



*An Endearing Home  
A Distinctive Global City*

## Ministry of National Development

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Dear students,

22 May marks the International Day for Biological Diversity. It reminds us to do our part to be active stewards of the environment and help conserve the plants and animals living in it.

While we stay at home during this circuit breaker period, I encourage you to continue to enjoy nature. There are many online resources that allow us to appreciate Singapore's greenery and biodiversity. Take a virtual tour of some of our green spaces, such as Bukit Timah Nature Reserve and MacRitchie Tree Top Walk; learn more about our critically endangered Raffles' Banded Langur; or build your own terrarium. These are some examples of the resources available at the National Parks Board's (NParks) website at [nparks.gov.sg/learning](http://nparks.gov.sg/learning), and its Facebook page at [facebook.com/nparksbuzz](https://facebook.com/nparksbuzz).

We are transforming Singapore from a City in a Garden to a City in Nature. We can expect more natural landscape with more nature parks, intensified greening of streetscapes, as well as increased skysrise greenery and naturalised waterbodies in green spaces. Nature parks buffer our nature reserves and provide more habitats for native biodiversity. Meanwhile, reservoirs, which harvest our urban stormwater for public consumption, will help to protect homes and properties from flooding. In addition, over 70 more native plant and animal species will be conserved over the next 10 years. Together, these measures will allow Singapore to become more resilient to the effects of urbanisation and climate change.

Life after the circuit breaker period will not go back to normal immediately. We will continue to take precautions to protect ourselves and our community from the threat of the virus. However, we can take small steps to ensure our plants and animals continue to thrive – be it through participating in local biodiversity research, maintaining our greenery, or caring for animals. NParks will be in touch to share more plans on how each of you can take part.

For now, during this challenging period, we should emulate our native rainforest trees. They grow tall and remain standing throughout many generations, and reflect the resolve of Singaporeans to overcome this crisis together. We will emerge stronger from this. Let us continue working together to realise our dream of a City in Nature, and to keep Singapore a green and sustainable city for future generations.

Yours sincerely,

Desmond Lee  
Minister for Social and Family Development and  
Second Minister for National Development