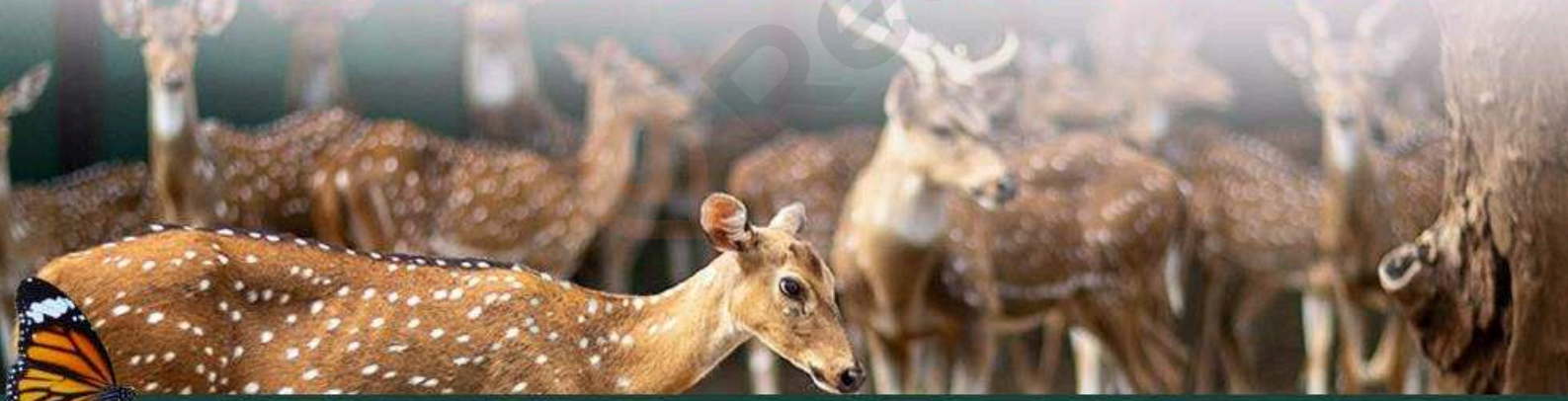


GUINDY

Children's Nature Park



Biannual Newsletter

July - December 2025



Volume 1 Edition 1

https://wlwchennai.tn.gov.in/

Director's Corner

Kudos to the Guindy Children's Nature Park, for archiving their incredible stories of events, care and conservation. It is a moment of great pride for all of us to learn about the successful initiatives undertaken by the authorities to protect the precious fauna in our ecosystem.

This biannual publication aims to educate the public about the efforts and care taken by the authorities to create a nurturing and well-informed community.

Guindy Children's Nature Park, has opened a new chapter in its achievements by publishing a biannual newsletter to build a bridge between wildlife enthusiasts and conservators. Hope they garner support from all sections of the community for their dedication, hard work and service.

Thiru.T.Ritto Cyriac, I.F.S
Director, Arignar Anna Zoological Park

A message from the Wildlife Warden's desk

We strive to create conservators of tomorrow. As our younger generation walks into our park to experience wildlife at close quarters for the first time, the sparkle in their eyes tells a million stories. The excitement never subsides, as they walk in to see the cobra hatchlings, spotted deer fawn, painted stork chicks and more. Their happiness sees no bounds, and here, a conservator and wildlife enthusiast is born. As today's conservators, we are humbled to learn that the next generation of conservators have arrived.

We are happy to announce that our park's annual footfall has crossed 8 lakhs, showcasing our staffs' on-going efforts to create interactive events, introduce new species, and develop infrastructure to make the journey through the park memorable. In our endeavour to connect animals to nature, we are glad to contribute to the ecosystem.

Today our park animals are both physically and mentally fit, thanks to our on-going enrichment programme that has developed a close-to-their-natural habitat to promote normal behaviour like sniffing, climbing, foraging or playing to keep their bodies active and minds sharp.

A jewel in the crown was the release of Picture Postcards by the Indian Postal Department, which highlighted our wildlife, zoo enclosures, especially Vedanthangal aviary and conservation efforts.

It has been an exciting journey for the Guindy Children's Nature Park, Chennai. We take immense pride in presenting our initiatives and efforts in this biannual newsletter, and we hope you enjoy reading it.

Thiru.Manish Meena, I.F.S
Wildlife Warden, Chennai

In this issue

- Director's Corner
- A message from the Wildlife Warden's desk
- Conservation Efforts
- Waste Management Awareness Programme
- Plastic Free Zone
- Enrichment at our park
- Vedanthangal Enclosure
- Tree Plaques Installation
- Distribution of raincoats
- IFS Probationers visit
- Patna Zoo Director visit
- Visit by DIG of Forests, CZA
- Global Tiger Day Celebration
- 79th Independence Day Celebration
- Launch of "NAAGAM" mobile application
- GTM Day Celebration
- World Environment Day 2025
- Eye Camp
- Skill Development Programme
- Wildlife Week Celebrations
- The Valedictory Function
- Storytelling Programmes
- Veterinary Section
- Maintenance & Management
- Upgraded play areas
- Release of picture postcards
- New RO plant
- Veterinary Care Centre
- The Library
- Future Upgrade
- Gallery of GCNP Animals
- A few words from our park staff
- Visitors Reviews

Visitor's Copy Estate ™

Conservation Efforts

Ecological challenges mar captive breeding of wildlife in zoological parks. Breeding endangered species is crucial to building a healthy animal population. The Guindy Children's Nature Park excels as a wildlife conservation centre, supporting an array of animal species.



30th July, 2025
Birth of Spotted Deer fawn



9th August, 2025
Birth of Bonnet Macaque infant

Breeding in zoological parks helps maintain genetic diversity and long-term survival. Managed breeding promotes the re-establishment of the wild population and raises awareness and educates visitors about the significance of conservation efforts.

This is a remarkable achievement in the ex-situ approach, highlighting the success of promoting wildlife breeding and care.

We have created appropriate enclosures for specific species to facilitate breeding in captivity. Over the years, the park has successfully recorded the births of Bonnet Macaques, Mouse Deer, Spotted Deer, Black Buck and Barking Deer.



9th August, 2025
Birth of Mouse Deer fawn

Waste Management Awareness Programme





Guindy Children's Nature Park aims to support the sustainable waste management practices, and this cannot be achieved without the younger generation's assistance. It is crucial to create awareness on waste management to prevent our planet from choking on waste. In this effort, Guindy Children's Nature Park organised an awareness programme on 'Waste Management - Resilient Future Under Sustainable Development'.

Students from Ambedkar College participated in the event and gained knowledge on waste management. Around 40 students from the college, 20 park visitors, and 15 Mazdoors from Guindy Children's Nature Park were also present.

The programme discussed waste segregation for more straightforward disposal, pollution control, upcycling, reuse, and the preservation of ecological integrity by promoting circular-economy models.

Plastic Free Zone

At the Guindy Children's Nature Park, we have taken a resolution to protect our park from single-use plastic, and we do not hesitate to shout out loud, 'Plastic doesn't belong here'.

Every day, hundreds of people visit our park, and these visitors do not stop at seeing wildlife up close, they also eat and drink. The plastic waste generated is choking our park, and we believe it is time to protect our wildlife and the park. At Guindy Children's Nature Park, we strictly adhere to compliance standards and are proud to be a plastic-free zone.

We conduct strict screening of visitors at the entry gate for single-use plastic items and replace them with paper covers. We have also placed boards at appropriate locations to inform visitors about the single-use plastic ban inside the park. In this endeavour, we seek your support to build a plastic-free park.









As part of this journey, we have installed an automatic cloth bag vending machine at the park's zoo café on 23rd Jun 2025. The vending machine dispenses the Manjappai, the yellow cloth bag (Manjal meaning yellow and pai meaning bag - in Tamil) when a 10-rupee coin is inserted. This initiative encourages visitors to adopt eco-friendly practices and avoid using plastic carry bags within the park. This initiative by the Department of Environment, Climate and Forest promotes sustainable practices for environmental conservation.

