

**NANYANG
TECHNOLOGICAL
UNIVERSITY**

SINGAPORE

**Mr Tay Tee Peng Distinguished Undergraduate Student Award
AY2025/2026**

Project Beyond Learners

Post-Event Report

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Project Background

Children and youth of lower income backgrounds face various challenges in achieving their fullest potential, and there hence exists a strong responsibility for others in the community to come together to support their dreams and aspirations.

Beyond Social Services (BSS) shares this vision of bringing neighbourhoods and communities together, practicing an asset-based community development approach to leverage on a community's strengths to care for its children, youth and families. Building on past volunteering experience as a youth mentor with BSS and prior work done with the Henderson rental flat community, the Distinguished Undergraduate Student Award grant was used to further grow children and youth engagement efforts alongside BSS.

Project Objectives

Hence, Project Beyond Learners aims to:

1. Support the children and youth in reaching their full academic potential
2. Encourage learning beyond the classroom, inspire curiosity
3. Create joyful memories for the children, youth and their families

Project Delivery

A total of 2 pre-school, 10 primary school and 9 secondary school students within the service boundary of BSS's Jalan Bukit Merah (JBM) region participated in the various components of this program, facilitated by their families and BSS community workers.

In total, the project comprised of 19 academic support sessions and 1 experiential activity session for secondary school students, as well as 2 field trips for primary school students and 1 field trip for secondary school students.

Key Milestones

1. Academic Support

Weekly academic support sessions were held on Tuesdays from 7-9 pm at the Kampong Tiong Bahru East Residents' Committee office space and supported by volunteers from Hwa Chong Institution. Individualised academic support helped the secondary school students in gaining confidence in not just performing better for their academic assessments but cultivating a love for learning.

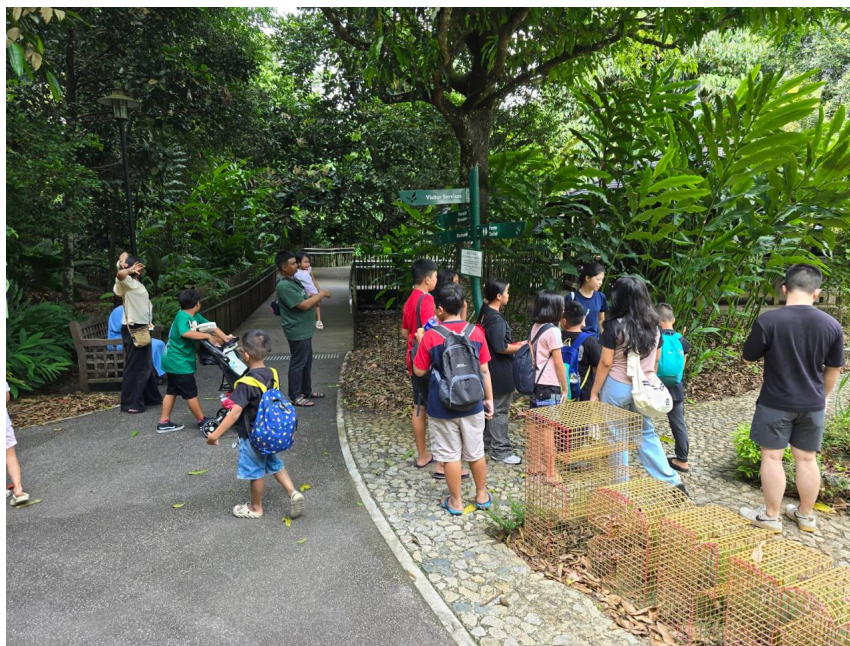
2. External Activities/Field Trips

Both primary and secondary school students participated in a bowling end-of-year activity at Kallang Bowl on 15 December 2025 and 26 October 2025 respectively, and served as a well-deserved break, as well as an opportunity to create joyful memories with other members of the academic support program.

The primary school students and their families also went on a guided tour of Jacob Ballas Children's Garden on 8 November 2025. Amongst the wide range of flora and fauna, the children and their family members observed common vegetables and herbs in the edible garden, raw cocoa pods, aerial roots, and other interesting plant species.



Bonding and having fun over bowling



Exploring Jacob Ballas Children's Garden

3. Experiential Activities

Science related hands-on activities were organized in collaboration with volunteers from Hwa Chong Institution, on 25 November 2025, as a post-exam enrichment activity

for youth in the secondary school academic support program. Through engaging in the activities, the youth managed to apply scientific concepts such as density and states of matter to concrete case studies.



Making baking soda and vinegar ‘volcanoes’



Completed homemade lava lamps

Assessment of Project

The multi-faceted and sustained nature of the project allowed for the forging of strong connections with the children, youth and their families. This was an extremely rewarding experience and allowed for a greater and more sustainable impact on the community. In particular, the field trips and enrichment activities were especially well-received and had commendable turnout, owing to the concerted effort to engage families, seek feedback and co-create these activities to better cater to their needs and align with their interests. This was hence an important reminder that similar projects now and in the future should prioritise co-creation and consultation with the members of community.

However, it should be noted that while not a one-off event, this program is not a long-term movement either. The project acknowledges that further efforts are needed, such as in terms of volunteer training, program insights sharing, as well as raising the awareness of the importance of a whole-society effort to ensure each child, youth and family is given a fair chance to flourish in Singapore. I hope to continue engaging this community I was honoured to be a part of and hope to advocate for them in other capacities in the future.

Acknowledgements

I sincerely thank the sponsors of the Mr Tay Tee Peng Distinguished Undergraduate Student Award for the opportunity to embark on this project. It was an inspiring and eye-opening experience to witness the curiosity, resilience and joy showed by the children, youth and families I had the privilege to meet, and has re-affirmed my desire to continue walking alongside them.

I would also like to thank Wilson, community worker at Beyond Social Services, for his experience, patience and unwavering support in allowing me to better understand the Jalan Bukit Merah community. This project would not have come to fruition without his consistent support, and I thank him and the other community workers for their dedication and respect for the community. I would also like to express my appreciation for the team of volunteers from Hwa Chong Institution, whom I have learnt much from.

Lastly, I would like to thank Professor Chew Lock Yue and Mr Nicholas Ang for their guidance and support at various stages of the project.