Science, maths made interesting at Urban Mela

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Pune: For nearly 160 school children, who participated in ‘Toys From Trash’ workshop on Saturday, learning science and mathematics became easy as making toys. Students not only experienced the creative aspects of these subjects in the workshop, but also enjoyed making objects from the simple things we discard everyday.

‘Toys From Trash’ workshop was held as part of the ongoing Indo-German Urban Mela at Deccan College grounds, on Saturday.

Children in the workshop learnt that science and mathematics are not restricted to the theory they read in textbooks, but can be seen in our daily lives and learnt in fascinating ways, as well.

Vidula Mhaikar, who works with toy inventor Arvind Gupta transformed everyday waste items such as newspapers, drinking straws, pencils and brooms into toys, through the application of simple scientific principles like pressure, velocity and gravity.

Students enjoyed different sounds produced by the dust made of drinking straws as Mhaikar went on cutting the straw making it shorter increasing the pitch of the sound.

According to Mhaikar, "reduce, reuse and recycle for Greener Technology" is the motto of the workshop. "Science should not be restricted to books, but students should be able to understand science in the surrounding," she said.

In the two-hour workshop, students were taught how to make a hand pump, bottle stand, DC motor, Benoulli bag, Sudarshan Chakra, balancing nails and many more toys which helped them in understanding theories of wavelength, working of aircraft, relationship between pressure and velocity, centrifugal force, Newton's laws of motion etc.

Besides science, students also indulged in making 'touching spheres' that will help visually-impaired people in society. The slate is made of simple things like velvet, wool and winding pen and can be of great help to visually-challenged students. Children also overcame their fear of geometry as Mhaikar through a story that taught them to make paper caps of various shapes. To know more about toys from trash visit www.arvindgupta.com.

Drums and dance mark art fest

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Pune: Besides the natural sounds of birds and wind, visitors also enjoyed the rhythm of drums and beats of dance during the cultural bonanza organised at Taljai hill as part of the Mela: Pune Birmanale 2013, on Saturday.

A group of drummers were following the beats of professional percussionist Agneya Chikte, while the dancers were busy trying to match up to the beats. Getting in tune with the rhythms, artist Girish Charwad and two of his students moved the painting brush all around the canvas enthusiastically to pick up the beats.

Speaking to Sakal Times, Agneya Chikte said that there is a strong connection between drums and dance.

Min temp to remain 9-10°C Celsius

Pune: The much talked about 'ethics' of medical profession, whether it be female foeticide or cases of medical negligence, were thoroughly discussed once again at the day-long conference on Ethical Dilemmas in Health Services, on Saturday.

To discuss varied aspects of moral obligations and ethical practices of healthcare professionals, Bharti Vidyapeeth Centre for Health Management and Reform, Pune, held the seminar on Saturday.

‘Awareness on heath laws a must’

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Pune: Punctuality has been the major concern of all cities, but the city of Pune is trying to achieve this by making the public aware of the importance of time.

The seminar was organized by the Centre for Health Management and Reform, Bharti Vidyapeeth, Pune, and was attended by doctors, nurses and medical students.

Kinar highlighted the hidden facts behind female foeticide. He expressed the need of mass awareness and education to avoid this social evil.

"The demand side is much larger than the service providers in case of pre-natal sex detection. While the radiologists must firmly refuse to conduct ultrasound sonography for sex detection of a foetus, society should drop the 'male chauvinist' mentality that continues even today," he said.

He also praised the