

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Punta Gorda  
Toledo, Belize



### **Ya'axché's Summer Camp engaged 50 MGL youths in hands-on conservation education!**

Ya'axché's Summer Camp is an event that focuses on engaging the Maya Golden Landscape youths to spread awareness on the importance of sustainable actions for a healthy environment. On July 25-30, 2022, Ya'axché hosted its annual Summer Camp under the theme "*Empowering communities, Conserving biodiversity, Connecting the world*". A total of fifty (50) MGL youths ages 12-20 years from five (5) communities were engaged.

Ya'axché's Summer Camp was broken down into two sessions. In the first session, twenty-five (25) youths from Indian Creek and San Jose communities learnt about green laws, wildlife monitoring, ridge to reef, and navigation activities. Campers learnt about climate-smart farming practices such as, agroforestry, inga alley cropping, beekeeping and value-added products by visiting model farms and entrepreneurs within the MGL.

In the second session, twenty-five (25) youths from Medina Bank, Golden Stream and Silver Creek learnt about the importance of native bees. Campers engaged in fun games and creative arts with the assistance of the Creative Action Institute (CAI) to highlight the importance of bees for humans and nature. Ya'axché's Science team engaged the campers in the inventory of native bees of the MGL. Campers learnt about the different species of bees and observed bees' anatomy under a microscope.

After a full week of conservation education activities, Ya'axché's Campers presented their creative work to the MGL beekeepers and had a full hands-on experience learning about the organization's work and efforts in sustainable development within the MGL.

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***"Harmony between nature and human development for the benefit of both"***

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