

Kasiisi Conservation Education Project

Introduction to KFSP/Kasiisi Project



Children in Kasiisi primary school

Kibale Forest Schools Program(KFSP) is a local registered Uganda Ngo. It's mission is to conserve Kibale National Park through education, conservation, and health. Now this program works with 16 government-aided primary schools within 5km of Kibale National Park boundary, reaching about 10,000 children. Kasiisi primary school is the mother school. In teams of conservation, knowledge is first disseminated through wildlife clubs at each school via engaging activities, and then shared with the wider student body and local community through peer-to-peer learning.

The KFSP CE team's 2025 theme was "to inspire the young generation to aspire for conservation careers and connect them with prominent Ugandan conservationists."

Community outreach

World Chimpanzee Day Preparatory Visits and Celebrations

We spent the first half of our project preparing for World Chimpanzee Day (WCD) on July 14, celebrating Dr. Jane Goodall's legacy. CE team used this day to teach students about chimpanzees and their challenges. Wildlife clubs performed skits, poems, songs, or dances, creating educational posters shared with the school community. In the two weeks leading up to WCD, we visited 16 KFSP schools to share educational materials and assess performances, before which we updated online presentations, created educational posters, and developed two games to teach about chimpanzee tool use and the danger of snares.



Chimpanzee conservation education



Wildlife club's performance

Career Day

Our role was to create posters about chimpanzee-related careers, as our guest speaker was chimpanzee and wildlife veterinarian, Dr. Peter Apell. Dr. Apell's challenge to students to start becoming conservationists from a young age, taking note of

the world around them, inspired us to add an animal observation activity to our new birds, bats, and butterflies curricula.



Career Day



Visiting school with UWA

Improved Cookstove(ICS) Demonstrations

During the duration of our LiA, we gave ICS demonstrations at two of the KFSP schools and the mobile clinic, presenting a slideshow that we updated followed by a step-by-step building of the ICS.

Mobile Clinic

On June 25, we attended a mobile clinic in Busiriba, Kamwenge District, where we delivered conservation-focused presentations to patients and passers-by. Some of us shared general conservation knowledge, while others assisted with patient check-in. Language barriers posed challenges, as many locals had limited English. In the afternoon, we conducted an ICS demonstration, helped the health team with data entry, and visited a local school with UWA to distribute notebooks. This experience highlighted the struggles of healthcare providers in developing nations like Uganda and the impact of the Kasiisi Project's health initiatives.

Educational Development

Curriculum Development

We enhanced educational curricula from previous Laidlaw Scholars by improving PowerPoint slides and adding linked activities, including games. We identified gaps and developed three new curricula on the conservation of birds, bats, and butterflies, incorporating multimedia resources. We created a species identification poster and logbook for schools, along with engaging activities. We also produced posters on conservation careers and chimpanzee tool use to inspire students and foster empathy for wildlife.

Videography and Promotion

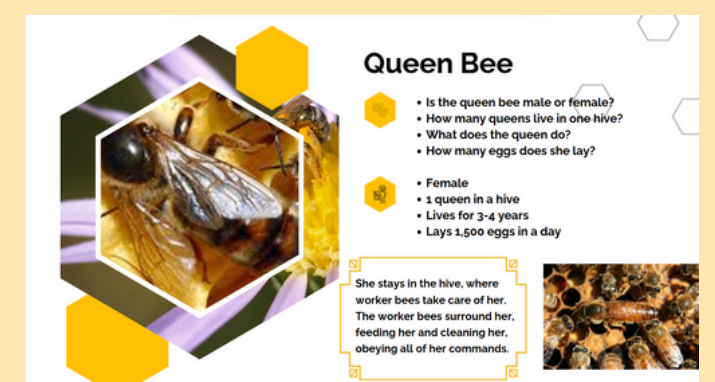
In preparation for World Chimpanzee Day, we recorded footage of our presentations and activities. In the week leading up to July 14, we began creating a promotional video to showcase KFSP's CE team and inspire future Laidlaw Scholars to apply for the centrally-offered LiA with the Kasiisi Project. We interviewed KFSP staff, including Directors Dr. Emily Oтали and Dr. Tusiime Patrick, along with four other conservation and health team members.

Trainings and Demonstrations

In our first weeks with KFSP, we attended training sessions led by the CE and health teams. We learned to sew reusable menstrual pads (RUMPs), construct tippy taps from jerricans and sticks to improve hygiene, and build food storage racks and beehives. These sessions provided us with practical and theoretical knowledge on hygiene and ecological issues in schools and communities.



WCD promotion video



Revised curriculum