Verified Report

Enrichment at our park

The Guindy Children's Nature Park recognises the importance of enriching animals in captivity. We constantly strive to create a conducive environment close to their natural habitat, allowing animals to express their biological behaviours and instincts. Research shows that human activity can affect the natural habitats of captive animals, and therefore, we regularly provide enrichment to enhance their physical and psychological health.

During October, we completed enrichment work in the munia enclosure, the finch's enclosure, and the barn owl enclosure. We have added perches for the macaw and cockatoo enclosure. In the munia enclosure we have included proper pot arrangement keeping in mind the comfort and safety of the birds. The nest pots create a natural nesting habitat and temperature regulated environment for the purpose of breeding and resting. We have positioned the pots in proper arrangement to reduce fighting amongst the birds. Recreating a natural habitat is critical for producing healthy and resilient chicks.



In the barn owl enclosure, we have added dry tree branches to create a natural, comfortable and safe environment for the owls. The dry tree branches act as perches, helping them relax their feet and leg muscles. We have created one main branch as the prominent resting perch, with sub-branches spaced adequately for comfortable wing flapping. Inside a stimulated natural roosting environment, the barn owls feel secure.

The enrichment work for the spotted deer enclosure at the Guindy Children's Nature Park was completed during the second week of December 2025. The activities undertaken in the spotted deer enclosure include removing topsoil, spreading new sand, and adding red soil to strengthen drainage.







The new environment helps maintain hoof health, prevents infections and parasites, and creates an ecosystem that regulates the deer's body temperature. Moreover, it improves hygiene and cleanliness inside the enclosure. The new soil helps improve the natural behaviour of the deer herd and reduces stress and boredom.

In the spotted deer enclosure, we have added bundles of hanging greens instead of placing them on the ground to provide clean, hygienic food and protect them against mud, droppings, parasites, dirt, and other contaminants. Stimulating a natural habitat for deer improves their food intake and digestive routine. Moreover, it enhances the monitoring of their food intake. We have also included new mounds and scratching posts. Grass patches were laid to improve soil ground firmness and prevent soil erosion.





Inside the small bird enclosures for finches, budgies, and lovebirds, we have added clay pots and wooden birdhouses to provide safety and nesting areas. Clay pots regulate temperature, keeping them cool in summer and warm in winter.



The ostrich enclosure was upgraded with new river sand, providing a breeding environment close to their natural habitat and supporting relaxed walking and dust-bathing behaviour. Nesting arrangements in emu and ostrich enclosures include shallow depressions filled with sand and dry leaf litter, creating close-to-natural ground nests.

The sand provides proper drainage and insulation, maintaining the right temperature and moisture for incubation. The dry leaves offer a cushioning effect and protection. The success rate of in-house breeding has improved due to the enrichment in the enclosure.





Vedanthangal Enclosure

Enjoy next-level birdwatching at Guindy Children's Nature Park with our recently renovated mesh-covered dome, spanning a massive 30,000 sqft. The spacious Vedanthangal aviary at the park provides a comfortable 70×40×11.67 m flying space for the birds. The cuboid-shaped structure with an extended dome comes with a maximum height of 20 meters. You can call it a mini-Vedanthangal bird sanctuary. It is an absolute delight for bird watchers who want to spot a variety of bird species in one go. The species on display at our aviary include Painted Storks, White Ibises, Grey Pelicans, Night Herons and Rosy Pelicans which are typically seen in Vedanthangal. The dome is spectacular and offers park visitors an enhanced bird-spotting experience.



GCNP - Mini Vedanthangal



Grey Pelican



Rosy Pelican

At Guindy Children's Nature Park, birding bliss awaits you!



Night Heron



Painted Stork

Tree Plaques Installation

At the Guindy Children's Nature Park tree plaques were setup on 150 trees on 10th Nov 2025. This new addition educates visitors about local flora. The tree name boards help visitors understand the value of each tree by providing complete information on the diversity of each species. It aids in visitor engagement and activates a connection with nature. Moreover, it promotes the conservation of indigenous plants and without a doubt, enhances the park's aesthetics.





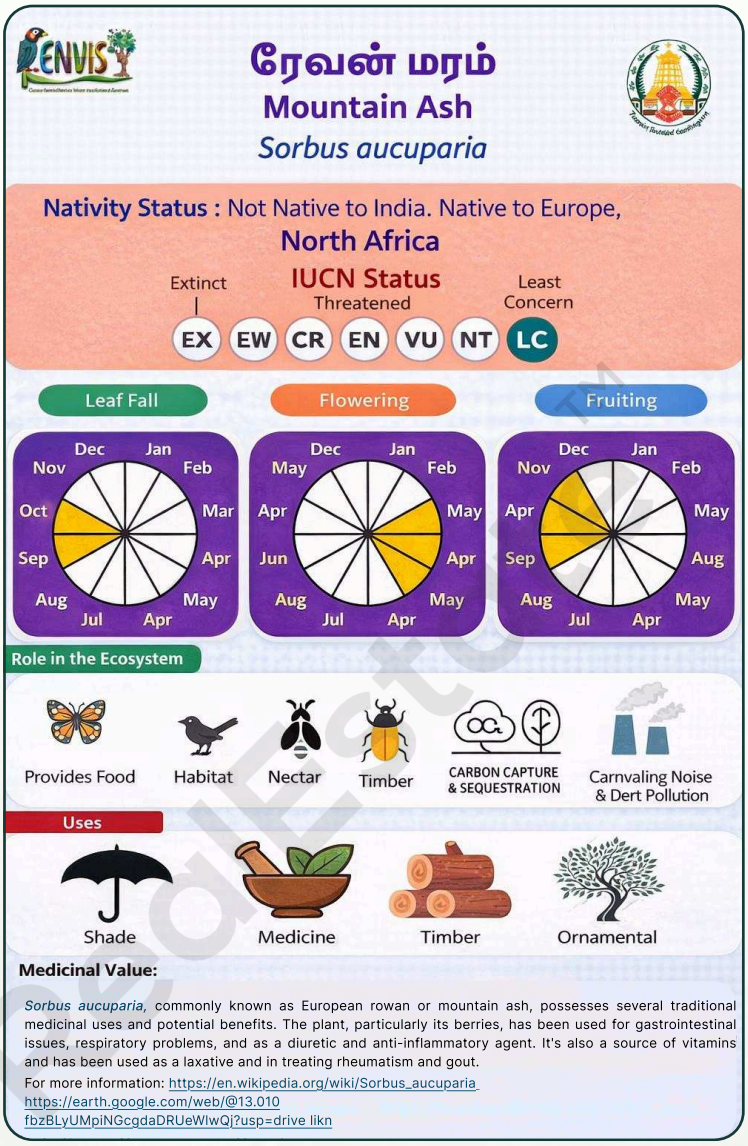
We are home to rich flora and have identified 72 species and successfully tagged them. Among these 53 are native to the region and 19 are exotic.

The steel name boards display the name in Tamil (the vernacular language of Tamil Nadu), the common name in English and the botanical name. It includes a scannable QR code on mobile devices that provides valuable information on the **tree's uses, benefits, and significance**. Links to **Wikipedia and Google Maps** of the species' location within the park area are provided.



What makes our tree plaques unique is their tree-friendly fixing method. The board is attached using a steel-spring mechanism that accommodates the tree's girth as it grows, protecting its health. The entire exercise is conducted with awareness, and excellence to educate our visitors.





Distribution of raincoats

During monsoon the staff at our park, battle nature to complete their daily tasks. Keeping in mind the welfare of our staff, under the aegis of the Wildlife Warden, Chennai and part of the corporate social responsibility scheme, a total of 170 raincoats have been procured for the Wildlife Division – Chennai. 64 raincoats were allocated for Guindy Children's Nature Park and 8 for Guindy National Park staff, the remaining were allocated for other ranges. The raincoats were distributed well in advance to protect our staff from the vagaries of nature during outdoor work. The raincoats enabled the foresters, forest guards, forest watchers, drivers, and mazdoors to perform their day-to-day duties, such as caring for the animals in the park, despite the heavy rains.



IFS Probationers visit

The Guindy Children's Nature Park welcomed 60 IFS probationers (Batch 2024, 56th RR) on 12th Dec 2025 and 56 IFS probationers (Batch 2024, 56th RR) on 14th Dec 2025. Our team explained the developments at our park and its role in wildlife conservation, wildlife education and animal care.



