



Environmental Immersion Program: Sample Itinerary

Kodaikanal International School - Center for Environment and Humanity (KIS CEH)

Introduction

The KIS Center for Environment and Humanity (CEH) is an environmental education and action center based in Kodaikanal, Tamil Nadu – a unique high-altitude ecosystem in the Western Ghats, one of the world’s most critical biodiversity hotspots.

At CEH, we empower students to become environmental stewards through hands-on, place-based learning experiences. Our programs combine scientific understanding, community knowledge, and active exploration of real-world environmental challenges. We work at the intersection of biodiversity conservation, regenerative agriculture, waste management and climate action.

We welcome school groups from India and around the world to join us for immersive environmental learning experiences that foster critical thinking, teamwork, and a deep connection to the natural world.

This **sample itinerary** offers a powerful blend of environmental exploration, hands-on learning, and cultural exchange in one of India’s most unique ecosystems: the Sky Islands of the Western Ghats.



5-Day Immersion Itinerary

	Theme	Activities	Learning Outcomes
Day 1	Orientation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Welcome briefing: Introduction to Kodaikanal, its geography, culture, and environmental significance• Icebreaker activity: Compare your hometown ecosystem with Kodaikanal's montane landscape• Eco-tour: Walk through key natural and cultural landmarks in town• Student exchange: Meet and interact with KIS high school students	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Situational awareness• Critically analysis of bioregions and geographies
Day 2	Biodiversity	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Thematic intro: Western Ghats as a global biodiversity hotspot• Guided biodiversity walk through Shola forests• Species ID & field journaling (birds, mammals, trees, pollinators)• Contrast visit to a monoculture forest (Eucalyptus, Pine, Wattle) to observe ecological impact	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ecological observation• Species identification• Habitat comparison• Critical thinking
Day 3	Circular Economy	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Workshop: Waste & circular economy 101• Hands-on composting at CEH Living Lab• Upcycling challenge: Turn waste into something creative and useful• Evening reflection circle: What does sustainable living mean to me?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Problem-solving• Creativity• Sustainability mindset



Day 4	Regenerative Farming	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Introduction to regenerative agriculture practices● Farm visit (mid-elevation): Learn about coffee, spices, fruit and soil health● Activity: Make your own organic fertilizer (e.g., Panchagavya or natural pest repellent)● Cook alongside farmers in a farm-to-table community lunch	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Food literacy and nutrition● Hands-on farming● Cross-cultural communication
Day 5	Reflection & Call to Action	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Community cleanup drive● Small group project: Students design an “Eco-Action” project to implement back home● Sharing circle of Action Plans	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Project planning● Persuasive writing● Oral communication

Let's Co-Create!

At CEH, we believe environmental learning should be collaborative and relevant. We invite partner schools to co-create the program with us based on your curricular goals, student interests, and desired outcomes. Whether your focus is climate change, sustainability, environmental justice, or just spending time in nature, we can design a meaningful experience together.