



## THE FOSSIL ROOM *at Wild Coast Tented Lodge*

TIMETABLE OF  
COMPLIMENTARY ACTIVITIES



## THE FOSSIL ROOM at Wild Coast Tented Lodge

### TIMETABLE OF COMPLIMENTARY ACTIVITIES

*Sprouts / 3 - 5 Years*



#### MONDAY

##### **Morning: Animal Tracking & Signs Investigation**

- Notice animal signs (tracks, feathers, scat) during walks
- Match track stamps to animal pictures
- Count toes and pads in footprints
- Use vocabulary: track, footprint, clue, sign

*Learning Outcome:*  
Develops observation skills and introduces Yala wildlife

##### **Afternoon: Pebble Art & Cloud Watching**

- Arrange pebbles into patterns and designs
- Observe cloud shapes and discuss what they resemble
- Create nature mandalas with collected materials

*Learning Outcome:*  
Enhances creativity and fine motor skills

#### TUESDAY

##### **Morning: Sand & Mineral Exploration**

- Describe sand colors and textures
- Sort sand by color using sorting trays
- Explore sand with magnifying glasses
- Create sand art and patterns

*Learning Outcome:*  
Develops sensory awareness and introduces earth science

##### **Afternoon: Nature Bracelets & Leaf Exploration**

- Make bracelets with leaves and twine
- Compare textures of various leaves
- Create leaf rubbings with crayons

*Learning Outcome:*  
Promotes fine motor skills and aesthetic appreciation

#### WEDNESDAY

##### **Morning: Bug BioBlitz & Invertebrate Discovery**

- Identify 3-5 local invertebrates (butterfly, ant, spider, beetle)
- Count body segments and legs through observation
- Practice gentle capture and release
- Sort specimens by visible features

*Learning Outcome:*  
Builds observation skills and empathy for small creatures

##### **Afternoon: Mud Painting & Nature Art**

- Use mud as paint to create designs on stones
- Make handprints in mud for sensory exploration
- Create nature collages with leaves and flowers

*Learning Outcome:*  
Develops sensory exploration and creativity

#### THURSDAY

##### **Morning: Predator-Prey Games & Camouflage**

- Identify animals as hunters (predators) or hunted (prey)
- Match animals to habitats where they blend in
- Practice hiding and seeking games
- Recognize basic patterns: spots, stripes, colors

*Learning Outcome:*  
Understands basic survival concepts through play

##### **Afternoon: Pretend Animal Walks & Nature Sounds**

- Mimic animal movements through the forest
- Practice animal sounds and calls
- Counting seeds, pinecones, or acorns

*Learning Outcome:*  
Builds gross motor skills and imagination

*Morning Session: 9:00 AM - 11:30 AM / Evening Session : 3:30 PM - 5:30 PM*



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*Sprouts / 3 - 5 Years*



#### FRIDAY

##### **Morning: Bird Watching Basics**

- Identify 5+ birds by sight and sound (crow, kingfisher, peacock, eagle)
- Match bird beaks to food types with hands-on tools
- Practice quiet observation to avoid disturbing birds
- Sort birds by habitat: land, water, trees

*Learning Outcome:*  
Develops patience and bird identification skills

##### **Afternoon: Flower Petal Art & Leaf Crowns**

- Arrange flower petals to create patterns
- Create crowns using leaves and twine
- Make nature faces with leaves and flowers

*Learning Outcome:*  
Builds fine motor skills and pattern recognition

#### SATURDAY

##### **Morning: Beach Exploration & Dune Discovery**

- Identify coastal plants and dune features
- Observe how wind moves sand
- Collect shells and beach treasures safely
- Build sandcastles and observe erosion

*Learning Outcome:*  
Introduces coastal ecology and natural processes

##### **Afternoon: Rock Stacking & Smell the Leaves**

- Stack rocks of different sizes for balance
- Smell and identify scents of different leaves
- Explore tree trunk textures

*Learning Outcome:*  
Enhances coordination and sensory awareness

#### SUNDAY

##### **Morning: Nature Journaling Basics**

- Draw simple observations: leaf shapes, flower colors
- Label drawings with 1-2 words
- Use different colors to match what they see
- Keep journal safe and personal