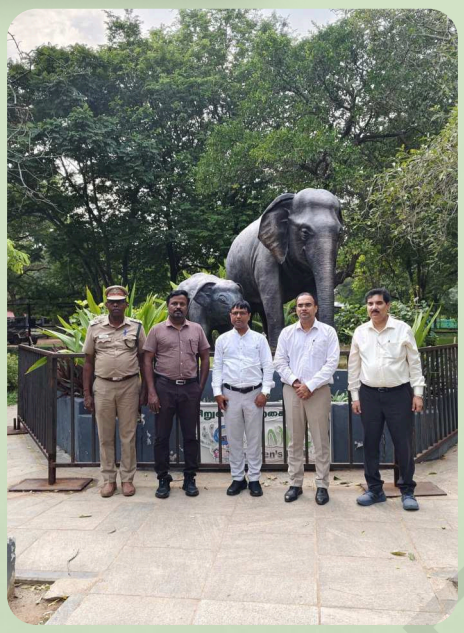
The probationers enjoyed a guided tour of the park showcasing the enclosures and displays. During the event, Wildlife Warden, Chennai, Director of Chennai Snake park, the Forest Range Officer, the Forester and the Biologist of GCNP were present.

The IFS probationers were appreciative of the park's maintenance and management and as a token of appreciation, presented a memento to our Wildlife Warden, Chennai.



Patna Zoo Director visit







Guindy Children's Nature Park had a special guest on the evening of 28th Nov 2025. It was an honour to welcome Thiru.Hemant Patil, I.F.S, Director, Sanjay Gandhi Biological Park, Patna, and his team to our park. Our uniformed staff members escorted the team in a battery-operated vehicle as they toured our park. The Director visited the library near the park's range office and penned his positive comments in the visitor's log.

Visit by DIG of Forests, CZA

The Guindy Children's Nature Park extended a warm welcome to a distinguished representative from the Central Zoo Authority (CZA). Tmt.Akanksha Mahajan, I.F.S, Deputy Inspector General of Forests, CZA Headquarters, Delhi, was given a comprehensive guided tour of the park, its state-of-the-art facilities and amenities by Thiru.Manish Meena, I.F.S, Deputy Director of AAZP.

It may be noted that:

- Thiru.Manish Meena, I.F.S, Deputy Director, AAZP
- Thiru.Saravanan, Forest Range Officer, Guindy National Park Range
- Thiru.Kanniyappan, Forester, Guindy Children's Nature Park
- Tmt.Malathi, Forest Guard, Guindy Children's Nature Park
- Tmt.Manju, Forest Guard, Guindy Children's Nature Park
- Tmt.Remi, Forest Guard, Guindy Children's Nature Park
- Tmt.Bathra, Veterinarian, Chennai Wildlife Division

accompanied the CZA team during the visit.





Events Diary

Global Tiger Day Celebration

The Guindy Children's Nature Park is proud to celebrate the iconic big cats. On the 'Global Tiger Day', we organised a special event to educate the park visitors on the importance of protecting them to maintain ecological balance. The theme of Tiger Day 2025 was 'Securing the Future of Tigers with Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities at the Heart'.

Every year, the 'Global Tiger Day' is observed on 29th Jul 2025. Here at our park, a special event was held to raise environmental awareness. The event was held in advance (27th Jul 2025) to attract the park visitors during the weekend.

The Ex-situ Conservation Centre organised eco-education programmes in collaboration with NGOs such as WWF and other wildlife experts.

Activities conducted:

- Pebble painting
- Paw mark painting
- Photo booth
- Tiger mask colouring
- Origami claws
- Tiger maze
- Word search safari
- Find the animal bingo
- On Tiger Reserves of India
- On the threats, impacts, and conservation measures
- One Planet Academy outreach (WWF online education programme)







79th Independence Day Celebration

The 79th Independence Day was celebrated at Guindy Children's Nature Park with patriotic fervour. The uniformed staff, administrative staff, and animal caretakers participated in the flag hoisting ceremony and made it a grand success.





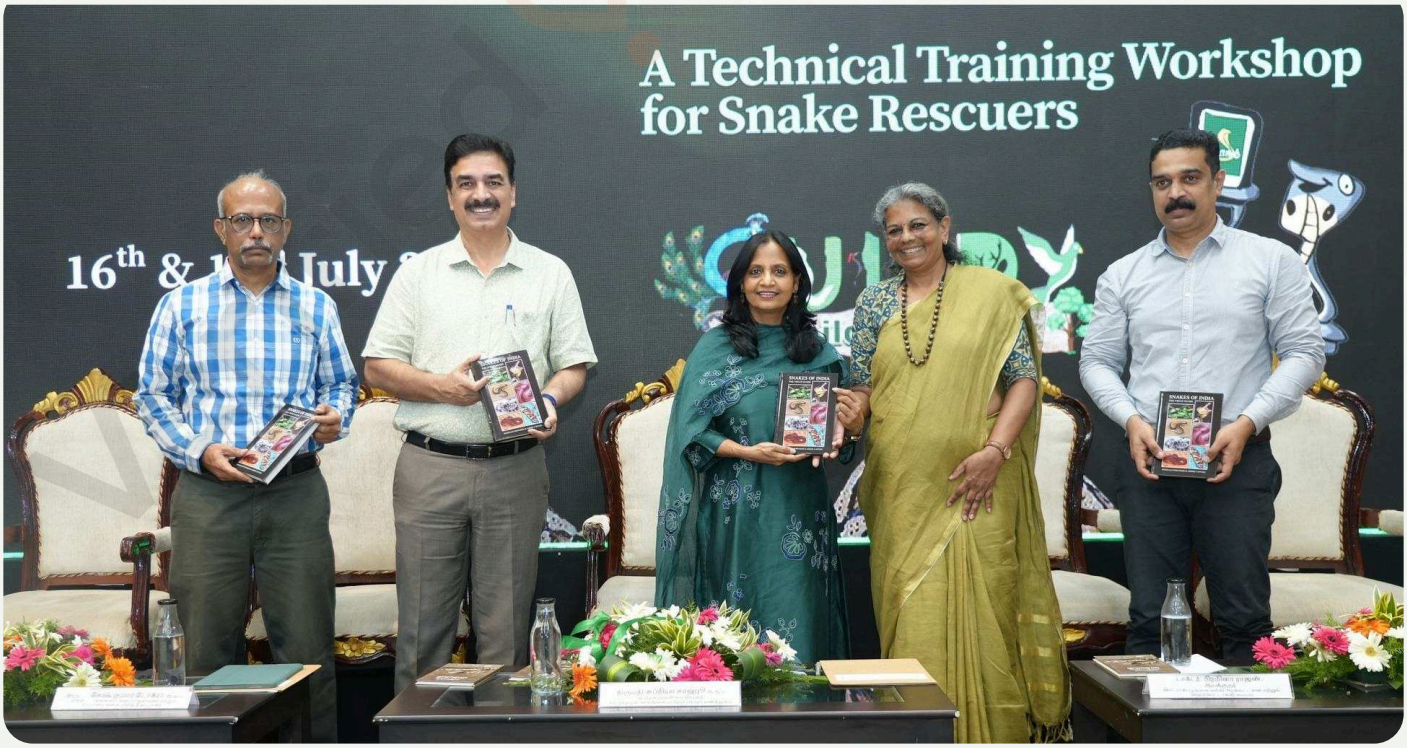
Vendanta EcoEstate™

Launch of "NAAGAM" mobile application 16th July 2025

Next time you spot a snake in your neighbourhood, do not panic. Just download the first-of-its-kind mobile application named "NAAGAM" – Tamil Nadu Forest Department's Official Platform for Snake Rescue and Data Regulation. The app aims at streamlining snake rescue operations across the state.



The NAAGAM app was launched by Tmt.Supriya Sahu, I.A.S, Honourable Additional Chief Secretary of Tamil Nadu, in the presence of Forest Department officials, herpetology experts, and certified snake rescuers from across the state. What could be more appropriate than launching the app on World Snake Day (16th Jul 2025), in tune with the theme 'Respect, Don't Fear: Protecting Nature's Silent Guardians'? The app was launched during the inaugural session of the Snake Rescuer's Technical Training Workshop.



