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Students don't want to mug up theories

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BENGALURU: With former President APJ Abdul Kalam's inspiring words still lingering in their minds, 200 students from 20 schools in the city on Tuesday were vocal about what they need to do to be socially responsible.

The children said they want to learn science from first-hand experiences, and not just mug up theories to score marks. The five-day Parikrma Festival of Science, which kicked off on the lush GKVK campus on Tuesday, provides such a platform for VIII and IX graders, where they are exploring new concepts of science. There were sessions on how to conserve water bodies and understand aquamarine life.

Vridula H, a class VIII student from National Pubic School, Yeshwanthpur, said: "We were taught that water can be chemically created. But that will not suffice. It's high time students became socially responsible and created awareness on water conservation. Platforms like this is an eye-opener for us."

The team will be taken to Jakkur lake, where they will test water samples and hold experiments to check pollution levels.

"It is interesting to know how even a micro-organism plays a vital role in maintaining water quality. We usually don't measure how much water we use and tend to waste it while washing vegetables or cooking. What we learnt here will have an impact on our life," said M S Yashaswini, class VIII student of Nagarjuna Vidhya Niketan School.