collectors risk their lives harvesting them	Half day	SDK: 1.5 hours
Selingan Island, Turtle Island Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Beach and island getaway: have fun in the sun on pristine beaches- Watch turtles and other marine life	1 day	SDK: 1 hour
Mount Kinabalu	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- scale the highest mountain in Southeast Asia	2 days	KK: 2 hours
Kiulu River	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Whitewater rafting, navigate raging rivers	1 day	KK: 1.5 hours
Tuanku Abdul Rahman Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Beach and island getaway: have fun in the sun on pristine beaches- Watch turtles and other marine life	1 day	KK: 0.5 hours



This education programme is brought to you by

Contact our Australian representative for further information:

Info@AsiaLiteracy.org.au

Tel: 07 3161 9800

Mob: 0415 977 325