



NEWS

## 'Zoo' brought to homes, cheers up children under MCO

Bernama

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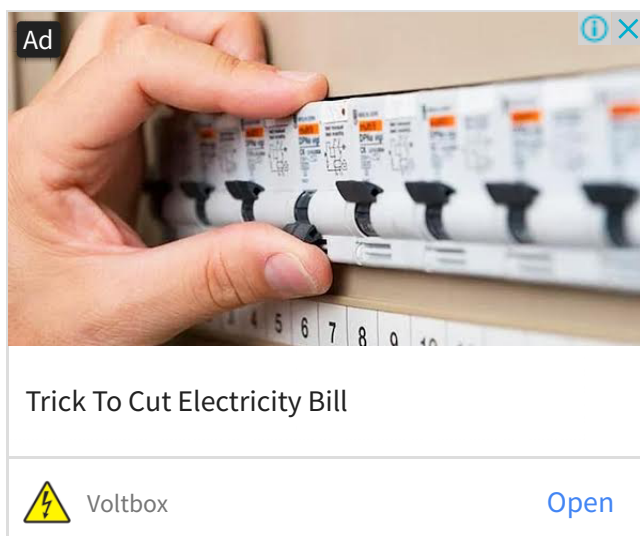
After being confined for too long at home due to the movement control order (MCO), which was first imposed in March last year, children must now

be bored and raring to go out with their families to visit places like zoos and parks.

Realising the constraints on visitors, Aquaria KLCC has come up with an initiative to bring the ocean to homes via a live YouTube programme that costs only RM5 to view.

Before this, Aquaria KLCC's ocean habitat could only be seen when visiting the centre.

According to Aquaria KLCC, participants will be taken on an hour-long tour of the 6,000 square metres facility, including a 90-metre underwater tunnel, to view a wide variety of marine species including the brown-banded bamboo shark, wobbegong shark dan red-bellied piranha, and will also have the opportunity to learn interactively via the "Living Classroom" concept and science demonstrations.



“The programme has the backing of the Education Ministry. Since it was relaunched last week, Aquaria KLCC has received bookings from more than 50 schools and almost 2,000 slots for the public sessions,” Aquaria KLCC said in a statement to *Bernama*.

### **Education platform**

Virtual tours are also being conducted by the Turtle Conservation Society of Malaysia based at Kemaman, Terengganu to pay for the operational costs of looking after the turtles at the centre, including 400 hatchlings.

Co-founder of the Turtle Conservation Society, Chen Pelf Nyok, said virtual tours had to be conducted since visits by groups from schools and tourists

were not allowed in order to prevent the spread of Covid-19.

“Even if it is just a virtual tour, it can still create awe and interest among the participants, especially children. It’s also an educational platform to create awareness on the importance of preserving endangered species in any situation,” she said.

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For just RM20, participants will be taken on an hour-long virtual tour of the centre and given information about it and the animals there.

The Malacca Butterfly and Reptile Sanctuary, Taiping Zoo and Night Safari in Perak, and Malacca Crocodile and Recreational Park are also conducting similar tours.

Mohd Saiful Mohd Azan, 34, from Telok Panglima Garang, Selangor praised the move taken by the management of the zoo and turtle conservation centre, describing the tours as an excellent way for children to fill their leisure hours at home.

"As we spend most of our time at home now, virtual tours like these are ideal activities for the whole family and the cost is also reasonable," said the father of two.

- *Bernama*

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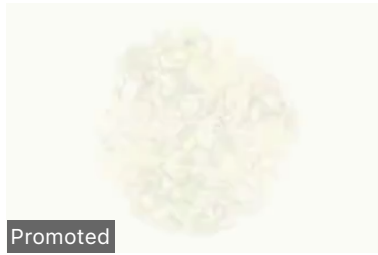


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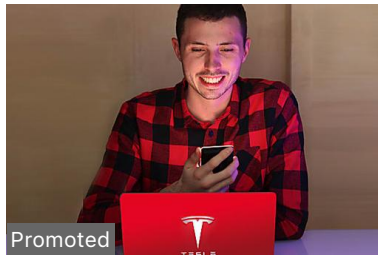
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