NAAGAM will act as a platform to bring both public and trained snake rescuers on the same plane to interact and coordinate rescue operations. The app does not stop at offering services it is also a powerful regulatory and scientific tool to ensure ethical, documented, and certified snake rescues across Tamil Nadu.

NAAGAM is unique and stands out for its multi-dimensional functionality, such as allowing the public to activate a snake rescue request with a single touch, which alert the nearest TNFD-certified rescuers. Only trained and certified rescuers will reach you quickly, avoiding unethical or unsafe handling of the situation. The trained rescuers immediately record critical rescue data, such as snake species, rescue location, release site location, and photographs, and educate the public on the dos and don'ts of spotting a snake after the rescue operation.

The app helps collect and organise real-time biodiversity data on snake sightings and rescues, paving the way for long-term conservation strategies. It provides location-specific information on hospitals and primary health centres with anti-venom stock, allowing you to choose a hospital near you during emergencies.



The human-snake encounters that are often misunderstood have taken on a new dimension with this technology-led initiative to mitigate wildlife conflicts. Now the public can see snake encounters with empathy, thanks to the app, which has created awareness and bridged the gap between humans and wildlife. The app is available on both iOS and Android platforms.

During the technical training workshop, two live specimens were used (a cobra and a rat snake) to demonstrate the capture methodologies and precautions to be adhered during snake rescue. The training programme is a step forward towards safe live capture of snakes.

GTM Day Celebration

The GTM (Green Tamil Nadu Mission) Day celebrations were held on 24th Sep 2025 under the aegis of Honourable Additional Chief Secretary, Tmt.Supriya Sahu, I.A.S. As part of the celebrations, around 50 tree saplings, primarily Naval trees, were planted to emphasise their ecological and cultural significance in our society.







World Environment Day 2025

World Environment Day 2025 was observed at Guindy Children's Nature Park on 7th Jul 2025, with a focus on this year's theme, 'Ending Plastic Pollution'. An environmental awareness programme was organised at the park's auditorium to educate school students on the harms of plastic pollution. The focus was on the impacts of plastic waste on forests, wildlife, and our ecosystem. The programme was an urgent reminder of the significance of avoiding single-use plastics and embracing the principles of Reduce, Reuse and Recycle.

To create awareness and encourage sustainable practices, reusable, eco-friendly Manjappai's (yellow cloth bags) were distributed to the students. We aim to save our planet from plastic pollution in collaboration with communities.





Skill development programme – Canva basics workshop

Today, our park staff can generate posters, visual content, and presentations in a jiffy, thanks to the skill development programme – Canva Basics Workshop organised at the Guindy Children's Nature Park auditorium on 15th Oct 2025. The primary focus of the programme was to use Canva efficiently for departmental documentation and creative design tasks. A 10-member team comprising staff from GCNP and AAZP attended the programme.

The following topics were covered during the session:

- Basics of A4 documentation for government purposes.
- Creating presentations (PPTs) in Canva.
- Designing social media posters and visual content.
- Integration of Word, Excel, and PowerPoint workflows with Canva.
- Hands-on exercises where participants created official documents, posters, and presentations based on their learning.

The training emphasized query resolution, time-efficient workflows, and practical applications to enhance digital design and documentation skills across departments.





Adoption of digital tools has transformed the way operations, conservation, education, and research are perceived in a park environment. The Guindy Children's Nature Park understands the importance of educating our staff in the latest technologies to improve operational efficiency and quick decision-making. This skill development programme is an attempt towards this goal.

Eye Camp

As a mark of respect and gratitude towards our frontline park staff for their indefatigable conservation efforts, a free eye camp in collaboration with Agarwal Eye Hospital was organised at the Guindy Children's Nature Park on 22nd Nov 2025. Beneficiaries underwent regular vision checks to detect refractive errors, cataracts, and other vision disorders at an early stage.

Our uniformed staff, the permanent and the temporary mazdoors, took part in the eye camp and benefited from it. It was a welfare initiative to support our staff who work in a demanding environment, battling the harsh elements.





Wildlife Week Celebrations

During Wildlife Week 2025, there was no dearth of celebrations at our park. The Guindy Children's Nature Park left no stone unturned in creating awareness on the Wildlife Week theme 'Human-Wildlife Coexistence'.

An Eco-Education Talent Event was organised at the park's auditorium on 28th Sep 2025. Students from various schools, colleges, and park visitors attended the event, where we organised various talent promotion activities such as:

- Drawing competition
- Elocution
- Quiz programme
- Essay writing





The Valedictory Function

The Valedictory Function of the Wildlife Week 2025 celebrations were held at the Guindy Children's Nature Park Auditorium.

A major highlight of the celebrations was the State-Level Wildlife Quiz Competition organised by the Tamil Nadu Forest Department.



Conducted bilingually (in Tamil and English), the online prelims held on 30th Sept 2025 witnessed overwhelming participation from 72,298 school students across all 38 districts, making it one of the largest wildlife-themed student engagements in the country.

The Grand Finale of the quiz was conducted during the Valedictory Function, with finalists from six zones across the State showcasing their enthusiasm and knowledge of wildlife and nature.

WINNERS: **Anusuya, Subasri, and Mujiba** from the **Government Model Higher Secondary School, Thirumullaivasal, Sirkali, Mayiladuthurai District (Zone 2)** were declared the **champions. Nithyasri, Keerthika, and Shri Varsha** from the **Annamalaiar Mills Girls' Higher Secondary School, Dindigul (Zone 4)** bagged the **1st Runners-up** position, and **Shabeena, Supriya, and Harshika** from the **Sister Alphonsa School, The Nilgiris (Zone 6)** secured the 2nd Runners-up position.



Consolation Prizes were awarded to the Aditya Birla Matriculation School, Ariyalur (Zone 1), Government Girls Higher Secondary School, Ashok Nagar, Chennai (Zone 3), and Government Higher Secondary School, Thailapuram, Villupuram (Zone 5).

We were honoured to have, amongst us as guests, the respected Thiru.Srinivas R Reddy, I.F.S, Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Head of Forest Force), and Thiru.Rakesh Kumar Dogra, I.F.S, Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Chief Wildlife Warden, and other senior forest department officials distributed the certificates and prizes to the winners.

The event also featured the Prize Distribution Ceremony for the winners of the Wildlife Photography and Quiz Competition.

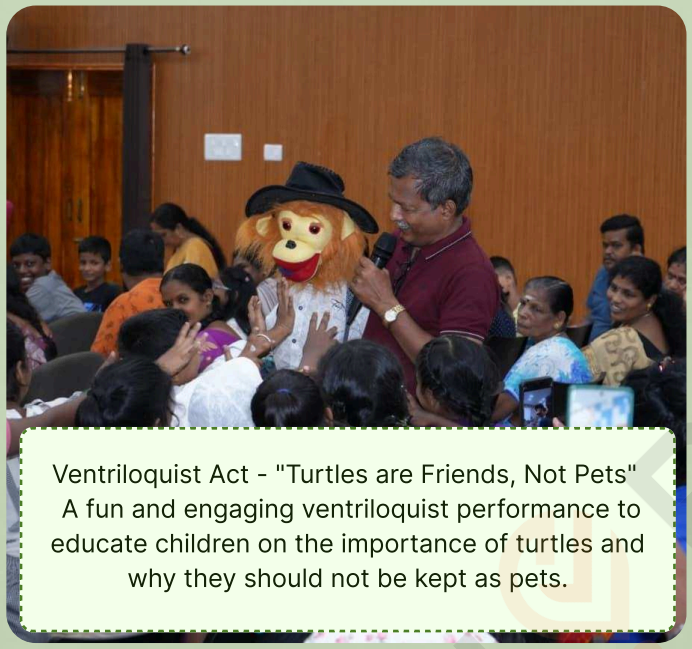
Storytelling Programmes

Story time at our Guindy Children's Nature Park is the most sought-after event. Our story time helps foster connection between people and wildlife. We use themed stories, songs and games to promote literacy among young wildlife enthusiasts.

