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Children to present papers on biodiversity, housing

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young researchers: Since July, these students have been working on a project about understanding the native species of plants.

Eleven-year-old Harish now wants to experience what it is to live in caves as, he thinks, it could be adventurous. Along with his classmate Ananya, he is working on a project tracing the timeline of housing from the age of early man living in caves to the present digital age where people live in multi-storeyed apartments. The students at CASCADE Montessori Resource Centre have been doing this research work since July.

Like them, many other students are also involved in a project which aims to understand the therapeutic properties of plants and trees native to India. Children referred to various books and made a report about turmeric, fenugreek and mint and the type of climate and soil required for their growth. "They found it even more interesting as many of them were used in cooking," says their teacher Vidhya Shankar. Some of the other plants on which the children did a study included tulsi, alovera, gooseberry and neem. The projects of the children will be presented on November 14 in view of Children's Day. Bhanu Natarajan, an environmentalist based in Norway, will be interacting with the children through skype. Students of other schools can attend this presentation as well and parents are allowed to accompany them. For details, call Vidhya Shankar at 94446 06456. Venue: CASCADE Montessori Centre, No: 7/9, Sri Ram Nagar Main Road, Thiruvanniyur.