

Project Update: March 2010

The Chulumani Conservation Garden project is gearing up for its April activities with local schools. The garden will be opened for two weeks in April 2010 and this time around we are planning an Arts in the Garden programme with a series of stations where school children will be able to participate in different arts activities such as rubbings on wooden tablets with plants and animals etched on them, painting a mural on a wall at the entrance to the garden, making “potato print” butterflies, and other fun, creative projects. The theme this year will be butterflies, as we are trying to focus on the rich biodiversity of the Yungas and butterflies are the stars in this eco-region.

In other news, TARAPARI (as the conservation garden is now called) has signed up to be a WWOOFing farm site, which means that we have access to dozens of enthusiastic volunteers travelling through the Andes. For this April’s Arts in the Garden programme, we have three art teachers from other countries who have offered to come and help out—another way that Rufford’s support in consolidating TARAPARI has resulted in synergies that will benefit biodiversity conservation in the Yungas region.