Here are the storytelling programmes that we conducted:

i) The Guindy National Children's Park organised various programmes to commemorate World Turtle Day 2025. The programmes were organised on 23rd May 2025 between 1.00 pm and 3.00 pm at the Guindy Children's Nature Park's Auditorium.

Young Artists from Thedal Arts & the Chennai Kannagi Nagar Dr.Ambedkar Night School children presented the following:



Ventriloquist Act - "Turtles are Friends, Not Pets"
A fun and engaging ventriloquist performance to educate children on the importance of turtles and why they should not be kept as pets.



Mime Show - "Silent Voices of the Ocean"
A powerful mime performance that depicts the harmful impact of pollution on turtles, highlighting the urgency of conservation.



Kids-Friendly Awareness Presentation - "Olive Ridleys: Chennai's Ocean Guests"
An interactive and child-friendly presentation to raise awareness about Olive Ridley turtles and their significance to Chennai's marine ecosystem.



Storytelling Programme - Thiru.Sugi Elamparithi

ii) A storytelling programme on the theme 'A Journey into the Yoga Jungle - Yoga is living in harmony with nature' was organised by Thiru.Sugi Elamparithi, yoga master, and his young students Manishwaran and Girishwaran, on 8th Nov 2025. The programme was conducted at the Guindy Children's Nature Park. Around 55 students from Kalvikkottai Christian Higher Secondary School, Arakkonam, participated in the event, along with 7 staff members and 35 park visitors.

The programmes focused on yoga, the answer to all the problems in today's world. It was an effort towards healthy and peaceful living.



iii) A storytelling programme was conducted by Thiru.Sugi Elamparithi, Yoga Master. The master brought in yoga exponent and storyteller Thiru.Sidharkalai Asan Rajarishi, who captivated the audience with his mesmerising storytelling. The 40-minute programme stressed the wonderful 'Panch Suddhi Practices' that purify the body and prepare you for Yoga. These are simple daily cleaning practices to refresh and revitalise the body and the mind. The storytelling programme was organised on 6th Dec 2025, at the Guindy Children's Nature Park. Maharishi Vidya Mandir School, Vellore, participated in the event. It may be noted that 20 students, 11 staff members, and 20 park visitors benefited from the programme.





iv) Another storytelling programme was held at the Guindy Children's Nature Park on 15th Nov 2025. The topic was 'Competition or Cooperation in Life?'. Selvi.Latha Ananth from ACEnovation narrated the concepts of never giving up, hard work, participation, and believing 'I can do it', using voice modulation, gestures, music, and songs for about 30 minutes.

Veterinary Section

Guided by Dr. K. Sridhar, AAZP Zoo Veterinarian

Care, rehabilitation, and conservation are key to extending the quality of life of sick, injured, or orphaned animals. Our veterinary section is well-equipped with qualified and experienced doctors, support staff, and sophisticated equipment to cater to any exigencies. Some of our recent cases include:

A Bonnet Macaque survives electrocution after life-saving treatment

Article by GCNP Zoo Veterinarian

An electrocuted monkey was rescued from the IIT campus and brought to our facility for emergency care. At the time of rescue, the animal was lethargic, disoriented, and exhibited sluggish reflexes along with superficial burn wounds.

Immediate medical intervention was initiated to stabilize the monkey, including fluid therapy, treatment for severe pain, and careful dressing of the burn wounds. The animal responded positively to the continuous and intensive care, showing steady signs of recovery.

After being placed under close observation for a day, the monkey exhibited normal behavior and stable vital parameters. It was deemed fit for release and was safely returned to its habitat.



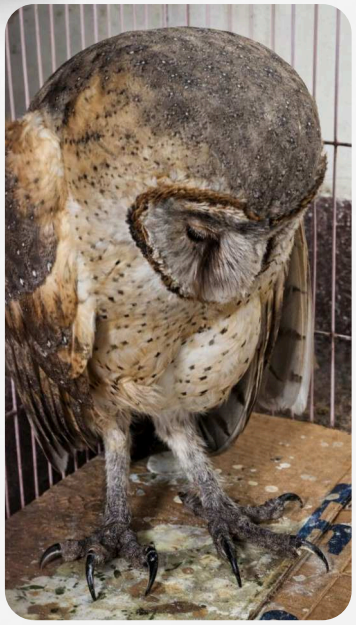
Barn owl returns to hunting and hooting

Article by GCNP Zoo Veterinarian

A barn owl was rescued and brought to our facility, presenting with a swollen, closed right eye and multiple wounds on its hind limbs. A week-long course of treatment was initiated, consisting of continuous fluid therapy to correct dehydration, along with antibiotics, anti-inflammatory medication, and supportive care under close monitoring. During the initial two days, the owl showed signs of anorexia; however, it gradually began feeding on its own as treatment progressed.

By the end of the week, the eye swelling had subsided entirely, the wounds had healed well, and the owl had regained its alertness and activity levels. Following a thorough assessment confirming full recovery, the barn owl was declared fit for release and safely returned to the wild.





Verified Report

Spotted owlet regained its spot in the wild

Article by GCNP Zoo Veterinarian



A spotted owlet was handed over to our headquarters team by members of the public from the Anna University campus. On initial examination, the owlet appeared lethargic and weak.

The bird received supportive care, including fluid therapy and nutritional supplements, and was kept under close observation. Over the following days, a gradual but steady improvement was noted, with the owlet becoming increasingly active and alert.



After a week of systematic course of treatment the bird recovered uneventfully and was released back into the wild.

The tale of the spot - billed pelican that regained its flight

Article by Senior Veterinarian, Veterinary Care Centre

Our headquarters team rescued a spot-billed pelican from Ambattur following an alert from a concerned member of the public who reported that the bird was unable to fly and had blood on its wing. Upon arrival, the pelican was found to be fluffed up, lethargic, and exhibiting signs of severe pain and distress.

The bird was anxiolysed to avoid the consequences of stress. A thorough examination revealed a wound on the ventral aspect of the right wing. Prompt medical intervention was initiated, including fluid therapy, antibiotics, and anti-inflammatory medication, along with careful wound management and dressing.

Following stabilisation, the bird was housed in an appropriate enclosure and closely monitored. Within just two days, remarkable improvement was observed—the wound showed clear signs of healing, and the pelican began moving around the enclosure, flapping its wings, and regaining full functional mobility.

With its strength restored and mobility fully recovered, the pelican was deemed fit for release. To minimise the stress associated with prolonged captivity, it was promptly returned to the wild, where it could resume its natural life. This successful rescue highlights the importance of timely public reporting, swift medical care, and compassionate wildlife management in giving injured birds a second chance at freedom.





Verified

Golden jackal healed and released where it belongs

Article by GCNP Zoo Veterinarian

A golden jackal was rescued and brought to our facility in a severely debilitated condition, suffering from generalised alopecia accompanied by thick, crusty lesions, most prominently on the tips of the ears. The animal exhibited intense pruritus, which had resulted in multiple self-inflicted wounds distributed across the body.

A comprehensive treatment protocol was initiated, consisting of antiparasitic therapy along with nutritional and dermatological supplements aimed at restoring skin health and promoting a healthy hair coat. These were administered through both parenteral and oral routes. The treatment was continued diligently for 3 months, during which a marked reduction in erythema was observed, followed by progressive, widespread hair regrowth.



Before



After 1 month of treatment

With its health restored and coat renewed, the animal was successfully released back into the very area from which it had been rescued-returning to the wild where it belongs.



During treatment



After 3 months

Maintenance & Management

In July 2025, we initiated maintenance and management tasks at our Nature Park. At all times, we strive to maintain lush greenery and a healthy environment in our park.

Visitors enjoy exploring and learning about the diverse flora and their ecological value. To sustain this environment, a dedicated workforce is engaged in:

- Maintaining hedge plants, lush green lawns, and saplings.
- Regular pruning of climbers, grasses, and hedge plants.
- Enhancing the aesthetic appeal of flowering plants across the park.



