

Ocean of news here

Follow us: [f](#) [t](#) [s](#)

Victoria 27°C

Go to mobile version: [m](#)

Subscribe for free: Newsletter | News alert

[BUSINESS](#) [NATIONAL](#) [WORLD](#) [ENVIRONMENT](#) [ENTERTAINMENT](#) [EN FRANÇAIS](#) [EDITORIAL](#) [BEST IN SEYCHELLES](#)
[Research](#) [Species](#) [Climate](#) [Conservation](#) [General](#)

A trip to remember: Students recount adventures on Seychelles' Aldabra Atoll

Victoria, Seychelles | March 28, 2017, Tuesday @ 11:19 in Environment » GENERAL | By: Sharon Ernesta and Betymie Bonnelame | Views: 2026



The group of students and their teachers returned with many stories to tell from their trip. (Seychelles Island Foundation)

Photo license

(Seychelles News Agency) - Still filled with excitement and with lots of stories to tell, a group of students has returned from a five-day trip to the Aldabra Atoll.

Eleven students and their teachers went on the trip, which serves as a prize for winning the eco-school competition. The students come from Anse Etoile, Baie Lazare, Anse Royale, Beau Vallon, English River and Plaisance schools.

SNA spoke to four students who got to live a dream shared by many Seychellois.

Nathalia Lawen from Anse Boileau Secondary School turned Sweet 16 last week, and memories of her birthday on the world-famous atoll is one she will carry with her forever.

Like 100

Google +

Send to Kindle

YOUR AD HERE
WILL REACH **ALL** YOUR
CLIENTS IN SEYCHELLES
AND ALL OVER THE WORLD!

**CLICK TO ORDER
NOW!**

Editorial [The interview](#) →



Seychellois-born actor to bring training for aspiring actors, film directors to island nation

Top news



Seychelles' court gives officials 2 weeks to compile evidence in sex assault case



The sun will make ice: Fishing community in Seychelles upgrading to solar



Climate change, not poaching, the bigger threat to hawksbill turtles in Seychelles

[Tags](#) →

[Archives](#)

Date:

[Click to choose a date](#)



Nathalia Lawen cutting her birthday cake on the world-famous atoll, Aldabra. (Terry Mousbe) Photo License: [CC-BY](#)

"It was one of my best birthdays, with SIF (**Seychelles Islands Foundation**) staff making me feel at home, a special dinner complete with a cake."

Lawen commended and congratulated the staff of the SIF for the work they are doing to conserve the world heritage site for the future generation and for the world. Lawen, who aspires for a career in environment, says that working on the atoll will be a dream come true.

"I have already promised the staff on Aldabra that once I turn 18, I will be volunteering on the atoll."

Lawen told SNA that not all her memories of Aldabra are happy ones, recounting how after helping turtle hatchlings found their way into the sea, she was horrified to see these them being eaten by sharks.



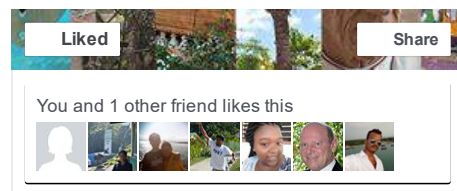
tourism · police ·
politics · UN ·
UNESCO · [All tags](#)

[» Advanced search](#)



Seychelles News Agen...

7,299 likes





(Top photo) 8-year old Cheyenne Noddyn-Bristol from Anse Royale primary. (Above) The students were happy to see the little turtles. (Terry Mousbe) Photo License: [CC-BY](#)

Another sad thing she witnessed was the land tortoises who had fallen in the deep holes found in the corals, with no water and if they are not found and rescued on time, they die.

Vanerick Esparon from Baie Lazare Primary School was happy to tell his experience on how on their way to the atoll they were met by a group of dolphins, normally a scene from movies and documentaries.

"Seeing them so close was something really amazing. I was also very happy to see turtles laying their eggs and the hatching of little turtles," said Esparon.

The youngest member of the group at 8 years old, Cheyenne Noddyn-Bristol from Anse Royale primary, participated fully and actively in the three days spent on Aldabra. Age for her was not a barrier.

"On Picard (situated west of the atoll), we visited the old settlement and I was amazed with the ruins especially that of the old church and the houses. I also took part in the mud turtle tracks monitoring," Noddyn-Bristol told SNA.

For Jean-Yves Mancienne, the highlight was the night expedition where the group got the chance to monitor coconut crabs, locally known as sipay.



The group got the chance to monitor coconut crabs, locally known as sipay. (Terry Mousbe) Photo License: [CC-BY](#)

"These crabs were huge! I have never seen them that big, and believe me holding them was a challenge."

