



Graduates helping a group of pupils in learning mathematics at the event.

UMS team helps rural kids on science, maths

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KUDAT: People in rural areas will continue to be on the agenda of Sabah's premier higher institute of education, Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS), so as to enhance awareness on the importance of education.

Recently, 28 education undergraduates and 15 volunteers led by UMS Rural Education Research Unit chief, Dr Khalid Johari, camped at SK Padang, Banggi, for four days from Apr 10 and carried out various activities:

Some 130 pupils from nine primary schools including youths from five villages took part in the programme.

The UMS group focused on science, mathematics and English subjects.

There were also academic talks and also assimilation programmes with the villagers.

The pupils and youths had a great learning experience although challenging.

It was UMS' second similar programme in Banggi after the "Sabur Retreat" programme last January.

Dr Khalid said the community-based programme, themed "Scaling up Education in Community" contributed a lot to the development of education for the people in the locality.

"It also gave a lot of exposure to the undergraduates in providing good services to the people," he said.

He said that the main objective of the programme was to expand the interest of the participants, especially pupils, in studying subjects namely mathematics, science and English.

"The programme exposed the pupils to techniques and new dimensions to study the subjects concerned.

"This will change their perspective in understanding the content of the subjects delivered by the teachers," he said.

Dr Khalid said there was good interaction between the participants and the group with the sharing of experiences and skills.

"We also give opportunity to the undergraduates to understand the pupils lives so they would be motivated to improve their teaching skills," he said.

On other developments, Kudat Education Officer, Azad Attar, urged parents here to constantly provide support as well as to monitor their children's study at home.

He said the teachers should not be left alone to shoulder the responsibility to improve the pupils' education.