# Educating to be A Part of Not Apart from the Environment Around Us

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### What is Conservation Education?

Permeates from and is informed by all aspects of our life

School environment is the starting point formative and a profound influence on the conscious and subconscious

Equipping ourselves with

understanding, skills and ability at an emotional and intellectual level

ability to engage with the environment around us so that it is **relevant to our lives**, is informed by the **biophysical**, **socio-cultural** characteristics of the local area

## What should the approach be?

#### Experiential

#### Inquiry driven

approach based on practice, observation, experience and inquiry - a life cycle view

sharpens and hones the skill of inquiry through hands-on work

allows questioning the "how" and the "why"

enables understanding interlinkages in human-nature interactions

drives holistic, integrated solutions approach

# What should the approach be?

#### Interdisciplinary

#### **Project Based**

allows multi-dimensional views, provides space for multiple perspectives – natural science, social science, political.......

facilitates learning research skills, analytical thinking, practical application of classroom concepts

the classroom expands!

# Some Ideas on the how.....and what it takes.....

Nature walks

Hands-on work to restore and conserve nature and natural resources

Grassroots level engagement with surrounding community to understand interdependencies

Articulating problem statements and developing relevant, local solutions

Engaging with governance

It takes imagination, flexibility, time & creation of spaces