



Green Generation



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MAIN ARTICLE:
ECOTOURISM

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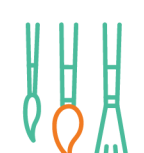
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A LETTER FROM THE BSOE TEAM



Future Green Ambassadors,

We hope you are happy and settled back to school life. The experience of being around teachers and peers exchanging knowledge and memories is one that cannot be matched.

This issue we touch on the important topic of Ecotourism that is relevant to the UAE, especially since its currently hosting the EXPO 2020. To put it in simple terms; eco-tourism is about traveling responsibly and packing your green practices wherever you go.

As you read on, you will get to know in depth the concept of ecotourism, its goals and benefits, and the awareness around it. And like we have accustomed you, you will enjoy some quizzes, puzzles, and immerse yourself in a DIY activity, in addition to hearing from other students and teachers.

Remember to keep your eyes on the green side of things.

Kind Regards,
Your BSOE Team

WORDS FROM OUR CHAMPIONS



TEACHER

“All my life through, the new sights of Nature made me rejoice like a child.”
is very well said by Marie Curie.

Choosing a vacation spot for a very memorable event can be confusing and requires a very clear wants and needs. The UAE has a rich natural environment offering a unique mix of diverse topography. The UAE is largely an arid land with vast sand deserts but is also characterized by sand dunes, oases, mountains, valleys, beaches, mangroves and salt plains. Every characteristic provides home to varied flora and fauna. This diversity attracts visitors to the UAE.

To meet this rising demand in a sustainable manner, the UAE is focusing on renewable energy sources, which will minimize the environmental impacts that may arise from traditional sources of energy.

In addition, the UAE is looking to increase its target for power generation from clean energy to 30 per cent by 2030. It also aims to produce 25 to 30 per cent of its electricity requirement from both nuclear and solar energy.

The UAE has limited natural water resources. It uses thermal desalination as the dominant technology to make seawater potable. The desalinated water then flows into the pipes for water consumption in our homes.

The UAE are laying the foundation for a sustainable legacy for future generations, emphasizing human development and technological advancements, while respecting our planet's ecological and natural resources. 50% of landscape plants during Expo 2020, and 95% after the event, come from native and adaptive species.

Terra: The Sustainability Pavilion, opened to the public in 2021 as one of the top three attractions of the Expo 2020 Dubai, and aims to illuminate the ingenuity and possibility of architecture as society looks to intelligent strategies for future sustainable living. The findings have shown that there is a positive impact on the growth of the economy in The UAE. The economy has benefited from adopting tourism by providing more employment opportunities, higher living standards, and noticeable economic empowerment.

Sapna Sharma
India International school, Sharjah.

WORDS FROM OUR CHAMPIONS



TEACHER

Travelling through the responsible nation

By being the #1 destination to experience the tolerant spirit and Islamic culture of the Arab World, UAE never fails to attract tourists all year round. Every day it presents a brand new positive vibe for its people. The government always gives priority and ensures responsible tourism by giving us everyday examples by achieving and displaying the perfect balance between development and sustainability.

UAE officially and ethically make sure of the green economy as the heart of its national development, by featuring solar panels, bio domes, recycling projects and many more. There are around forty three protected areas in the UAE and many of these are open to the public. All of these eco-spots provide visitors with unique experiences and, perhaps more importantly, the opportunity to surround yourself with the natural world.

By taking a step further into the nation's sustainability spirit we will realize that there are numerous rehabilitation projects carried out as a part of protecting its endangered flora and fauna and behind each of them a dedicated team of nature lovers. Rather than saying tourism is the driving force behind the eco-tourism, here we can say the other way round, that the passion for nature is what The Emirates opt and work for.

Going with the words of renowned natural historian Sir David Attenborough that, "no one will protect what they don't care about" declares that UAE is a nation that has true feelings for its living planet. It's time to go outdoors, relaxing and rejuvenating our souls by connecting with the living planet. And let us never feel guilty of our carbon footprint percentage left behind by being the responsible traveller.

