





# 3-YEAR **REPORT** 2016 - 2019

# VALUING NATURE IN CHILDHOOD PROGRAM

DISCOVER CUC PHUONG NATIONAL  
PARK AND CARNIVORE AND PANGOLIN  
EDUCATION CENTRE

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# 1 THE JOURNEY OF VALUING NATURE IN CHILDHOOD PROGRAM 2016 – 2019



**28/28** kindergartens

**236** trips

**1.078** teachers and parents

**5.897** kids

## AIMS:

- Fostering children's love in nature; increasing awareness and shaping positive attitude toward the natural environment and wildlife in Vietnam.
- Spreading the words about conservation education in schools, families and society.
- Being the first step for families, schools and social organizations to well recognize the necessity of natural education activities in children's development.
- Getting conservation education included in the extra activity curriculum at schools.
- Connections among families, schools, civil society and conservation organizations in educational natural expedition activities to bring children close to nature.



# OPERATED BY



## VISION

Vietnam's wildlife is safe

## MISSION

Stop the extinction and champion the recovery of threatened species in Vietnam

**Save Vietnam's Wildlife (SVW)** is a national Non-Profit Organisation in Vietnam that was founded on the critical need for more effective solutions to secure a future for Vietnamese wildlife. We perform 6 following work:





## 2 EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES

### ACTIVITY 1: MORNING EXERCISE: "CHICKEN DANCE"



"Chicken Dance" is the first activity of the day using music and energetic movements to create cheerful atmosphere and warm up the children.

### ACTIVITY 3: "I AM A JUNIOR EXPLORER"

"I am a junior explorer" is a brand new natural experience. Children use all senses to feel the surroundings: sight to find and observe the animal signs, listening to the natural sounds, touching the trees in the forest, smelling the flowers and trees. In combination with other small lessons to protect the nature such as not to destroy the ants/ termites' nests, or not to break branches of trees, etc., they are also encouraged to place themselves in the wildlife position to clearly understand what should or should not do, the roles of human and the necessity to protect the nature.



### ACTIVITY 2: OPENING STORY: "THE WILDLIFE WARRIORS"

To make the kids get acquaintance to the wild animals in the centre, the educators wrote the story "The Wildlife Warriors" with the main characters - two kids aged five and the wild animals that kids will visit in the afternoon. This beginning story does not only open up a new natural world to kids but also awakens the curiosity inside them, let them get closed to the surrounding environment.



### ACTIVITY 4: "THE MYSTERIOUS BOX"



This activity fosters the imagination of children by letting them hold and guess what are being kept in the mysterious box. Our daily wastes such as plastic bottles, milk cartons, snack package, plastic bags... are collected, cleaned and put in the box and also intentionally put in the forest for the kids to find and pick up. By doing this, kids learn to collect trash by bags when there is no dustbin around the find the right place to throw the trash later.



### ACTIVITY 5: "THE WILDLIFE ALPHABET"

This is the ending activity of the morning session, combining two activities: the Jenga game and Guess the animal names. The Jenga game enhances kids' observation and craft while Guess the animal names memorizes the knowledge and combine the alphabet with the domesticated animals and wild animals.



### ACTIVITY 7: VISITING THE WILD ANIMALS AT THE LONG TERM ENCLOSURES

This is the most expected and also the last activity of the day. Children have chances to meet the animals in the long term enclosures and listen to their life stories: The binturong Mrs. B lost one claw because of trap, Mr. B was kept in a small cage as pet in 14 years; Hoi An at the local private zoo and the adverse effect of animal circus, etc. Through this activity, children have awareness of what they can do to protect the wildlife.



### ACTIVITY 6: EXPLORING THE CARNIVORE AND PANGOLIN EDUCATION CENTRE

In the Education Centre, kids learn about the wild animals through the interactive models: the 39 footprint wall of 37 carnivore and 2 pangolin species in Vietnam; five-sided wall with the information of five main species in the centre; videos about rescued baby pangolins; and a kid room with many lively educational materials.