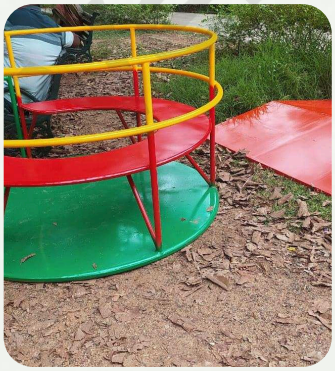


We added more greenery in October 2025, and began planting *Clerodendrum inerme*, a popular hedge plant commonly used in gardens and landscapes. It is an evergreen shrub used as a hedge plant for its dense, attractive appearance.

A tropical plant found in coastal regions can withstand wind and salt spray, is suitable for boundary fencing. This exercise improves the local biodiversity.

Upgraded play areas







We are happy to announce our upgraded play areas with new equipment to give our young park visitors a memorable experience. Now kids can find entertainment inside the park apart from education and interaction. Moreover, it allows them to refresh and revitalise in between exploring the wildlife.

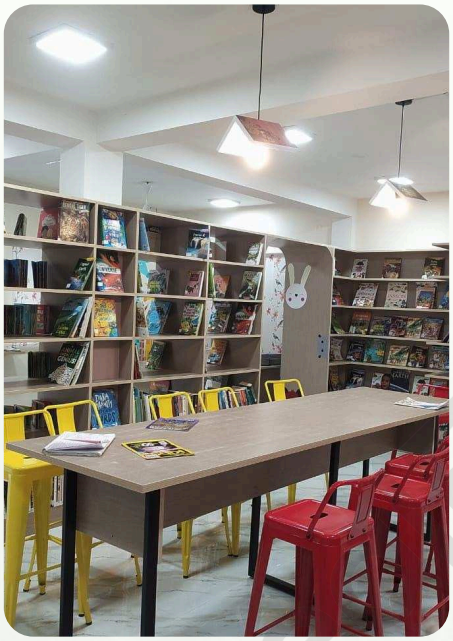
New play equipment has been installed in both the play areas inside our park. Some of the equipment installed include a rope climber, merry go round with animal seats, a seated merry-go-round, a swing, etc. Children can improve their cognitive skills, motor skills, balance, coordination, and physical strength while they play. Moreover, they can enhance their social skills through interaction with co-players.

We have also set up comfortable benches for parents to keep an eye on their kids while playing because we believe in safety first. It's time for your kids to tune into the play and learn mode.

The Library

Finally, we made it. Our park library is ready to engage wildlife enthusiasts. Our park library has approximately 1500 books: 1250 in English, and 250 in Tamil, the vernacular language. To provide visitors with a more realistic experience, we have added two virtual reality devices. A 64-inch television has been installed to meet visitors' infotainment needs. The visitors' count at our park library between June 2025 and December 2025 stood at 11,860.







Release of picture postcards in collaboration with Indian Postal Department

Another feather in our cap, the wildlife images of Guindy Children's Nature Park were highlighted and launched in collaboration with the Indian Postal Department on 5th Jun 2025. The General Postmaster of the Tamil Nadu Postal Department participated in the event and officially released the wildlife-themed pictures.





New RO plant





To enrich the visitor experience, we have installed a new RO plant near the iconic elephant statue to provide clean drinking water to park visitors and staff. This delivers convenience and hydration, helping protect our guests from fatigue during their long walking tours inside the park. Moreover, the introduction of RO has significantly reduced the need for single-use plastic bottles, supporting our park's mission to create a 'No Plastic Zone'.

Veterinary Care Centre

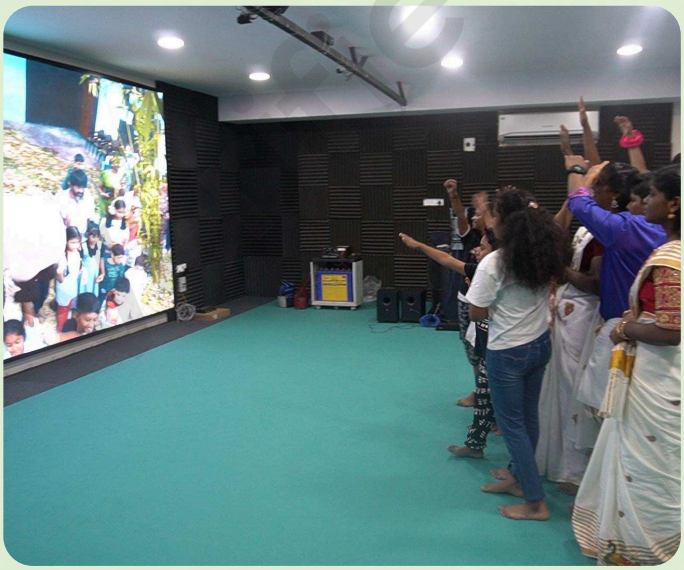
In December 2025, our Veterinary Care Centre at Guindy Children's Nature Park was upgraded to include an additional veterinarian and a veterinary assistant.





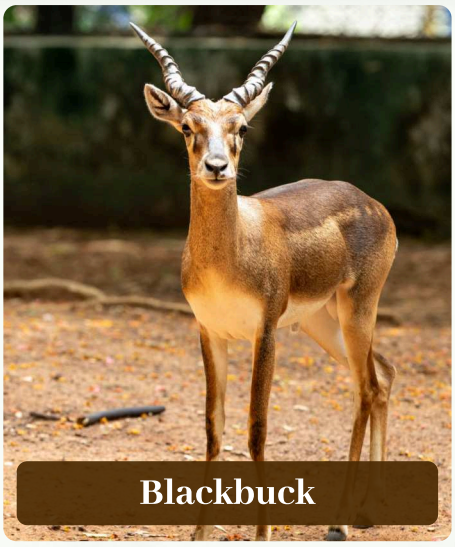
Future Upgrade

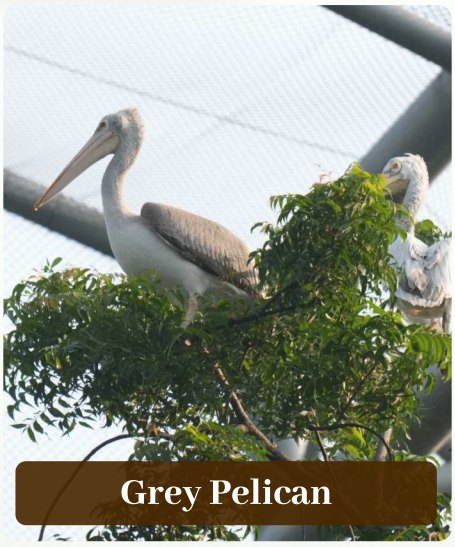
Walk into our park and experience life-sized animals entertaining you. From 14th Jan, 2026, our park will reintroduce (introduced in 2019 and discontinued due to the pandemic) an AR show that combines education and entertainment to create an unforgettable experience for our young visitors. A virtual walk-through among dinosaurs, wild cats, bears, kangaroos, dolphins, pandas, giraffes, penguins, and anacondas offers the opportunity to gain deeper insights into these life-sized virtual animals. Let your adrenaline spike while tech educates you on the wildlife, a unique experience that you will cherish all your life. This initiative aims to enhance the visitor experience at our park. Young wildlife enthusiasts can learn about wildlife through this dynamic learning methodology. Come enjoy our 3D show, here fun is guaranteed, and of course learning too.