Nadiya Zainal
India International School





Al Noor Island

As part of its development vision, Sharjah has sought to create unique destinations that engage people with nature and highlight artistic and cultural values. One of those projects is Al Noor Island being developed in the city.

Near Buhaira Corniche, Al Noor Island can be reached via the winding pedestrian bridge across Khalid Lagoon, beside the famous Al Noor Mosque, an architectural landmark of Ottoman architecture characterized by multiple domes.

For Al Noor Island, the question should be, what does not make Al Noor Island a picture-perfect destination? Well, every inch of this naturally wonderful Island is picture-perfect. The scenery looks as if it's specially made for photographers to capture some exquisite photographs. Nonetheless, in this article, we are going to tell you about the charming and sightful places of Al Noor Island. So, let's see what makes this Island different and unique from other Islands or Island-like destinations.

As one approaches the thick green canopy of trees, the golden structure of the main building on the idyllic island, which features the Butterfly House, looms large. Long before one reaches the island, visitors hear hundreds of birds chirping, a sign that a special tryst with Mother Nature awaits. Apart from its natural charm, it also has some magnificent artifacts installed all around the Island by the masters of arts.

AROUND THE GLOBE



To reach Al Noor Island, you will have to take either a bridge or the sea below the bridge. People often prefer the boats as they are less time-consuming and convenient as compared to the heavy traffic on the bridge.

So, if you chose the journey of the sea, then your endeavor into the mystical world begins right there! Once you reach the Island and step your foot in the land, you will feel as if you have been transcendent in a fairy world.

Moreover, it has trees that are older than 500 years, and you will find some species of plants that you won't find anywhere else. It is also a home for numerous butterflies that belong to more than 200 different species.

It is a hub for 500-700 butterflies that have more than 200 distinct species. Seeing all the butterflies together in the Butterfly House could be amusing for you, and be assured that you have never witnessed such a sight before.

As the Island is surrounded by sea, it looks more astonishing at night. This is because the sea reflects the beaming artificial light which is installed on the Island so that it is never too dark. Now, imagine this combination with thousands of trees and plants along with butterflies flying over them. The sight is undoubtedly astounding. Thus, it doesn't matter that it's dawn time or dusk time.

Both the time of the day and night look equally incredible.

There is more to the beauty of the great Al Noor Island than just praising words. Also, this article was just a glimpse into the world of butterflies and the exhilarating landscape. To get an idea, you need to visit this place by yourself and rest assured that it will be worth your while.

GREEN CHALLENGE



1. You prefer:

- ☐ A Domestic travel
- ☐ B International travel

2. Would you rather spend a vacation in?

- ☐ A Nature
- ☐ B Big city

3. Which activity do you prefer?

- ☐ A Outdoor activities
- ☐ B Indoor activities

4. Where do you prefer to buy your stuff?

- ☐ A Local markets
- ☐ B Malls and big stores

5. Which form of transportation do you use when you travel?

- ☐ A Public transportation
- ☐ B Hiring / rent a car

6. If you will stay in a place surrounded by natural habitat, will you:

- ☐ A Camping
- ☐ B Hotel and resorts

Most your answer are A's

So Green

You are a green traveler, you love domestic travel, somewhere close but different scenery, trees, the ocean, stars, and the sound of nature. Unplugged peace.

Equal (3 A's and 3 B's)

Between both

To be green is not limited to camping and hiking. You can enjoy the city and support the ecotourism by walking in a city surrounded by human life, history, accomplishments, and the ongoing pulse of culture. Seeing big cities from grand museums to picnics in tiny suburban parks.

Most your answers are B's

City life

Time in nature holds a charm all on its own but traveling to big cities is a splendid experience as well. You love city life outside your own country, love the sound of unfamiliar languages and trying different food and staying in luxurious places. It offers you as a traveler a window to see how other people live and provides a chance to enrich your own life with new experiences.

