# Biosphere Secondary Students' Gopeng Adventure: A Journey in Nature

On January 9 and 10, 2025, Biosphere Secondary students went on an exciting educational trip to Gopeng, immersing themselves in nature while learning about sustainability and teamwork. The two-day adventure was packed with hands-on activities that aligned with their environmental studies, from tree planting to upcycling projects, camping, and hiking.

### A calming start at HOGA Tea Valley

The journey began at HOGA (Holistic Gaharu) Tea Valley, a scenic plantation known for its agarwood trees and sustainable farming practices. Students had the opportunity to plant agarwood trees, contributing to reforestation efforts while learning about the economic and environmental importance of this valuable plant. This activity reinforced their understanding of sustainable agriculture and long-term environmental conservation.

Following the tree planting session, the students participated in an upcycling activity, where they transformed recyclable materials into useful products. This hands-on workshop encouraged creativity and innovation, showing them the potential of repurposing waste into something valuable.













#### Moonlit camping at The Hideout

As the sun began to set, the students made their way to The Hideout Campsite, where they took on the challenge of building their own tents. Working in teams, they assembled their shelters, demonstrating teamwork and problem-solving skills.

The night was filled with laughter and camaraderie as they enjoyed a delicious barbecue feast. The meal, prepared with fresh ingredients, was a well-earned reward after a day of activities. Sitting around the campfire, sharing marshmallows, they shared stories and reflected on their experiences, deepening their connection with nature. A few students went on a night walk instead and saw many nocturnal animals and insects.



















### **Exploring the depths of Gua Tempurung**

The second day of the trip was dedicated to an adventurous hike at Gua Tempurung, one of Malaysia's largest limestone caves. Guided by experienced instructors, the students navigated through its impressive chambers, witnessing stunning rock formations and underground streams. The challenging trek which included swimming under stalactites in cold cave water tested their endurance, but the breathtaking scenery made every step worthwhile.

















#### A Memorable Experience

The Gopeng trip was more than just an excursion; it was an opportunity for students to engage with nature, develop essential survival skills, and gain a deeper appreciation for sustainability. From planting agarwood trees to upcycling, camping, and hiking, every activity reinforced the importance of environmental stewardship.

As they returned home with unforgettable memories (and an agarwood plant to take care of) the students carried with them not only new knowledge but also a renewed commitment to making a positive impact on the planet. This trip was a testament to the Biosphere Program's mission of fostering future leaders in sustainability and environmental conservation.