The storytelling and role-playing method is effectively used in emotional stories about the orphan baby pangolin to evoke kids' compassion and to explain different threats animals are facing such as being hunted, used for meat, and captive breeding, etc.,



### ACTIVITY 8: EVALUATE KID'S AWARENESS BEFORE AND AFTER THE PROGRAM



In each trip, educators randomly choose 4 kids and have direct dialogue with each one of them (as at this age, they are not able to read and write) to evaluate their awareness before and after the program. The questionnaires about wildlife are appropriately built for them. The results show positive changes in knowledge, awareness and attitude of children after the trip.



## 3 ACHIEVEMENTS

### RAISING AWARENESS ABOUT NATURE AND WILDLIFE CONSERVATION

The results show that children gain more knowledge about wildlife and have positive changes in awareness and attitudes toward wildlife conservation after the program.

Assessment on kids' understanding about wild animals shows that the rate of children who well recognize five species (pangolin, leopard cat, binturong, owston civet, and otter) increases dramatically after participating in the program. All species in the program are being researched by SVW so the kids have the chances to approach vivid materials for deeper learning and directly observe the animals in the long term enclosures. For example, in all three years of the program, the recognition rate of pangolin - the ambassador animal in the centre is always the highest among the four other species. Besides, thank to the improvement of the educational method over the years, there is an increase in kids' awareness in the third year of the program. Specifically, the owston civet's and otter's photos and information were integrated in the stories and other activities of the day so these two species became close and familiar to kids. In the school year 2018 - 2019, the recognition



*Post - knowledge evaluation*

rate of otter and owston civet increase 30% after the program with the rate being 32% and 34% respectively, doubling the last year's results.

Furthermore, the educational messages are designed appropriately with the awareness of preschool ages. There is a high percentage of kids choosing the following messages: "Do not eat wild animals", "Do not keep wild animals as pets", "Contact the rescue centre upon approaching injured wild animals", and "Tell family and friends to protect the wild animals".

## SPREADING THE WORDS ABOUT CONSERVATION EDUCATION IN SCHOOLS, FAMILIES AND SOCIETY

The Valuing Nature in Childhood Program was built not only to foster children's love in nature and raise awareness about wildlife but also to contribute to spreading the words about conservation to society.

In one day trip, the educational messages are cleverly integrated in all activities to help kids remember longer and deeper. Particularly, the message "Tell family and friends to protect wild animals" is always getting the highest choice with averagely 95% in all three years of the program. It can be said that after the program children may become the ambassadors to spread the words. However, it is difficult for the educators to convey all knowledge and messages to children, and for all the kids to spread the words to their families and friends,



*Children picking up trash in the forest*

especially when their awareness and thinking have not fully developed, which requires the conservation messages should be integrated more and more into the formal curriculum at schools.

## EXPAND AND MAINTAIN THE PROGRAM FOR THREE YEARS TO ALL KINDERGARTENS IN NHO QUAN DISTRICT

The first year 2016 - 2017 program attracted 1,173 kids from 14 kindergartens, then expanded to all 28 kindergartens in Nho Quan district, and became the extra curricula activities in the next two year 2017 - 2019 thank to the support from the Education and Training Department in Nho Quan district, kindergartens and families. 99% of teachers and parents wished that there would be more children at different ages having chances to participate in the program. 93% of children said that they wanted to join the following conservation programs like this. We hope that with the socialization of education, and the efforts of families, schools, and society, the Valuing Nature in Childhood Program will continue and become annual extra curricula activity for the kindergartens in the next years.

For more children to visit Cuc Phuong National park and learn about the wild animals in the program, schools can actively register for the program. For the schools in other areas having long distance to the Park, Save Vietnam's Wildlife hopes that these schools can learn from the method and apply it locally. The Valuing Nature in Childhood Program is also the stepping stone for us to expand this conservation education model to other ages, areas, and regions in Vietnam.

## CONNECT FAMILIES AND SCHOOLS IN EDUCATIONAL AND NATURAL EXPENDITION ACTIVITIES FOR CHILDREN

The program received positive feedbacks from schools and families. Most teachers and parents showed their love to the program and wished to join other activities like that in the future.

In the school year 2018 - 2019, the fanpage "Di va Kham pha" was establish to connect the conservation activities with schools and families.