GET TO KNOW
ME BETTER



SHARJAH INVESTMENT AND
DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

1. Tell us about Shurooq?

In 2009, the Sharjah Investment and Development Authority (Shurooq) was first established as part of an Emirati Decree issued by His Highness Sheikh Dr. Sultan bin Muhammad Al Qasimi, Member of the Supreme Council Ruler of Sharjah, to develop and promote Sharjah's cultural and economic landscape.

Since then, our efforts have left iconic landmarks within our portfolio of major projects, covering the emirate of Sharjah from the west all the way to the east, covering tourism, hospitality, retail, real estate, environment, logistics, health-care and more.

2. Tell us about the best eco-tourism project established by Shurooq:

In the Central Region of Sharjah, where Shurooq is establishing its eco-tourism foothold with remarkable first of their kind tourism and hospitality projects, is a tourist's perfect escape to experience adventure, tranquility, seclusion and blend in with the region's rich Emirati heritage and the land's history. Our first major project in this region was the Mleiha Archaeological and Eco-tourism, launched in 2016.

The Mleiha Archaeological Centre is one of the region's most important natural history sites. An archaeological tour will take you to a 130,000-year-old site from the Paleolithic period, Mleiha Archaeological Centre offers a variety of unique, extreme off-road adventures and horse riding, overnight Camping, Sunset Lounge Escapes, a trip to this treasured destination is a great way to gain an appreciation for Arab life and history.

GET TO KNOW ME BETTER



3. How does Shurooq work to works to support eco-tourism?

We at Shurooq maintain a development ethos circled around environmental sustainability as one of its primary objectives to, keep in line with our SDGs, raise communal awareness, and strengthen the emirate's position in the eco-tourism sector as world experts and leaders in the preservation restoration and management of natural resources.

In this process, we have implemented a series of initiatives and measures in partnership with various entities in Sharjah and the UAE to establish world-class eco-friendly facilities and services for our visitors and guests. For example, Shurooq has partnered with BEEAH on a wide range of eco-friendly initiatives, such as the establishment of Wi-Fi supported, solar-powered bins across a number of our destinations in Sharjah, equipped with sensors to detect when the bin is full to ensure that the destination's sanitation and the wellbeing of visitors are being executed both efficiently and with an eco-friendly practice.

Furthermore, Shurooq has also partnered with BEEAH during the construction of the jogging track in Al Majaz Waterfront, which is made up of 100% recyclable tires, as part of the authority's initiatives to reduce the carbon footprint in Sharjah and promote sustainable development.

Our achievements in the eco-tourism spectrum also lie in a few operational aspects and features which are being applied and continuously developed. For example, most of our upcoming resorts and retreats in Sharjah are reinforced with a car-free zone and waste management with a plan to reduce, reuse, and include recycling bins. Additionally, our destinations include dedicated parking for electric vehicles equipped with charging stations.

Can you recommend a new attraction for our readers?

We invite the UAE community and tourists from all over the world to experience our destinations which are developed alongside the natural and cultural treasures and gems of Sharjah. We recently started welcoming guests at the Mysk Moon Retreat, which is currently transforming glamping experiences in Sharjah and has been attracting a large number of bookings.

The new eco-friendly resort offers a luxury glamping experience. It has 10 domes with private pools and gives visitors a chance to enjoy a range of outdoor experiences such as trekking and dune bashing.

5. Any last word for the readers?

Sharjah's central and eastern regions will continue to play a major attraction for tourists and residents wanting to look for the most ideal tourism and staycation experiences. Therefore, we also invite them to explore our array of hospitality properties under the Sharjah Collection brand, as well as to enjoy a unique and distinctive adventure experience at Sharjah city.

