



1 Group photo of SMK Damansara Damai 1 students, teachers and Salcon officers.

2 Students conducting a biological test by catching aquatic animals from the river.

Learning about precious resource

Students get to know all about water in its natural surroundings through company project

IN conjunction with the World Water Monitoring Day, Salcon Berhad, through its Salcon River & Water Awareness Programme 2.0, brought 32 students from SMK Damansara Damai 1 out from their classroom to be in touch with the natural surroundings at Lembah Kiara, Taman Tun Dr Ismail.

The award-winning programme, initiated by Salcon Berhad with its non-governmental organisation partner Water Watch Penang (WWP), aims at educating students on water preservation and conservation.

Students got to be up-close with Mother Nature via fun hands-on physical, chemical and biological water activities at Sungai Penchala.

Students were given the opportunity to carry out a number of interesting and interactive activities such as physical water testing, which is the process where flow rate, clarity, colour and smell are carried out.

The students were guided on monitoring the alkaline and acidic levels

within the river water and also got the chance to identify different kinds of organisms living in the river, which is an indicator of the river's health level.

Through the survey form given out before and after the programme, this practical approach proved to increase their level of understanding and captured their interest in learning about their surroundings.

Salcon Corporate senior manager Chern Meng Gaik said, "We are glad to be able to bring these students to participate and contribute to the World Water Monitoring Day in a meaningful manner to assist in monitoring the quality of our local river."

"The findings of today's water test will be recorded in a database by WWP."

"Today's programme not only benefits the students but also contributes to the nation's database of our local streams' and rivers' health".

World Water Monitoring Day is celebrated on Sept 18 every year and the monitoring and educational

events can take place any time between March 22 and Dec 31.

SMK Damansara Damai 1 teacher Sharifah Aidah was happy that her students were able to practise what they had learnt in their classroom.

"I am glad to see my students actively participating and responding throughout the Salcon river programme, which provides a platform for our students to be outdoors rather than being just cooped up in the classroom."

"Water is a common and most precious resource in our daily life and its demand is expected to increase concurrently with the nation's development."

"So, it is critical to start instilling a sense of responsibility in our future generations to learn to appreciate and conserve water."

Salcon will be conducting the third Train the Trainers programme next month, which will involve teachers from different schools coming together to learn to conduct the river programme by themselves.