

### **Reflection & Learning Outcomes – Sc3 2017**

“Ahoy...Ahoy”.....echoed the voice from the Potomac river and thus the Indian Delegation Team set forward their journey to shepherds town, West Virginia on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of June’17 (comprising of Aryan Kota, Ishani Saxena, Raina Ahmed, Pratishruti Barman, Mriganka Bora, Biswajit De and myself-Sushmita Chakraborty)The young student enthusiasts with lot of expectations with a zeal to explore the beautiful world of nature.

We boarded the flight to Delhi at 4:10 in the evening and reached around 7:15 pm. We enjoyed our stay at the Delhi Airport overnight to board our flight to Abu Dhabi at 4:15 am. Joys knew no bound when we completed all our immigration formalities to leave for U.S. Finally it was U.S. Ho...long but delightful hours in the flight with lot of excitement and happy feelings.

Warm welcome awaited us with open arms at Dulles Airport-Washington D.C. What a superb feeling.....it was amazing to visualize John Denver’s number “Country Road” as we headed for NCTC. Soon we arrived at our destination, freshened and geared up for the upcoming week of activities and sessions which were to commence from 25<sup>th</sup> June’ 17.

As a motivating starter, we were taken to Harpers Ferry- a town in West Virginia where we enjoyed a festival celebration with lot of merrymaking. It was indeed a memorable moment for all of us. The hectic yet a great learning week commenced from 25<sup>th</sup> June’17.

There were morning activities-(bird watching, nature walk, yoga, zumba), plenary sessions, OST meets, workshops and trainings and our presentation which was acknowledge by all. It was indeed a proud moment for us.

## MY LEARNING OUTCOMES:

Katy Perry's workshop ( Programme Coordinator)

- Emphasis is to be given on leadership role.
- Team work is significant followed by proper coordination.
- One should be super clear with objectives and responsibilities.
- Students should be made to share one common characteristic and strength in a group interaction.
- Energizers play a very positive role in motivating students before they involve themselves in any sessions/activities in order to break the ice.
- To share any fun-fact in one's life to make the environment friendly and congenial for any learning to take place.

Names of eminent plenary speakers for the week:

- Jay Slack
- Brayan Arroyo
- Jerrome Ford
- Running Grass
- Ian Cheney
- Rob Watson
- Amy Larkin
- Plenary panel : Susan Cohen with Cameron conaway, Lisa Hupp, CJ Goulding

All the above eminent speakers portrayed some common objectives :

- To Save our planet and keep it pollution free
- To respect the existence of the living world
- To nurture the greenery.

- To respect each other's feelings.
- To fight for the right.
- Not to give up and continue with one's effort for good cause- which apparently raised a common voice in one of the documentary films show cased in one of the plenary sessions. It made the auditorium echoed with a feeling

“I AM NOT GOING TO TAKE IT ANY MORE”

Sharing a few thoughts gathered from some of the speakers:

1) Running Grass :

Emphasized upon :

Recognizing \_\_\_ emotional justice issues

Activity: Turn to someone next to you and describe an issue and explain why do you considered it as an emotional justice issue.

The Objective of the above mentioned activity was to share and understand each other's thought and emotional values associated with a particular issue also, it enhances one's skill in expressing emotional justice and it's reason for identifying the issue.

2) ROB WATSON: With his motivating words...How do we solve problems?

The answer to this is –

- To bite the problem at its points of origin or onset.
- Do not let it go for ten years.

“All truths pass through three stages.”

- First – it is ridiculed.
- Second- it is violently opposed.
- Third – it is accepted as being “self”.

“It is the action, not the fruit of the action that is important.

Every moment contains infinite possibility. We should pick the “Inexpensive Resource.”

“We cannot solve our problem with the same thinking we used when we created them.”

Sharing a few words by Tod Coissart.

Inclusivity: The web of relationship.

Following should be the guidelines:

- What strategies build trust?
- Relationship and community
- Celebrating diversity
- Common purpose
- Active listening
- A safe environment to practice art of communication.

SHARING

RECIPE FOR SUCCESS:

Problem

Solution

Pathway

Address the problem at an –

Appropriate scale

Be specific

Collect data – Especially data that does not agree with us.

“ Be mod to achieve your goal but be solution oriented.”

