

Project Update: June 2013

The six junior ecology groups linked to the Foundation and led by Natutama educators play an important part in Puerto Nariño and surrounding communities: most groups have weekly meetings and outings, but the infants' group meets three afternoons a week. The aim is to encourage affection and care for the environment and culture through structured themes and activities. Ticuna Indian elders share stories, music and their knowledge about the natural world with the children. In the Tarapoto community, children have been learning about boas and anacondas which, though culturally significant, are often killed. The Friends of the Ceiba have been looking after the creek by their community and this has encouraged the local administration to take a more active interest in keeping the creek clean. One ecology group has worked on medicinal plants with parents, who are very supportive of the project, and another has concentrated on birdlife.



Left: Children's group cleaning creek. Right: Infants with Ticuna elder.