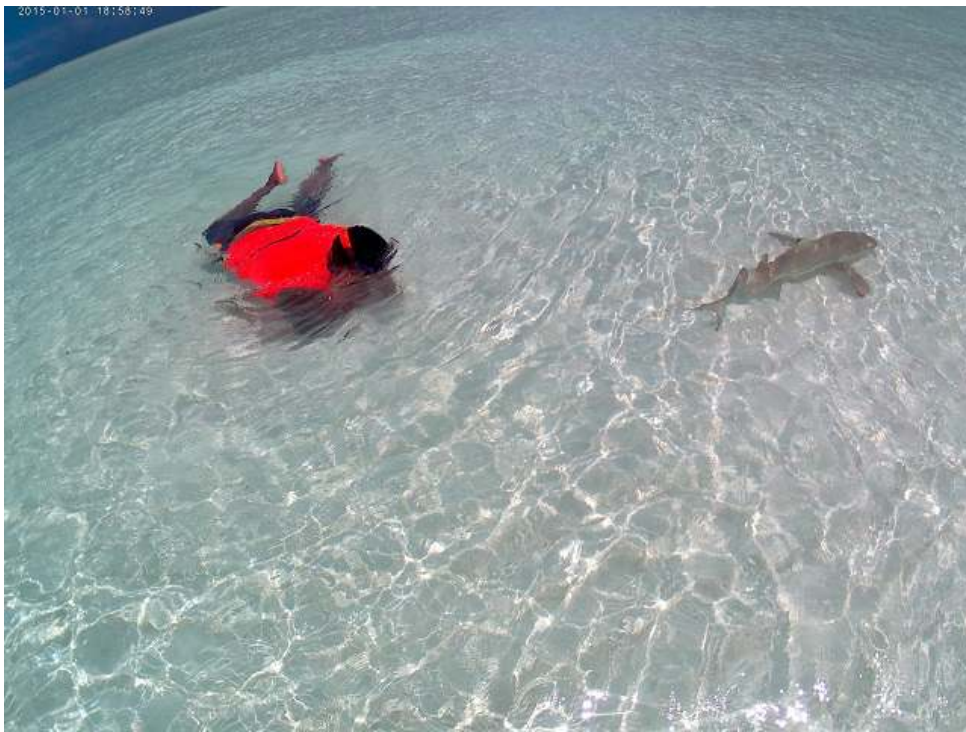
Mancienne said he also enjoyed the different educational activities where they had to draw and write about the different educational things they saw.

Another fascinating discovery for the group was the Bassin Morel, a basin which once the inside is full of water, the outside is dry and vice-versa.

All of the students agreed that snorkelling and interacting with the juvenile sharks at La Gigi were the activities they enjoyed the most, not to mention the trip to Point Tanguin, where the focus was on seabirds, especially the frigate birds. Aldabra, a **UNESCO world heritage site**, has the second-largest breeding colony of **frigate birds** in the world.

SNA presents a collection of photos of the children's adventure on Aldabra Atoll (Terry Mousbe) Photo License: [CC-BY](#)













[General](#)[» Be a reporter: Write and send your article](#)[» Subscribe for news alert](#)

Tags: Seychelles Islands Foundation, UNESCO World Heritage Site, frigate birds

**Seychelles News Agency****Liked** 7.2K likes**0 Comments**Sort by **Oldest**

Add a comment...

Facebook Comments Plugin

[More from General →](#)[Related Articles](#)

Seychelles to share knowledge on ocean through new learning centre

Environment » General | May 7, 2017, Sunday @10:15

Wastewater upgrade project to lead to healthier environment in Seychelles

Environment » General | May 2, 2017, Tuesday @15:12

Report: Sorting trash could help reduce Seychelles' waste management problem

Environment » General | March 31, 2017, Friday @10:18

Winning students begin exploration of Seychelles' wild and natural Aldabra Atoll

Environment » General | March 20, 2017, Monday @15:40

Seychelles on look-out for land degradation threats

Environment » General | March 10, 2017, Friday @15:41

Plastic ban in Seychelles requires new creativity in the home

Environment » General | March 10, 2017, Friday @12:12

Eat less parrotfish, save Seychelles' coral reefs? Marine survey indicates a link

Environment » Conservation |

Popular island safari: Night-time expedition shows Seychelles' endemic palm forest

National » General |

Winning students begin exploration of Seychelles' wild and natural Aldabra Atoll

Environment » General |

[Mobile website](#)

[Photo Licenses](#)

[About Seychelles News Agency](#)

[Advertise](#)

[Contact us](#)

[Copyright & Disclaimer](#)

[Privacy policy](#)



All Rights Reserved © Seychelles News Agency, 2017.

Web design and maintenance by M3 Communications Group, Inc.