Following were the OST GROUPS:

- Water preservation
- Sustainable agriculture
- 4R's : Reduce, Reuse, Recycle & Rot
- Education through conservation
- Wildlife preservation
- Promoting sustainable economics
- Fostering community activism and civic engagement.
- Climate change an clean energy
- Inspire through art

Each group showcased their presentation in their own innovative ways which was highly commendable. It was amazing to visualise their talents and involvement in the activities. Team-work, coordination and time management was wonderfully executed.

A few parameters emphasized in one of the OST mini circle discussions:

- How do we implement?
- Ideas are good but what should be the first steps?
- Data is important
- Schools are accessible
- Take advantage of community.
- “Why” is our important motivator ( foreg\_\_ why should we spend money to save energy ?)
- How to make ideas applicable?
- How can we convenience community ?

## ACTION PLAN ( STEPS)



DESIGN



DEVELOP



REFLECTION-I



REFLECTION-II



REFLECTION-III



DELIVER

“Successful people begin with two beliefs.

The future can be better and I can do it”

## PRESENTATION “THE INDIAN DELEGATION TEAM”

- Our students ( Ishani Saxebna Aryan Kota, Pratishruti Barman and Mriganka Bora) had expressed their views and shared their experiences in Sc3 and their participation in various activities in the school as well as in Sc3. It was basically thoughts expressed from a “Students perspective”
- Raina Ahmed – (Action plan advisor and student coordinator) presented her wonderful and memorable experience at SC3 which also spoke about her commendable achievements.
- Biswajit Dey : (Creative director , HOD Deptt. Of Graphic Design, visual Arts and Media, International coordinator ( British, council international school Award programme), Maria’s Public School\_\_\_\_\_ emphasized basically on the follow up Sc3X and its objectives alongwith his wonderful experiences at SC3.
- Myself (Sushmita Chakraborty –Faculty Maria’s Public School

My presentation was from a teacher's perspective- with my learning outcomes at SC3x and my wonderful experience at SC3

Sharing my thoughts- (OST- Big Circle)

➤ “Conservation” – What might it stand for ? Could it be explained so ?

C – Caring

O – optimistic

N – Necessary

S – Systematic

E- Empathetic

R – Retrospect

V – Valuable

A – Adorable

T –Thoughtful

I - Implement

O- Organize

N – Nurture

“FROM MY DESK” – (AS A BIOLOGY TEACHER)

Ticks and Diseases:

There are two tick species that a person is most likely to encounter at NCTC. One is the American dog tick – *Demacentor Variabilis*, sometimes called the wood tick which many people are familiar with. The American dog tick only feeds on people or pets while in its adult stages. The primary disease risk is Rocky Mountain spotted fever.

The other common tick is the black logged tick, *Ixodes scapularis*, also known as the deer tick. This is a small tick that is easily overlooked. It may feed on

people or pets at the larvae, nymph or adult stages of life, and may carry Lyme disease do well as another disease called babesiosis.

#### SHARING MY OVERALL LEARNING OUTCOMES :

- Students should be given the freedom to explore, express and deliver.
- Teachers should be mere facilitators while guiding the students.
- One should be a good listener and an observer.
- Possess moral ethics and values.
- Respect the existence of the person we communicate with.
- Team work and co-ordination leads to excellency at work.
- Respect other's ideas, feelings, thought and actions.
- "Natural has emotions" So, love, respect and nurture it.

The most exciting and awaited event was the “River Trip” i.e. on the Potomac River. It was a spell-binding experience when we rowed on the river, enjoying the lovely, cool water and the lush greenery around it. We were thrilled at the sight of the ‘Hérons’ which seemed to be welcoming us. It was simply amazing.

Well.... All good things come to an end....very soon the day for our departure arrived and all gathered at NCTC got ready with their bag and baggage to return to their homeland. We could not help ourselves being emotional yet we were determined that there is always a next time. Hence, with this positive thinking, we flew back to our homeland and with lots of good and great learning experiences to be shared with everyone.

I would like to extend my heartfelt gratitude and thanks to Mrs. Nellie Ahmed Tanweer—Founder and Managing Trustee- Maria’s Public School for having given us this great opportunity which each one of us would cherish forever.

My sincere thanks to Mrs Alpana Khound Phukan—Principal-Maria’s Public School for support and co-operation.

By

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