*Learning Outcome:*  
Develops observation and early documentation skills

##### **Afternoon: Mini Forest Walk & Nature Scrapbook**

- Explore nearby paths and observe surroundings
- Collect leaves and flowers to create a keepsake
- Share discoveries with group

*Learning Outcome:*  
Builds nature appreciation and memory preservation

*Morning Session: 9:00 AM - 11:30 AM / Evening Session : 3:30 PM - 5:30 PM*



THE FOSSIL ROOM  
at Wild Coast Tented Lodge  
DAILY  
EXTRA SESSIONS



*Sprouts / 3 - 5 Years*

POTTERY  
CORNER

60-minute session

Play with natural clay -  
squeezing, rolling, flattening

Make simple pinch pots  
and coil snakes

Create animal shapes  
and nature impressions

Learn about clay from the earth

*Learning Outcome:*  
Develops fine motor skills  
and tactile exploration

NATURE PAINTING  
WITH NATURAL COLOURS

60-minute session

Extract colors from flowers, leaves, and berries

Paint with natural brushes (twigs, leaves)

Create finger paintings with nature colors

Explore color mixing with natural pigments

*Learning Outcome: Introduces color theory  
and creative expression*

NATURE ART  
WITH LEAVES

60-minute session

Create leaf collages and mosaics

Make leaf prints and rubbings

Arrange leaves by color, size, and shape

Decorate rocks with leaf designs

*Learning Outcome:  
Enhances artistic skills  
& pattern recognition*

SIMPLE WEAVING  
& THREADING

60-minute session

Thread large beads made from  
seeds and wood

Weave with wide ribbons through  
cardboard frames

Create simple braids with thick yarn

Make nature necklaces

*Learning Outcome:  
Develops hand-eye coordination  
and focus*

*Morning Session: 9:00 AM - 11:30 AM / Evening Session : 3:30 PM - 5:30 PM*



## THE FOSSIL ROOM at Wild Coast Tented Lodge

### TIMETABLE OF COMPLIMENTARY ACTIVITIES

Explorers / 6 - 9 Years



#### MONDAY

##### **Morning: Animal Tracking & Field Investigation**

- Identify 3-5 common Yala species by tracks (elephant, leopard, sambar, wild boar)
- Measure track dimensions (length, width, stride)
- Infer animal behavior from signs (feeding, traveling, resting)
- Record findings in field notebooks with labeled sketches

*Learning Outcome:*  
Develops scientific observation and measurement skills

##### **Afternoon: Maker Lab - Tool Safety & Measuring Frames**

- Learn proper tool names, purposes, and safety rules
- Practice measuring with rulers and tape measures
- Build simple measuring frame (30cm x 30cm)
- Use frames for track photography with scale

*Learning Outcome:*  
Introduces carpentry basics and precision measurement

#### TUESDAY

##### **Morning: Sand & Mineral Analysis**

- Identify mineral types using magnification
- Conduct magnetic mineral hunt with agnet wands
- Apply vinegar to test for carbonates (shell fragments)
- Sort grains by size using multiple sieves

*Learning Outcome:*  
Introduces geology and scientific investigation methods

##### **Afternoon: Bug Hotel Planning & Design**

- Discuss which insects use which habitats
- Sketch bug hotel designs with labeled sections
- Gather natural materials (bamboo, bark, hollow stems)
- Learn about beneficial pollinators and predators

*Learning Outcome:*  
Develops planning skills and habitat awareness

#### WEDNESDAY

##### **Morning: Bug BioBlitz & Classification**

- Distinguish major groups: insects, arachnids, mollusks, myriapods
- Use simple dichotomous keys for classification
- Identify insect body parts: head, thorax, abdomen, 6 legs
- Create labeled scientific sketches with accurate proportions

*Learning Outcome:*  
Develops classification skills and scientific drawing

##### **Afternoon: Nature Journaling Workshop**

- Create multi-element journal pages with sketches and labels
- Use scientific observation: size comparisons, counts
- Distinguish observation (facts) from interpretation (ideas)
- Organize pages chronologically to track changes

*Learning Outcome:*  
Develops documentation and critical thinking skills

#### THURSDAY

##### **Morning: Predator-Prey Dynamics & Camouflage Experiments**

- Define camouflage, mimicry, and warning coloration
- Explain how camouflage helps prey survive
- Conduct timed camouflage detection experiments
- Design camouflage for model animals with natural materials

