

PRESS RELEASE

Young scientists from public schools camp out for sustainable development

The Department of Education will hold a 4-day science camp for the students and teachers of the country's 57 Special Science Elementary Schools (SSES) to nurture the attendee's scientific minds and come up with science projects that promote sustainable development.

Set on February 14 to 18 at the Tagaytay International Convention Center in Tagaytay City, the activity will be participated in by Grades 5 and 6 pupils, teachers and regional science supervisors from pilot SSES implementers in the country. Camp facilitators and resource persons from reputable institutions will be invited to implement an inquiry-based technique that will allow participants to enjoy while learning.

According to Education Secretary Armin Luistro, the camp will expose the pupils and teachers to science-oriented activities that explore how science affects the environment and everyday life. "This activity is consistent with the ten-point agenda of President Benigno S. Aquino III which focuses on promoting mathematics and science culture and rebuilding science and mathematics proficiency among our youth," Luistro said.

The science camp -- one of the platforms to foster inventiveness and ingenuity among the SSES pupils and teachers -- offers a fun combination of outdoor games, workshop on climate change, investigative and research skills as well as robotics.

The science camp was designed both for the pupils and teachers. Organizers expect the pupil-participants to enhance their high-order thinking skills and scientific literacy through minds-on, hands-on and hearts-on activities. "Gusto natin na linangin sa mga bata ang utak-agham na tumutugon sa tunay na pangangailangan ng ating panahon," added Luistro.

For the teachers, the camp is expected to enhance their competency in applying scientific methods/approaches in stimulating curiosity, interest in inquiry and research among their pupils. "Dapat ay laging una ang ating mga guro sa kanilang estudyante upang mas marami silang maibahaging bagong kaalaman sa mundo ng matematika at agham," explained Luistro.

The activity also aims to create opportunities for pupils, teachers and regional science supervisors to explore how ICT- based resources and services can upgrade science teaching and learning processes.

DepEd's Bureau of Elementary Education is spearheading the science camp in coordination with experts from Microsoft Philippines, the British Council, the Department of Environment and Natural Resources, University of the Philippines –National Institute for Science and Mathematics Education, Philippine Science High School and Felta Multi Media Inc.

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