Thank to that, the Valuing Nature in Childhood Program has become the connection among families, schools, social and conservation organizations in educational and natural expendition activities aiming at bringing children close to nature.



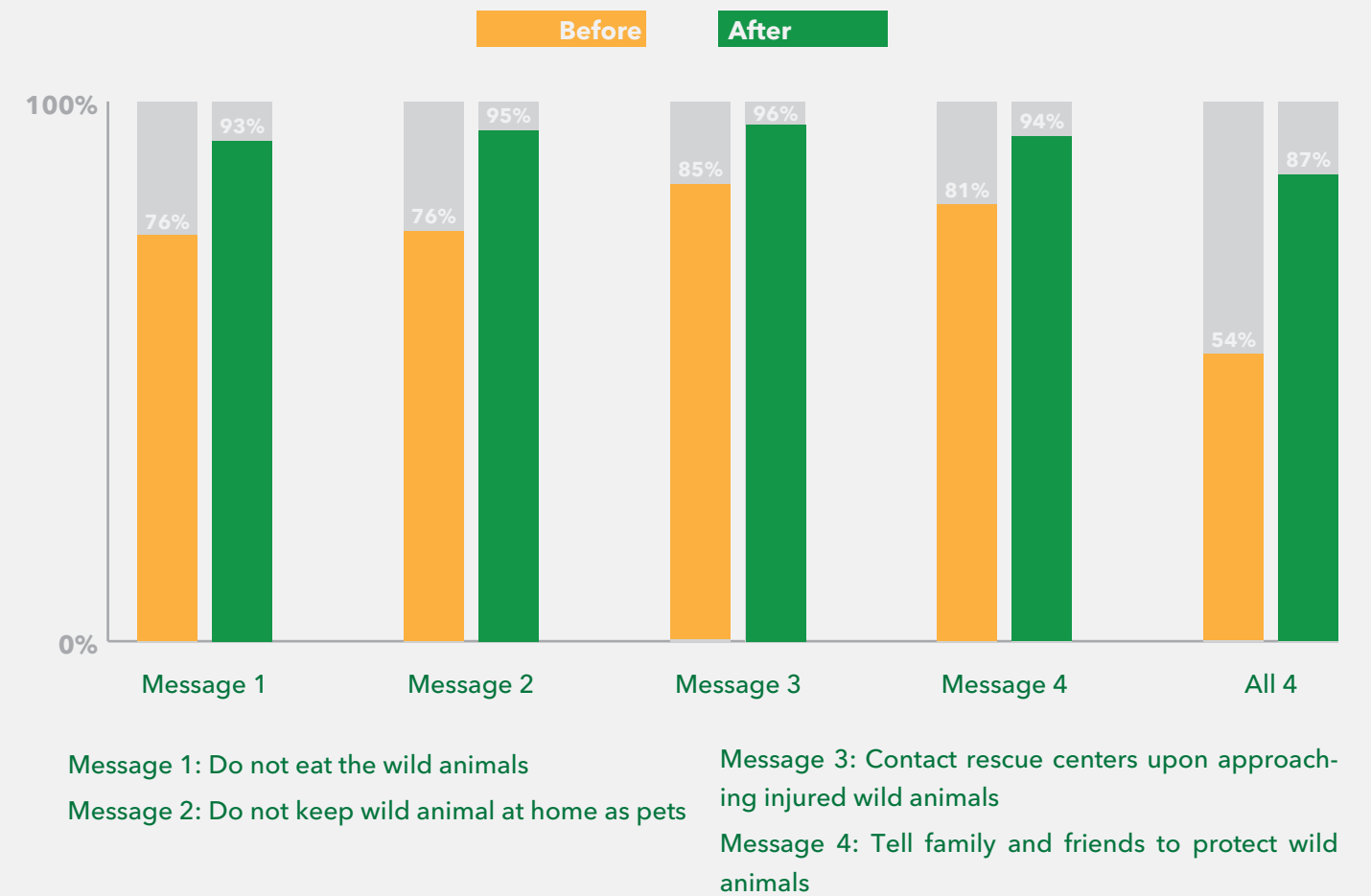


# 4 RESULTS IN CHILDREN'S AWARENESS

RECOGNITION RATE OF CHILDREN TO FIVE SPECIES

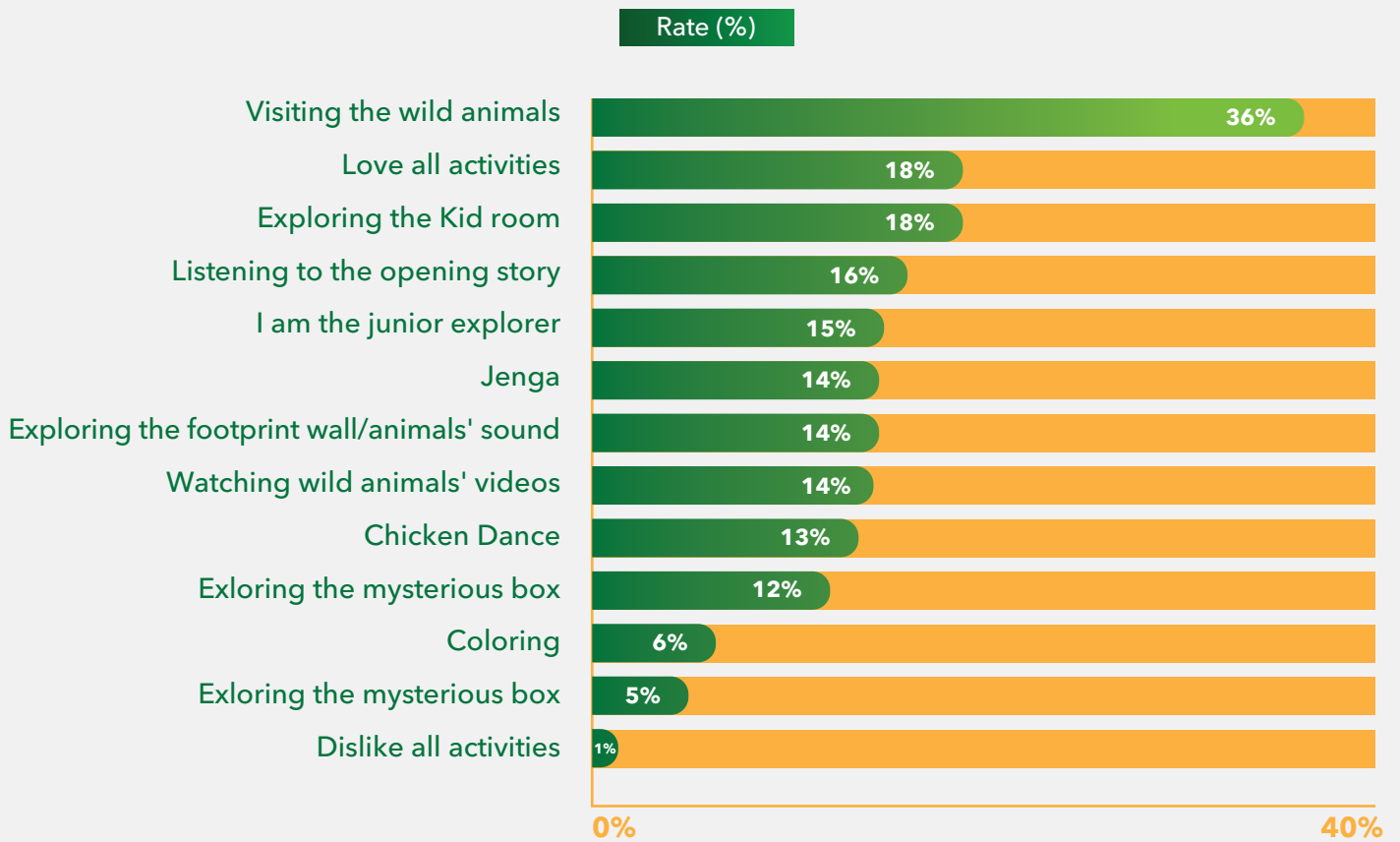


RATE OF KIDS' AWARENESS IN EDUCATIONAL MESSAGES

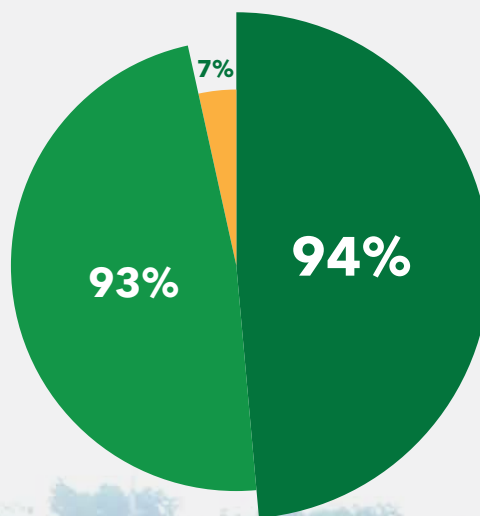




## RATE OF CHILDREN'S INTEREST IN THE ACTIVITIES



## RATE OF CHILDREN'S INTEREST IN THE PROGRAM



Love the program

Want to join the program again

Don't like the program



## EVALUATION OF SATISFACTION OF TEACHERS AND PARENTS

<b>1: I like the content of the program</b>	<b>99.7%</b>
<b>2: The teaching method is suitable with the children</b>	<b>99.7%</b>
<b>3: We were well picked up and taken care of</b>	<b>98.8%</b>
<b>4: I want to join more programs like this in the future</b>	<b>99.4%</b>
<b>5: I want more kids to join the programs like this in the future</b>	<b>98.8%</b>
<b>6: All activities are suitable with the children</b>	<b>100%</b>
<b>7: No need to add anything to the program</b>	<b>96.5%</b>
<b>8: The activities do not need to be adjusted</b>	<b>99.4%</b>
<b>9: I am satisfied with the educators</b>	<b>100%</b>







## 5 CONCLUSION

After three years, the Valuing Nature in Childhood Program successfully organized **236 trips** for **5,897 children** from all **28 kindergartens** in Nho Quan district, Ninh Binh province.