Gallery of GCNP Animals


Blackbuck

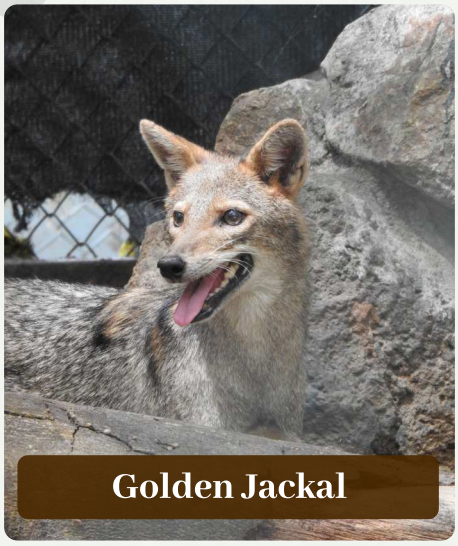

Grey Pelican

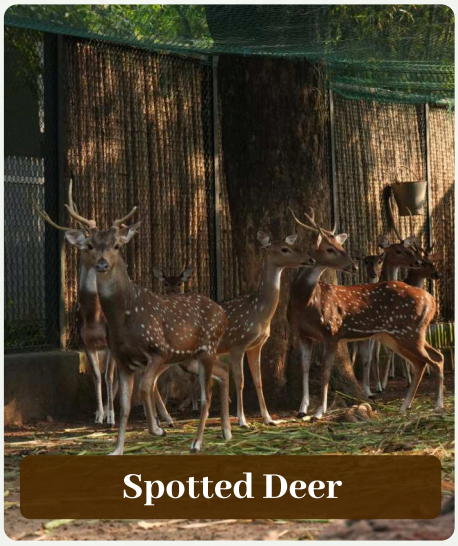

Ostrich

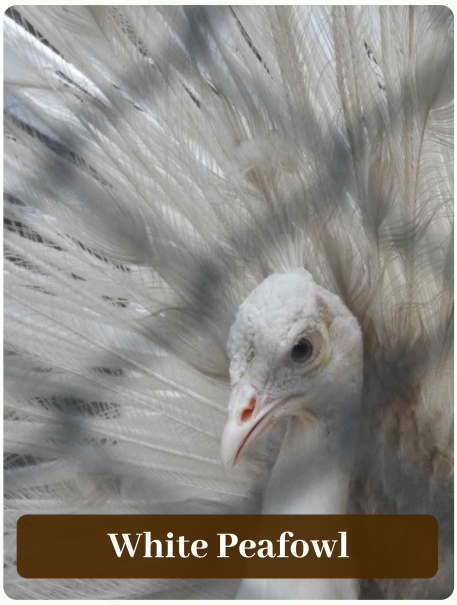

Rosy Pelican

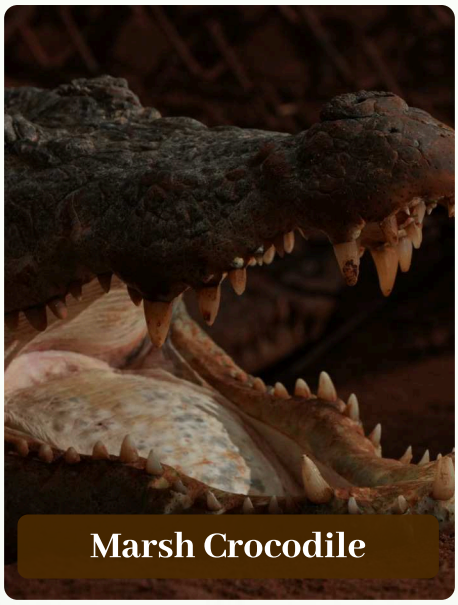

Indian Peafowl

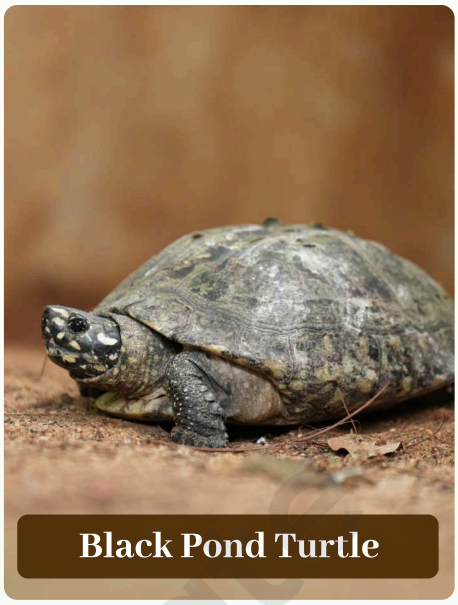

Rainbow Lorikeet


Golden Jackal

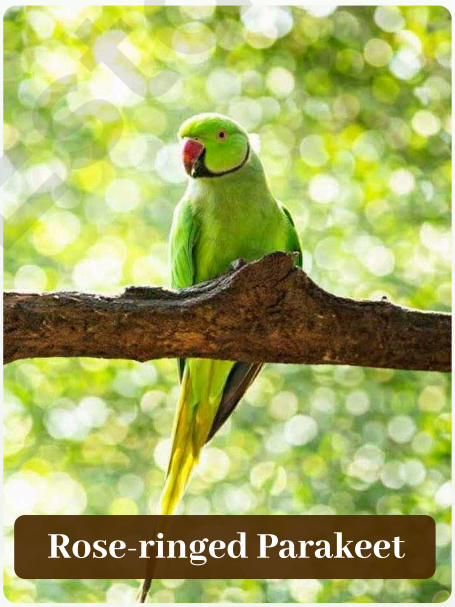

Spotted Deer

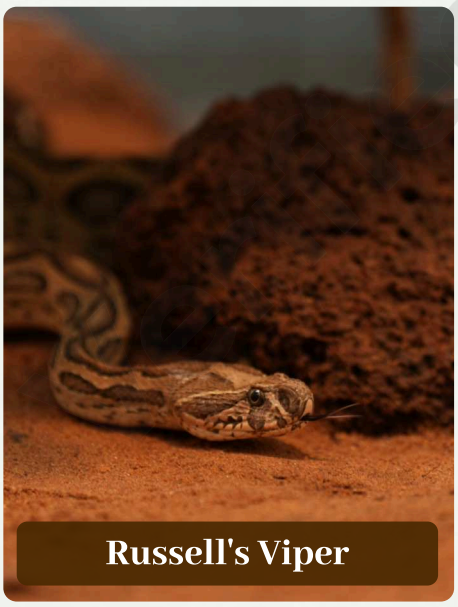

White Peafowl

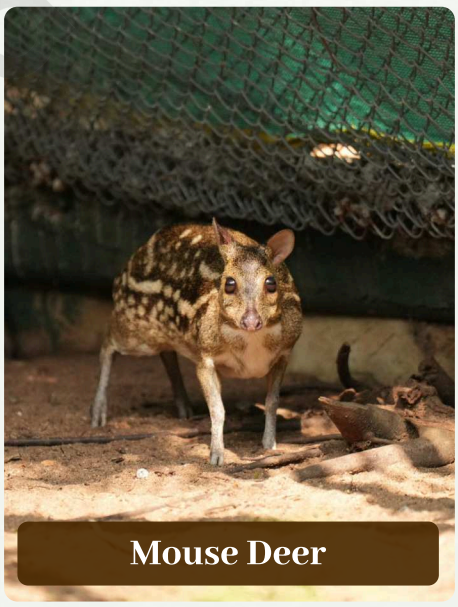

Marsh Crocodile


Black Pond Turtle


Indian Crested Porcupine


Rose-ringed Parakeet


Russell's Viper


Mouse Deer


Emu

A few words from our park staff



My name is Jayalakshmi. I've been working here for twenty-three years. Now I'm an animal keeper. After the park's inauguration, it has changed a lot. The cages' infrastructure is improved. Initially, Guindy Children's Nature Park was just bare ground. We would constantly sweep and clean it. Now the park is lush and green. Now they've improved it. Before, there wasn't a play area for kids. They've just built these two playgrounds and play areas. They've added sand, making it safer for children to play without getting hurt. It's much better now than it was before. Now they've laid new pathways for walking. They've put up sheds. The old sheds used to leak when it rained. Now they have put up new sheds to prevent leaks. They are bringing in new animals one by one for visitors to explore. It's really good.