*Learning Outcome:*  
Understands adaptation and conducts experiments

##### **Afternoon: Dune Formation & Plant Stabilization**

- Explain formation and stabilization processes
- Examine root systems - how plants anchor sand
- Find and document signs of erosion
- Discuss how dunes protect coastlines

*Learning Outcome:*  
Understands coastal processes and conservation

*Morning Session: 9:00 AM - 11:30 AM / Evening Session : 3:30 PM - 5:30 PM*



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### TIMETABLE OF COMPLIMENTARY ACTIVITIES

#### Explorers | 6 - 9 Years



### FRIDAY

#### **Morning: Maker Lab -**

##### **Bug Hotel Construction**

- Cut and assemble wooden frame with supervision
- Prepare habitat modules: bundle bamboo, stack bark
- Install and secure modules with wire mesh
- Paint/seal exterior while leaving interior natural

##### *Learning Outcome:*

*Builds complete hotels with 3+ habitat types*

#### **Afternoon: Bird Adaptations**

##### **& Shorebird Observation**

- Explain relationship between beak shape and diet
- Identify foot adaptations: perching, swimming, wading
- Use binoculars effectively for distant observation
- Record field observations with sketches and species counts

##### *Learning Outcome:*

*Develops tool skills and understands form-function*

### SATURDAY

#### **Morning: Water Properties & Coastal Ecology**

- Measure salinity and pH across different water bodies
- Conduct chemical tests for dissolved oxygen
- Sample plankton and observe under microscope
- Analyze which organisms thrive in which conditions

##### *Learning Outcome:*

*Connects water properties to ecosystem health*

#### **Afternoon: Reptile & Amphibian Ecology**

- Explain ectothermy: how temperature affects behavior
- Distinguish reptiles from amphibians by skin and life cycle
- Observe thermoregulation: basking, seeking shade
- Create dichotomous keys based on observed characteristics

##### *Learning Outcome:*

*Understands thermoregulation and classification*

### SUNDAY

#### **Morning: Food Web Investigations**

- Construct 5+ organism food webs showing relationships
- Define producers, consumers, and decomposers
- Explain energy flow: why chains rarely exceed 4-5 levels
- Predict cascade effects: what if one species disappears?

##### *Learning Outcome:*

*Understands ecosystem connections and energy flow*

#### **Afternoon: Coastal Stewardship**

##### **& Beach Cleanup**

- Conduct beach cleanup and trash audit
- Sort by type, count and record items
- Calculate percentages and create pie charts
- Plant native species in eroded areas

##### *Learning Outcome:*

*Develops environmental citizenship and data analysis*

*Morning Session: 9:00 AM - 11:30 AM / Evening Session : 3:30 PM - 5:30 PM*



THE FOSSIL ROOM  
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DAILY  
EXTRA SESSIONS



Explorers / 6 - 9 Years

POTTERY  
CORNER

90-minute session

Learn coiling, pinching, and slab building techniques

Create functional pieces: bowls, cups, animal sculptures

Decorate with natural textures and patterns

Understand clay properties and firing basics

*Learning Outcome:*  
Develops craftsmanship and three-dimensional thinking

BOTANICAL ART  
WITH PRESSED FLOWERS

90-minute session

Press flowers and leaves for preservation

Create botanical greeting cards and bookmarks

Make framed nature art compositions

Label specimens with scientific information

*Learning Outcome:*  
Combines art with scientific documentation

NATURAL  
DYE PAINTING

90-minute session

Extract pigments from turmeric, beetroot, spinach, flowers

Learn about mordants for color fixing

Paint nature scenes on fabric or paper

Experiment with color intensity and mixing

*Learning Outcome:*  
Introduces chemistry and artistic expression

WEAVING  
& FIBRE ARTS

90-minute session

Learn basic weaving on cardboard looms

Create friendship bracelets with knots

Make dreamcatchers with natural materials

Explore traditional Sri Lankan weaving patterns

*Learning Outcome:*  
Develops patience, pattern recognition, and cultural awareness