The evaluation results show that the program reaches its aims in educating and connecting children with nature, fostering their love, shaping right attitudes and positive actions toward the nature and wildlife. The program also has great impact on children's fully development.



*Chicken Dance*

In the three years, the program has continuously improved the contents, knowledge, and teaching method, as well as focused on building capacity for educators. In this year, Save Vietnam's Wildlife cooperates with Cuc Phuong National Park to build a new educational area with many brand new, interesting activities for the nature expedition. We hope to continue bringing rewarding educational programs for generations of students.

The program receives enthusiastic support from families, schools, society, and the contributions from domestic and foreign enterprises and organizations. Moreover, the Valuing Nature in Childhood Program also attracts the attention from domestic and international media units and has exchange activities about educational models with other organizations interested in conservation.

With the success of the three year implementation, Save Vietnam's Wildlife wishes to join hands with schools and families to bring the Valuing Nature in Childhood Program to become the annual extra curricula activities for all schools in the next school years, and expand the program to other areas in all country, spreading the words about conservation to many more preschoolers in the future.

With hope that the teachers and parents become the influencers to children in daily life to love and save nature and wildlife, Save Vietnam's Wildlife will endeavor to have strong cooperation with the Education and Training Departments, families and schools, and develop more and more conservation education programs at schools for different ages.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

To achieve success in the past 3 years, we would like to express our deep gratitude to **Welttierschutzgesellschaft - WTG**, the sponsor for Save Vietnam's Wildlife to organize 236 trips for nearly 6,000 kindergarten students in the Valuing Nature in Childhood Program.

We want to acknowledge the **Department of Education and Training in Nho Quan district**, the leaders of the kindergartens in Nho Quan district for allowing, supporting and cooperating with us to implement the program in the last three years 2016 - 2019. We also wish to thank the teachers and parents for supporting us to manage the students in all trips. We are grateful to have had the opportunity to spend moments with the children participating in the program. Together, we made it happen to come back to our mother nature and spread the words to the community. It is a great inspiration for us to continue improving and expanding the conservation education program in the future.

We are especially thankful to **all staff at Save Vietnam's Wildlife**: the leader board, educators, our drivers and the animal keepers who spent their valuable time and energy for the program to be safe, successful and most memorable.

Thank you.

