



This is the third Eco-Camp to be held at the shores of Oinafa with the endorsement and support of the elders. This annual event is part of a broader environmental awareness campaign by LäjeRotuma and the island volunteer team in partnership with the four primary schools and Rotuma High School. The primary objective of the annual Eco-Camp is to bring together all students for a fun-filled and learning experience about their island home of Rotuma's unique and fragile natural heritage so that the next generation may be more environmentally conscious in this age of climate change and loss of culture. The Rotuma Schools Eco-Camp will celebrate International Year of Biodiversity and will take part in the national "Plant a Million Trees" campaign!

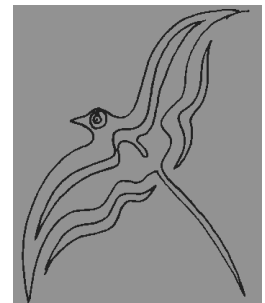


The Rotuma schools' Eco-Camp schedule offers a variety of hands-on, fun activities that help the young campers learn about the natural world, other people and themselves. The activities are as follows:

Driftwood Art Workshop. The opportunity for students to fire up their imagination by interpreting the driftwood pieces they have collected. This would involve the addition of shells, seeds, string, etc, to decorate their pieces to produce a work of art from flotsam and jetsam found along the shoreline.

Mural Art. Select artistic students to partake in joint production of a mural in a public location, this time on the campsite! This artwork would cover the overall themes of LRI which are *"to protect and to enhance islanders' understanding of their natural environment"*.

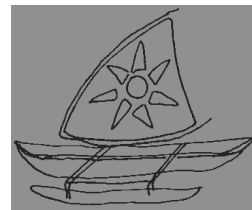
Visual Arts Workshop. A chance for students to express their artistic abilities and creative skills using A4 white card and a range of medium (crayons, paints, colored pencils). Themes for artwork would relate to forest and coral reef ecosystems and the flora and fauna of Rotuma.



Field trips. Snorkel activity at the *Oinafa* near-shore fringing reef, Sea Grass watch surveys at *Maka* bay, beach profiling at Hapmafau Bay, forest walk at the Motusa/Losa bushland.

Song & Dance Activities. Musically inclined Eco-Campers will be given the opportunity to write and perform drama and dance pieces based on environmental themes espoused by LRI.

Hanuju Sessions. Re-telling of local stories and elders' experiences with nature, aim to establish the connection of local stories and resource use in efforts to mainstream a culture of biodiversity conservation with a younger audience.

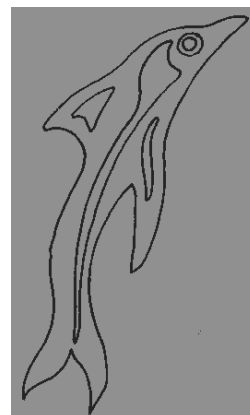


Tree Huggers Activity. Inspired by an Indian legend. This activity involves the use of invasive tree vines to weave "Tree Huggers". A visual art-form portraying the importance of respecting and protecting *Rotuma's* useful trees as well as the significant threat of invasive plants to the island's biodiversity.

Rubbish Auditing. Ongoing Eco-Camp daily cleanup activities will include sorting and recording of rubbish types as well as demonstration of proper disposable methods and opportunities for reducing, re-using and recycling of man-made waste.

Bird Watching. Did you ever see a bird and wondered what it was? Learn how to identify some local birds by sight and sound. Interested eco-campers will sign up for early morning and dusk walks to the nearby bush-land to observe and listen to bird sounds. A session later in the day will involve learning more about bird songs and the many birds found in Rotuma.

First Aid and Safety at Sea. To raise awareness of basic first aid principles and the importance of safety precautions when at sea.



Plant a Million Trees. As part of the bid to Plant a Million Trees by the year 2011, the Eco-Camp 2010 will launch the "Plant a Million Trees" with the schools on the island to promote the importance of native trees to Rotuma's biodiversity and sustainable livelihood.

General EcoCamp information: The camp schedule runs from as early as 5am to 8pm daily. Meals are provided to the campers for the 3 days of stay at Oinafa Bay camp area.

The camp dates are tentatively scheduled for during the Term 2 holidays, 23rd -26th August, 2010.