

CVP holiday classes.

Holiday 'classes' were held in five rural areas during August, for >210 participants - children, their teachers, headmasters and youth leaders, from seven schools and four churches. They were hugely successful. 'Holiday classes' are common in towns, but even there tend to be academic revision and preparation for the next term – we provided lively, interactive Conservation Values Education, teaching Sustainable Development for each local context.

Three days, at GS Ngoh Kesu, GS Befang and Catholic School Mbamba, also at the Presbyterian Church Bereje-Oshie, and Ngwo-Njikwa (for Presbyterian, Full-Gospel and Muslim children). Neighbouring schools also came, from GS Bangwe, GS Shisong, Muala Community School and Catholic School Mbekunyam.



Ngoh Kesu children line up on day one (above)



Concentrating on drawing (left),

and Mbamba children show off a new map (below).



They learned about Animals and Birds, about Water (getting water to your home); Sustainable agriculture, possible solutions to problems between livestock and crop farmers (a local issue), farmers and wildlife. They did drawing and painting; Storytelling – including how people in other parts of the world have succeeded in living with nature; local and other stories about animals; Parables and their meanings; Tree planting, threats to the forest, and from losing forest ; Waste disposal; Soil and composting.

Children shared their hunting and collecting knowledge of birds and animals - how they make and use catapults for hunting birds (right), the 'cutting grass' that they trap (below),



and various caterpillars and larvae, that are collected (right).

Some schools already have nurseries, more plan to start, all enjoyed learning how to nurse, plant and fence trees, and requested more seeds of useful species. Above all children and leaders appreciated learning about things unknown to them before, it made them interested in conservation, and its value to their lives. They liked the style of teaching, want more classes, and for more days, also in more venues, as some participants had to trek a long way. A full evaluation will be made over coming months, our hope is to provide materials and training so that local teachers and leaders can run CVP style classes independently, on a regular basis.



People in these areas feel very cut off from the wider world, and neglected, so having teachers come from Yaoundé, with new activities, new subjects and ideas was exciting and appreciated, as well as lifting them up morally, it has brought Conservation Values into their minds and lives.

Mr Asah Barnabas arranged this work, Tamnjong Melanie and Edwin Ncha were the teachers. Head Masters who rallied their children and attended were Mr Kum Simon, Mr Agha Francis, Mr Kaba Cyprian, Mr Forbine Peter, Mr Anyanga Patrick Ndeh, Mr Neba Emmanuel. Mr Angono Robert, Pastor Angwa Jabob and Mr Obori Joseph organised events in Njikwa sub-division. Thanks to the Wildlife Protector's Fund for sponsorship and materials, PACE for materials.