

## Towards Innovation and Sustainability: The IISER Biomimetic Model Making Competition

Pune, Maharashtra | 16<sup>th</sup> July, 2023



On 16<sup>th</sup> July 2023, the Indian Institute of Science Education and Research (IISER) Pune's 2023 iGEM Team organised a Biomimetics Model Making Competition to encourage students to explore the concept of biomimetics and draw inspiration from nature's solutions to address real-world challenges. The event was held in the LHC Foyer at the Indian Institute of Science Education Research (IISER), Pune.

Biomimetics is the practice of imitating or taking inspiration from natural designs, processes, and systems to create innovative and sustainable solutions. In this competition, students had the freedom to explore biomimetic concepts and design solutions related to any field of interest.



The theme for the competition was "Model Making Representing Technology Inspired by Nature". 37 Students from S.B. Patil School from Grade IX to XII participated in this competition in form of teams and exhibited their talent and hardwork by their model presentation on Biomimetic under the guidance of Science teachers Ms. Darshana Kamat, Secondary Section Coordinator; and Ms. Varsha Deshmukh, primary science teacher on the topics like *Solar Tree*, *Evapotranspiration Toilets*, *Termite Building + Rainwater Harvesting*, *Water Filtration and Purification by Oysters*, etc.



The team comprising of Aryan Durgude, Tanvi Naryan and Abeer Singh Nezar got an appreciation certificate for their idea on "Water Filtration and Purification by Oysters". In recognition of the remarkable talent and effort put forth by the participants, all participants received a participation certificates.



We thank our principal, Dr. Bindu Saini; vice principal, Ms. Padmavati Banda; science teachers, Ms. Darshana Kamat and Ms. Varsha Deshmukh for organising the event and being such great mentors to our students.

**AN UPDATE:** On 18<sup>th</sup> July, 2023, principal, Dr. Saini interacted with all the participating students. Students spoke about what they did in the event whilst Dr. Saini asked questions and spoke on how research is a critical part of such activities, and how problem-solving and design-thinking it is linked to emotional intelligence. The essence was to make students into responsible and empathetic citizens who can make India shine on the globe.