Jayalakshmi – Animal Keeper



என் பெயர் ஜெயலட்சுமி. நான் இருபத்தி மூன்று வருடங்களாக இங்கு வேலை செய்து வருகிறேன். இப்போது நான் ஒரு விலங்கு பராமரிப்பாளர். பூங்கா திறக்கப்பட்ட பிறகு, அது நிறைய மாறிவிட்டது. கூண்டுகளின் உள்கட்டமைப்பு மேம்படுத்தப்பட்டுள்ளது. ஆரம்பத்தில், கிண்டி குழந்தைகள் இயற்கை பூங்கா வெறும் தரையாக இருந்தது. நாங்கள் தொடர்ந்து அதை துடைத்து சுத்தம் செய்வோம். இப்போது பூங்கா மிகவும் பசுமையாக இருக்கிறது. இப்பொழுது நாங்கள் அதை மேம்படுத்தியுள்ளோம்.முன்பு, குழந்தைகளுக்கான விளையாட்டுப் பகுதி இல்லை. நாங்கள் இரண்டு விளையாட்டு மைதானங்கள் மற்றும் விளையாட்டுப் பகுதிகளை அமைத்துள்ளோம். நாங்கள் மணலைச் சேர்த்துள்ளோம்.இதனால் குழந்தைகள் காயமடையாமல் விளையாடுவதற்கு மிகவும் பாதுகாப்பாக உள்ளது .முன்பு இருந்ததை விட இப்பொழுது பூங்கா மிகவும் சிறப்பாக உள்ளது. இப்போது நாங்கள் நடைபயிற்சிக்கு புதிய பாதைகளை அமைத்துள்ளோம். மழை பெய்யும்போது பழைய கொட்டகைகள் கசியும். இப்போது கசிவைத் தடுக்க புதிய கொட்டகைகளை அமைத்துள்ளோம். பார்வையாளர்கள் மிகவும் ஆர்வத்துடன் பூங்காவை பார்வையிட புதிய விலங்குகளை ஒவ்வொன்றாகக் கொண்டு வருகிறோம். இது மிகவும் சிறப்பான மாற்றம்.

ஜெயலட்சுமி - விலங்கு பராமரிப்பாளர்

Vendi Realities ™



My name is Saravana Prasath. I work at the ticket counter in Guindy Children's Nature Park. We have developed many technologies for our customers over the past decade. First, we used to give tickets by hand. Now, we have changed to computer-generated tickets for a quicker ticketing system. We have also introduced a WhatsApp ticketing system so visitors don't have to wait in line for long. Visitors can make payments via UPI and Credit/Debit cards, making transactions much easier. Guindy Children's Nature Park has become more beautiful with greenery these days. We have brought some new animals and birds. Visitors can come and enjoy with their family and friends.

Saravana Prasath – Ticket counter staff



என் பெயர் சரவண பிரசாத். நான் கிண்டி குழந்தைகள் இயற்கை பூங்காவில் உள்ள டிக்கெட் கவுண்டரில் பணிபுரிகிறேன். கடந்த பத்தாண்டுகளாக எங்கள் வாடிக்கையாளர்களுக்காக பல தொழில்நுட்பங்களை உருவாக்கியுள்ளோம். முதலில், நாங்கள் கையால் டிக்கெட்டுகளை வழங்கினோம். இப்போது, விரைவான டிக்கெட் முறைக்காக கணினி மூலம் உருவாக்கப்பட்ட டிக்கெட்டுகளுக்கு மாறிவிட்டோம். பார்வையாளர்கள் நீண்ட நேரம் வரிசையில் காத்திருக்க வேண்டியதில்லை என்பதற்காக வாட்ஸ்அப் டிக்கெட் முறையையும் அறிமுகப்படுத்தியுள்ளோம். பார்வையாளர்கள் UPI மற்றும் கிரெடிட்/டெபிட் கார்டுகள் மூலம் பணம் செலுத்தலாம், இதனால் பரிவர்த்தனைகள் மிகவும் எளிதாகின்றன. கிண்டி குழந்தைகள் இயற்கை பூங்கா இப்போதெல்லாம் பசுமையால் மிகவும் அழகாக மாறிவிட்டது. நாங்கள் சில புதிய விலங்குகள் மற்றும் பறவைகளை கொண்டு வந்துள்ளோம். பார்வையாளர்கள் தங்கள் குடும்பத்தினருடனும் நண்பர்களுடனும் வந்து மகிழலாம்.

சரவண பிரசாத் - டிக்கெட் கவுண்டர் ஊழியர்கள்

Verified Reality ™



My name is Gopalakrishnan. I'm taking care of the animals in the Veterinary Care Centre. At Guindy Children's Nature Park, all animals are fed clean food and water, and food is served according to a dietary chart. Regular monitoring of the animals' cages for their health is undertaken. And whenever an animal is sick, they are treated in our treatment cages. And there are two veterinarians to take care of it. So, the animals rescued in Chennai are getting treated in this vet care unit. It is a twenty-four-hour care unit for the wild animals in the Chennai Wildlife Division. So we are feeling proud of it.

Gopalakrishnan – Caretaker at the Veterinary Care Centre



என் பெயர் கோபாலகிருஷ்ணன். நான் கால்நடை பராமரிப்பு மையத்தில் உள்ள விலங்குகளை பராமரித்து வருகிறேன். கிண்டி குழந்தைகள் இயற்கை பூங்காவில், அனைத்து விலங்குகளுக்கும் சுத்தமான உணவு மற்றும் தண்ணீர் வழங்கப்படுகிறது, மேலும் உணவு அட்டவணையின்படி உணவு வழங்கப்படுகிறது. விலங்குகளின் கூண்டுகளை அவற்றின் ஆரோக்கியத்திற்காக தொடர்ந்து கண்காணித்தல் மேற்கொள்ளப்படுகிறது. மேலும் ஒரு விலங்கு நோய்வாய்ப்படும் போதெல்லாம், அவை எங்கள் சிகிச்சை கூண்டுகளில் சிகிச்சை அளிக்கப்படுகின்றன. மேலும் அதைப் பராமரிக்க இரண்டு கால்நடை மருத்துவர்கள் உள்ளனர். எனவே, சென்னையில் மீட்கப்பட்ட விலங்குகள் இந்த கால்நடை பராமரிப்பு பிரிவில் சிகிச்சை பெறுகின்றன. இது சென்னை வனவிலங்கு பிரிவில் உள்ள காட்டு விலங்குகளுக்கான இருபத்தி நான்கு மணி நேர பராமரிப்பு பிரிவு. எனவே நாங்கள் அதைப் பற்றி பெருமைப்படுகிறோம்.

கோபாலகிருஷ்ணன் - கால்நடை பராமரிப்பு மையத்தில் பராமரிப்பாளர்.

Verified Reality ™

Park visitors review on Google Business Profile

> Very clean and nice kids play area. Good environment to go for a walk and visit some animals and birds.
>
> **Vinoth SJ**

> Well maintained park. Neat and clean. Ample parking space for car and bike. Restroom facilities and cafeteria available.
>
> **AM Raja**

> Park was well maintained, children enjoyed a lot!! Very good place to visit
>
> **Zahid Fazal**

> Well maintained infrastructure.. great place to spend 2 hours in the midst of greens..kids will love this place.
>
> **Divya Duvvuru**

> Playground - Kids can enjoy a lot with near enviornment. Toilets - Good Picnic area - Yes good for picnicking.
>
> **Madhanagopal Sampoornam**

> A calm place to spend 1-1.5 hours with a variety of deers, birds, jackal, porcupine, ostrich and Emu. 60 rupees is the entry for adults but it seems a bit high with respect to the number of animals, birds inside. If you plan your trip around 10:30-11, you can wind up before 12. There is a cafeteria near car parking as in Zoo cafe which has a splendid food worth your money. Go to the first floor and have a tasty food which will make you pay that price. Just that the waiting time there is more than 15 mins for any dish you order. Overall a decent time spent.
>
> **Sudharsan Manohar**



Visitors Footfall 2025

January to December

Children	3,04,672
Adult	5,16,740

Total number of visitors 8,21,412

Editorial Team

Thiru.Manish Meena, I.F.S
Thiru.Saravanan.A
Dr.K.Sridhar
Dr.M.Prabhu
Dr.P.V.Kalyani
Tmt.Remi.R
Tmt.Malathi.S
Tmt.Manju.K
Selvi.Sindhuja.P.B

wlwchennai.tn.gov.in
+91 44 29505150 | +91 44 22200335
wlwchennai@tn.gov.in
@Guindychildrensnature Park
@guindychildrensnaturepark
@Gndychildrenprk
@GuindyChildrensNaturePark25

Wildlife Division Chennai, Tamil Nadu Forest Department