

Brief Report  
on  
**Outreach/Awareness program on "Introduction to ornamental fish keeping"**

14th November 2024

Organized at Ravindra Bharati Public School, Balabhadrapuram

By Freshwater Fish Farm (FWFF), Balabhadrapuram, ICAR-CIFE, Kakinada

The FWFF, Balabhadrapuram, held a painting contest and an outreach and awareness workshop on "Introduction to Ornamental Fish Keeping" for local schoolchildren from Balabhadrapuram and Bikkavolu villages in the Eastern Godavri District in honour of Children's Day. About 400 kids and 20–25 instructors from Balabhadrapuram and M.P.P.R. School in Bikkavolu enthusiastically participated in the event, which was held on November 14, 2024, at Ravindra Bharati Public School, Balabhadrapuram.

The students were introduced to ornamental fish care by Dr. Shamna, the station in charge, who also showed them a range of vibrant fish species and discussed how to maintain and manage their feed. Mrs. Shobha Rawat went into further detail on the methods for caring for aquarium fish and the need of managing water quality. The goal of the educational workshops was to encourage young people to learn more about the fascinating pastime and environmentally beneficial activity of raising ornamental fish.

A painting competition was also conducted, categorizing students into three groups: Nursery to UKG, 1st to 4th Class, and Senior Class up to 7th Class. This allowed participants to express their creativity on diverse themes suited to their age levels. Prizes were awarded to winners from each group to recognize and encourage their artistic talents. The event served as a platform for students to explore ornamental fish through art while fostering their creative skills.

Adding an environmental aspect to the program, a plantation drive was organized on the school campus. Students, teachers, and staff actively participated in planting saplings, emphasizing the importance of greenery and sustainability. The school Principal, Mr. Gunthulu Ventaka Ramana from Ravindra Bharati Public School and Mr. Y.V.V Sathya Narayana from M.P.P.R School along with other staff members, extended their support, making the event a resounding success.

The program not only educated students about ornamental fish keeping but also fostered environmental awareness and creativity, leaving a lasting impression on the young participants and the community. The program was co-ordinated by Dr. Shamna and Dr. Shobha Rawat under the guidance of Dr. Ravishankar C.N, Director, ICAR-CIFE and the Nodal officer, Dr. Shrinivas Jahageerdar.



**Painting competition on Children's Day**



**Students participation on various themes**



**Interaction with students on Introduction to ornamental fish keeping**



**Prize winners of the painting competition**



**Plantation Drive in the campus**



**Student participation in awareness programme**