



# SARASWATHY

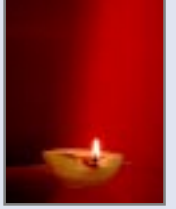
## TRAIL...

Ever wondered what it would feel like to step out of a farm, and find yourself in the middle of a dense forest? Guests at Saraswathy Kindergarten knew exactly how the feeling was when they visited the Kindergarten on Saturday, 20 August 2005 for the Saraswathy Trail. The interior of the Kindergarten was transformed into a multitude of theme designs (jungle scenes to farm pens), as part of a new curriculum approach - 'Teach Less and Learn More'. This approach, endorsed by the Ministry of Education, aims to encourage holistic learning in pre-schoolers. With the new curriculum, each child's potential will be identified and the individual's specific needs met through project-based learning. The goal of Saraswathy Trail was to cultivate independent learning and confidence in our young learners to make them effective students and youths of tomorrow.

Guests to Saraswathy Kindergarten's Trail were met and greeted by students. In fact, all preparatory work leading up to the Trail and the activities planned for the actual day were largely initiated by the children themselves. Saraswathy Trail opened with a welcome address by students Durga and Bhagya Shree and a short presentation by student representatives from K2. Visitors were then given personalized programs to help them manoeuvre and complete the Trail. Tokens were presented to guests who completed various tasks under each phase of the Trail. Some of the tasks included answering questions, creating art and craft pieces and participating in games designed by the children.

*Young Chefs*





# A HOLISTIC LEARNING

## EXPERIENCE



*Learning through play acting*



*The "farmer" and his pond*

The Trail took on a carnival atmosphere with its selection of delicious, kid-prepared snacks which the visiting adults were only too happy to help themselves to. Children got plenty of hands-on learning opportunities as they served food to the guests, ran their own handmade craft and souvenir stalls and presented short skits. Even the younger students from the Nursery classes were enthusiastically involved in the activities, making the Trail a memorable experience for both the tiny-tots and the adults.

Saraswathy Trail was a huge success. Even the adult participants found the experience most enriching. It was interesting to see the teachers as merely facilitators, with students taking the lead enhancing their own learning process. It didn't fail to catch the attention of all present that the backdrops and props used comprised only recycled materials. The Kindergarten hopes to involve its children in more of such play-orientated and creative self-learning activities to promote holistic learning.

***"The goal of Saraswathy Trail was to cultivate independent learning and confidence in our young learners to make them effective students and youths of tomorrow."***

*MOE and Jamiyah officials join in the fun*