DID YOU KNOW



Top 10 places that support ecotourism in the United Arab Emirates

1. Al Qudra lakes on the outskirts of Dubai are man-made lakes, but they provide a great habitat for wildlife and birds.
2. Ras Al Khor Wildlife Sanctuary serves as a haven for tens of thousands of birds each year. Apart from the stunning flamingos, you might also spot grey heron, reef herons, black-winged stilts, sandpipers, osprey and so much more.
3. Hatta Kayak offers visitors the opportunity to kayak around the vast lake formed by Hatta Dam and its surrounding mountains.
4. Jabel Jais is overlooking the Valley of Galilea with and bordering Oman, about 1,910 meters above sea level, in a charming panoramic view, is well-known for its breathtaking views as an escape for explorers.

5. Mangrove National Park constitutes about 75 per cent of the total mangrove forest area in the UAE and is a biodiversity hotspot that includes mangrove forests, salt marshes, mudflats, and algal communities.

6. On Saadiyat Island there are sea turtles, and the visitors have the opportunity to identify falcon beak turtles, which were taken from Saadiyat Beach, 9 km away, and about 650 eggs have been successfully hatched on Saadiyat Island.

7. The Green Planet is Dubai's very own tropical rainforest. With more than 3,000 species of plants, animals, and birds

8. If you fancy going on a safari and exploring the desert's flora and fauna, Dubai Desert Conservation Reserve is a great place.

9. Dubai Safari Park is home for around 3,000 animals, with 78 species of mammals including 10 different carnivores and 17 primates 50 types of reptiles, 111 kinds of birds .

10. Al Wathba long salt lake in Abu Dhabi , has recently exploded in popularity, garnering social media fame for its crystal clear waters and mushroom-like stacks of sodium chloride





Ecotourism

The world is seeing a massive enhancement in tourism during the past few years, which has only multiplied after the ease of the lockdown. Although there are many advantages to traveling the world, the environment is paying a huge price to accommodate this surge.

The main aim of ecotourism is to promote environment-friendly trips; where 'eco-tourists' develop more awareness around the environment of the country they are visiting. While touring, they must bear in mind the green practices of the community and learn how they can respect and abide by them.

Tourism in the UAE is a unique experience due to the country's outstanding tourist attractions and unique, exceptional areas.

The tourism sector is one of the main supporters of the national economy, and within a vision that seeks to consolidate the image of the UAE as a regional and international tourist attraction, and to share the UAE's inspiring story to the world, the concerned authorities in the UAE adopt strategies and initiatives aimed at developing an integrated tourism system, in coordination with various local and federal authorities and institutions. The best winter campaign, in collaboration with federal entities and department around UAE such as heritage, culture, community ,entertainment sectors and local tourism departments.

Therefore, His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice-President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai, launched a UAE Strategy for Domestic Tourism and lunched "The Most Beautiful Winter in the World" campaign.

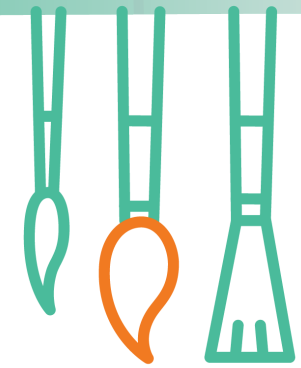
The campaign shows the UAE as we have not seen it before, and it targets all of the of Emirati society, including citizens, foreign residents, and visitors, and encourages them to engage in it, whether through participation or promotion, and that's through sharing their stories, experiences, adventures and discoveries by posting photos and videos on their various accounts on Internet, so that any tourist from inside and outside the country can enjoy them.

The UAE's campaign continues for 45 days with the participation of all tourism authorities in the UAE and in coordination with the Ministry of Economy and with the support of The UAE government Media Office, where the features of each emirate were highlighted separately, and the country's natural, geographical and historical wealth was rediscovered, and multiple attractions throughout the UAE.

