Experiential Learning Visit to Coringa Marine Museum

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Organised By: Department of Commerce &Management
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The Department of Commerce & Management, Government College(A), Rajahmundry organised an educational visit to Coringa Mangrove World (Biodiversity Centre) for 38 BBA (Hons.) students as part of their experiential learning activities. The museum, located within the Coringa region of East Godavari District, serves as an interpretation centre that introduces visitors to the ecological, biological, and environmental significance of mangrove ecosystems. This visit provided the students with meaningful exposure to environmental studies, sustainability concepts, and green governance practices that complement their academic curriculum.

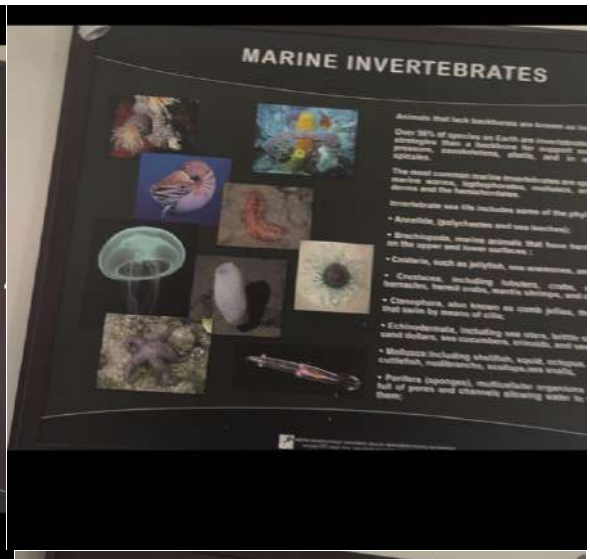
During the visit, the students first explored the large geographic and spatial models that represented the mangrove–estuary region. These models offered a clear visual understanding of how rivers, tidal creeks, backwaters, and mangrove forests are interconnected. By examining these representations, the students learned how estuarine systems function and how the mixing of freshwater and seawater shapes the surrounding ecosystem. This macro-level perspective helped the students appreciate the geographical and ecological intricacies of mangrove landscapes.

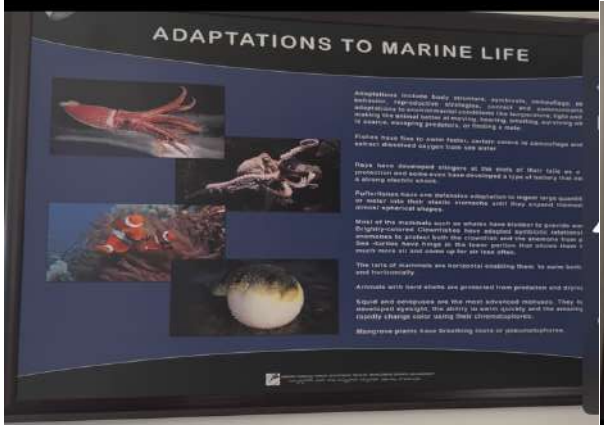
The museum also featured detailed information panels on various mangrove species. These panels explained the different types of mangrove trees and shrubs, their unique adaptations such as pneumatophores (breathing roots), vivipary (where seeds germinate while still attached to the parent tree), and mechanisms for tolerating high salinity levels. Students gained insight into how these plant species survive in harsh tidal environments and why mangroves play such a crucial ecological role along coastal regions.

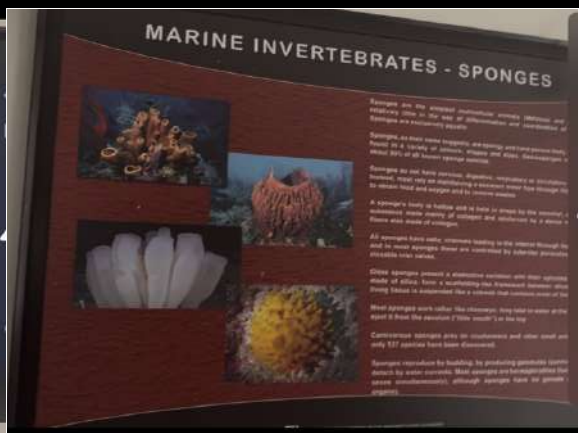
Another significant part of the museum included exhibits showcasing the fauna and aquatic life found in and around mangrove ecosystems. Displays of fish, crabs, molluscs, and bird species illustrated how these animals depend on mangroves for shelter, breeding, and feeding. The students learned that mangroves act as vital nursery grounds and biodiversity hotspots that support a rich variety of life forms. These exhibits emphasized the ecological interdependence between flora and fauna within the mangrove environment.

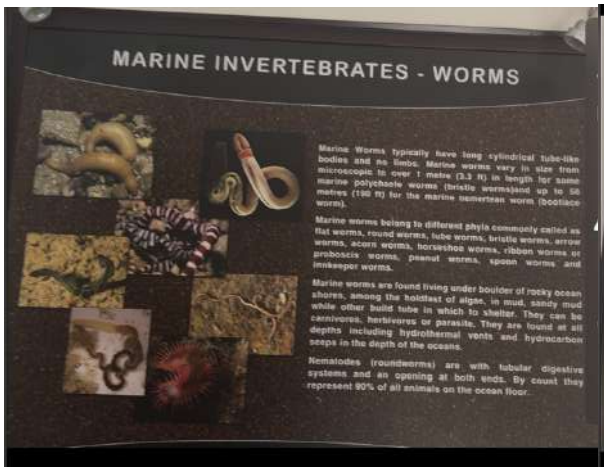
In addition to biodiversity, the museum highlighted the ecosystem services provided by mangroves. The exhibits explained how mangrove forests protect coastal regions from storms, cyclones, and soil erosion; support fisheries and local livelihoods; sustain high levels of biodiversity; and contribute to climate regulation through carbon storage. Understanding

these services helped the students recognize the importance of mangroves not only as natural habitats but also as essential components of sustainable environmental management.









Overall, the visit proved to be an enriching academic experience for the BBA (Hons.) students. It strengthened their learning by offering practical insights into environmental conservation, coastal ecology, and sustainable development. The exhibits and information at the museum also provided valuable material for academic case studies, project work, and discussions on green governance. The visit fostered greater environmental awareness among the students and encouraged them to think critically about the need to protect fragile ecosystems like mangroves for future generations. The interactive displays and real-time observations further deepened their understanding of the interconnectedness between human activity and natural habitats. Students expressed that the field experience helped them relate classroom concepts to real-world environmental challenges. The visit also encouraged collaborative learning, as students engaged in reflective discussions and shared their observations. Such experiential learning activities play a vital role in shaping environmentally responsible future managers and decision-makers.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