Morning Session: 9:00 AM - 11:30 AM / Evening Session : 3:30 PM - 5:30 PM



## THE FOSSIL ROOM at Wild Coast Tented Lodge

### TIMETABLE OF COMPLIMENTARY ACTIVITIES

*Trailblazers | 10 - 14 Years*



#### MONDAY

##### **Morning: Advanced Animal Tracking & Plaster Casting**

- Distinguish substrate effects on track appearance
- Calculate stride patterns to estimate speed and gait
- Build track narrative: species, time, activity, direction
- Create plaster casts of quality tracks for lodge display

*Learning Outcome:*  
Masters advanced tracking and inference skills

##### **Afternoon: Maker Lab - Precision Measuring & Complex Projects**

- Work with millimeters and calculate dimensions
- Measure complex angles using protractors
- Complete precision challenge (<2mm error tolerance)
- Design and build custom measuring tools

*Learning Outcome:*  
Achieves precision in measurement and mathematics

#### TUESDAY

##### **Morning: Advanced Geological Analysis**

- Analyze grain size distributions with data collection
- Explain geological origins of Yala sand formations
- Compare samples from multiple locations
- Create data tables, graphs, and calculate percentages

*Learning Outcome:*  
Conducts comprehensive geological analysis

##### **Afternoon: Advanced Lashing & Structure Building**

- Execute multiple lashing types: square, diagonal, tripod
- Master essential knots: clove hitch, square knot, bowline
- Build complex load-bearing structures
- Teach younger children basic techniques

*Learning Outcome:*  
Masters advanced construction and engineering

#### WEDNESDAY

##### **Morning: Invertebrate Biodiversity Research**

- Classify invertebrates to order level using taxonomic keys
- Calculate biodiversity indices (richness, abundance, diversity)
- Design experiments testing habitat preferences
- Investigate roles in decomposition and food webs

*Learning Outcome:*  
Conducts independent scientific investigations

##### **Afternoon: Field Guide Creation**

- Produce publication-quality field documentation
- Integrate sketches, measurements, photos, written analysis
- Use proper scientific notation and species names
- Develop personal field guide entries for Yala species

*Learning Outcome:*  
Creates professional scientific documentation

#### THURSDAY

##### **Morning: Evolutionary Biology & Adaptation Analysis**

- Analyze trade-offs: camouflage vs speed, group vs solitary
- Conduct statistical analysis of detection experiments
- Explain evolutionary pressure driving adaptation
- Investigate how human activity disrupts predator-prey balance

*Learning Outcome:*  
Understands evolutionary biology and experimental design

##### **Afternoon: Coastal Geomorphology Study**

- Measure dune profiles along marked transects
- Analyze erosion rates using time-series data
- Propose evidence-based conservation measures
- Create detailed maps and cross-sections

*Learning Outcome:*  
Conducts longitudinal studies and proposes solutions

*Morning Session: 9:00 AM - 11:30 AM | Evening Session : 3:30 PM - 5:30 PM*



## THE FOSSIL ROOM at Wild Coast Tented Lodge

### TIMETABLE OF COMPLIMENTARY ACTIVITIES

*Trailblazers / 10 - 14 Years*



### FRIDAY

#### **Morning: Natural Materials**

##### **Construction Project**

- Design and build large functional structures (1m+)
- Use traditional building techniques with found materials
- Test structural integrity and discuss engineering principles
- Document construction process photographically

*Learning Outcome:*

*Demonstrates engineering mastery and traditional knowledge*

#### **Afternoon: Ornithological Survey**

- Conduct systematic bird surveys using point count methodology
- Analyze niche separation: how multiple species coexist
- Investigate flight adaptations: wing shape, tail function
- Assess habitat quality through bird diversity indices

*Learning Outcome:*

*Conducts professional ornithological research*

### SATURDAY

#### **Morning: Comprehensive Water Quality Assessment**

- Analyze complete datasets: pH, salinity, temperature, DO
- Connect water properties to ecosystem health indicators
- Create comparison charts and identify patterns
- Investigate pollutant sources and impacts

*Learning Outcome:*

*Conducts comprehensive environmental assessment*

#### **Afternoon: Herpetology & Conservation Biology**

- Investigate metabolic trade-offs of ectothermy
- Analyze habitat requirements and population viability
- Examine conservation status: threats and solutions
- Design public awareness campaigns

