

AnimEX 6.0 highlights farm, pet animal care education

BINTULU: The Animal Exhibition (AnimEX 6.0) programme has met its objective of bringing fauna closer to the local community.

Recently held in conjunction with the 48th Universiti Putra Malaysia (UPM) Convocation Session 1 at the campus here, this year's programme emphasised the important theme of bridging the gap between humans and animals in everyday life.

AnimEX 6.0 was facilitated by Mohammad Saufi Mohammad Ramli and Roslan Ismail, who said the programme was based on the protection and preservation of animals through the concept of 'Farm and Pet Care Education'.

"AnimEX aims to raise public awareness, at various age levels, of the importance of protecting and loving animals and hopefully, it would reduce the number of cases of cruelty and mistreatment against animals,"

he said in a statement.

Among the activities held were a 'Human and Animal Talk' session by Muhammad Abdul Rahim Habib, an 'AnimEX Vaccination Programme' conducted by Dr Siti Nurhani Arib, animal 'face-painting', and also a host of educational fun games.

The highlight, however, was the 'AnimEX Explorace' – a storytelling and colouring contest, which received very enthusiastic participation, especially from children aged six to 12 years old.

"These activities not only encourage learning, but also strengthen family bonds and enhance the knowledge among the visitors," said Mohammad Saufi.

Meanwhile, Roslan said the livestock exhibition provided an opportunity for visitors,



The children showcase their creativity during one of the educational games held at AnimEX 6.0 in UPM Bintulu Campus.



A couple of young visitors pose with the AnimEX 6.0 mascots. — Photos courtesy of UPM Bintulu Campus

especially children and teenagers, to interact directly with the animals.

"This exposure is of great benefit as these youngsters not only learn the theory about animals, but also get to see and touch the animals directly, an educational experience based on

the 'hands-on' approach."

Roslan added that the programme also provided students with the opportunity to enhance their interpersonal skills, such as a sense of responsibility and empathy, as caring for animals would require continuous care and attention.