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Village kids get to see learning in a new light



HAVING A GOOD TIME:

Fadillah (centre) and Zuraidah (right) with the children from Kampung Gita Lama and Kampung Gita Baru during the YSS Tuition Mission Sarawak programme at Unimas yesterday.

KUCHING: Young children in Kampung Gita Lama and Kampung Gita Baru were the first batch of pupils in Malaysia given the opportunity to see learning in a new light under the Student Volunteers Foundation (YSS) Tuition Mission Sarawak.

Under the pilot project launched by the Ministry of Education in Sarawak last April, students from higher learning institutions conduct free Mathematics and English tuition classes in a fun and interactive manner in a two-hour session, four times a week.

The project also strengthens the volunteers' community spirit besides improving the level of education within a community.

"Once we have ascertained the effectiveness of this programme, the project will be launched nationwide," said Minister of Works, Datuk Fadillah Yusof during a follow-up of the project at Universiti Malaysia Sarawak (Unimas) yesterday.

Fadillah, who is also Petra Jaya MP said it is an honour for both villages under his constituency to be chosen for the programme by YSS Tuition Mission Sarawak.

He said the programme motivates young pupils to pursue studies at tertiary level with the student volunteers seen as role models.

Students who participated in the project are from Universiti Malaysia Sarawak, Universiti Teknologi Mara (UiTM) Samarahan, Politeknik Kuching, Batu Lintang Teacher's Training College, Tun Abdul Razak Teacher's Campus and Community College Kuching.

"It is important that proper guidance and education is given to the young generation as they will one day become future leaders and carry on the nation's success," he added.

Student Volunteers Foundation chairwoman Dato Zuraidah Atan said they would implement the project in different areas in Sarawak after gauging its effectiveness.

The volunteers are selected based on their commitment to the project.

"The important thing is their attitude to do things voluntarily without expecting any returns," she added.

Source: The Borneo Post