*Learning Outcome:*

*Applies conservation biology to real-world challenges*

### SUNDAY

#### **Morning: Advanced Food Web & Ecosystem Analysis**

- Analyze trophic levels and energy pyramids (10% rule)
- Map complex food webs with 15+ species
- Investigate keystone species and population dynamics
- Model predator-prey oscillations using data

*Learning Outcome:*

*Masters ecosystem ecology and systems thinking*

#### **Afternoon: Conservation Action & Community Engagement**

- Design evidence-based conservation campaigns
- Implement restoration: plant natives, build sand barriers
- Create educational presentations for visitors
- Propose systemic solutions to conservation challenges

*Learning Outcome:*

*Becomes active environmental steward and change agent*

*Morning Session: 9:00 AM - 11:30 AM / Evening Session : 3:30 PM - 5:30 PM*



## THE FOSSIL ROOM at Wild Coast Tented Lodge

### DAILY EXTRA SESSIONS

*Trailblazers / 10 - 14 Years*



#### ADVANCED POTTERY & SCULPTURE

##### 120-minute session

Master wheel throwing  
or advanced hand-building

Create complex sculptural pieces  
inspired by Yala wildlife

Experiment with glazing  
and surface treatments

Understand kiln firing  
and ceramic chemistry

*Learning Outcome:*  
Develops advanced craftsmanship  
and artistic vision

#### BOTANICAL ILLUSTRATION & SCIENTIFIC ART

##### 120-minute session

Create publication-quality  
botanical illustrations

Learn technical drawing  
with precise measurements

Document specimens  
with scientific accuracy

Explore career paths  
in scientific illustration

*Learning Outcome:*  
Develops professional-level  
scientific art skills

#### NATURAL PIGMENT CHEMISTRY & PAINTING

##### 120-minute session

Extract and process pigments  
from minerals and plants

Study color theory  
and pigment chemistry

Create detailed wildlife paintings  
with natural colors

Experiment with different  
binding agents (egg, gum arabic)

*Learning Outcome:*  
Combines art, chemistry, and  
environmental science

#### ADVANCED FIBRE ARTS & TRADITIONAL CRAFTS

##### 120-minute session

Master loom weaving  
with complex patterns

Learn traditional Sri Lankan  
textile techniques

Create wearable art: scarves,  
bags, wall hangings

Study cultural significance  
of textile traditions

*Learning Outcome:*  
Develops mastery and  
cultural understanding

*Morning Session: 9:00 AM - 11:30 AM / Evening Session : 3:30 PM - 5:30 PM*



## THE FOSSIL ROOM *at Wild Coast Tented Lodge* PROGRAM INFORMATION



### SESSION TIMING & DURATION

**Morning Session:** 9:00 AM - 11:30 AM (2.5 hours)

**Afternoon Session:** 3:30 PM - 5:30 PM (2 hours)

**Extra Sessions:** Available throughout the day (60-120 minutes each)

### SEASONAL ADAPTATIONS

**Dry Season (May-September):** Early morning starts (8:00 AM) to avoid peak heat. Excellent tracking conditions. Increased water breaks every 20-30 minutes. Emphasis on coastal water activities for cooling.

**Monsoon Season (October-April):** More indoor Maker Lab and craft sessions during rain. Focus on amphibian activity and erosion observation. Lightning protocol: immediate indoor retreat, 30-minute wait after last thunder.

### RANGER INTEGRATION

Rangers join daily closing circles to share safari highlights. Co-facilitated tracking walks and wildlife observations. Special 'Wildlife Detective' sessions and evening walks for Trailblazers. Rangers provide real-world context for all Field Lab activities.

### SAFETY PROTOCOL

- Safety glasses mandatory during all tool use
- Wildlife observation distances: Leopards/bears 50m+, elephants 100m+, snakes 2m+
- Hats and sunscreen (SPF 50+) mandatory for all outdoor activities
- Full-body tick checks at end of each session using buddy system
- Maximum 6-8 children per educator for safety supervision

### INFORMATION ON EXTRA SESSIONS

All extra sessions (pottery, painting, nature art, weaving) are available daily and can be scheduled between main sessions. These activities require advance booking to ensure materials are prepared. Small group sessions (2-6 children) ensure personalized instruction. All materials provided.

*Know the wild. Care for it. Build with your hands. Leave no trace.*