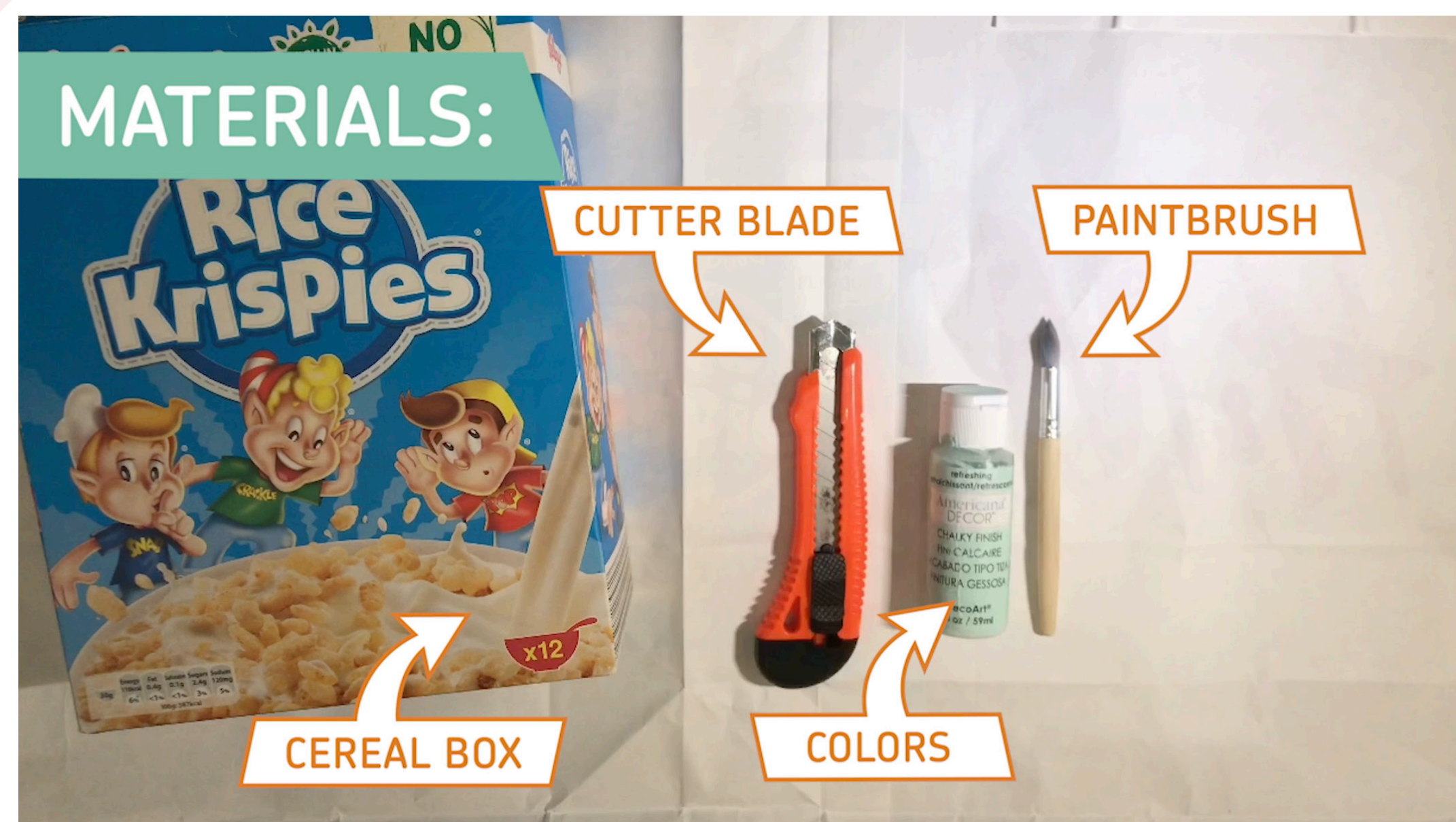
Ecotourism is driven by creating a sustainable future. By educating tourists about local sustainable practices and how to protect the countries' natural resources, you make their experience much more meaningful and impactful. They are sure to go home feeling like they have made a difference.

If your family is planning a trip sometime soon, you can suggest they look up ecotourism trips and enjoy the best winter in the world!

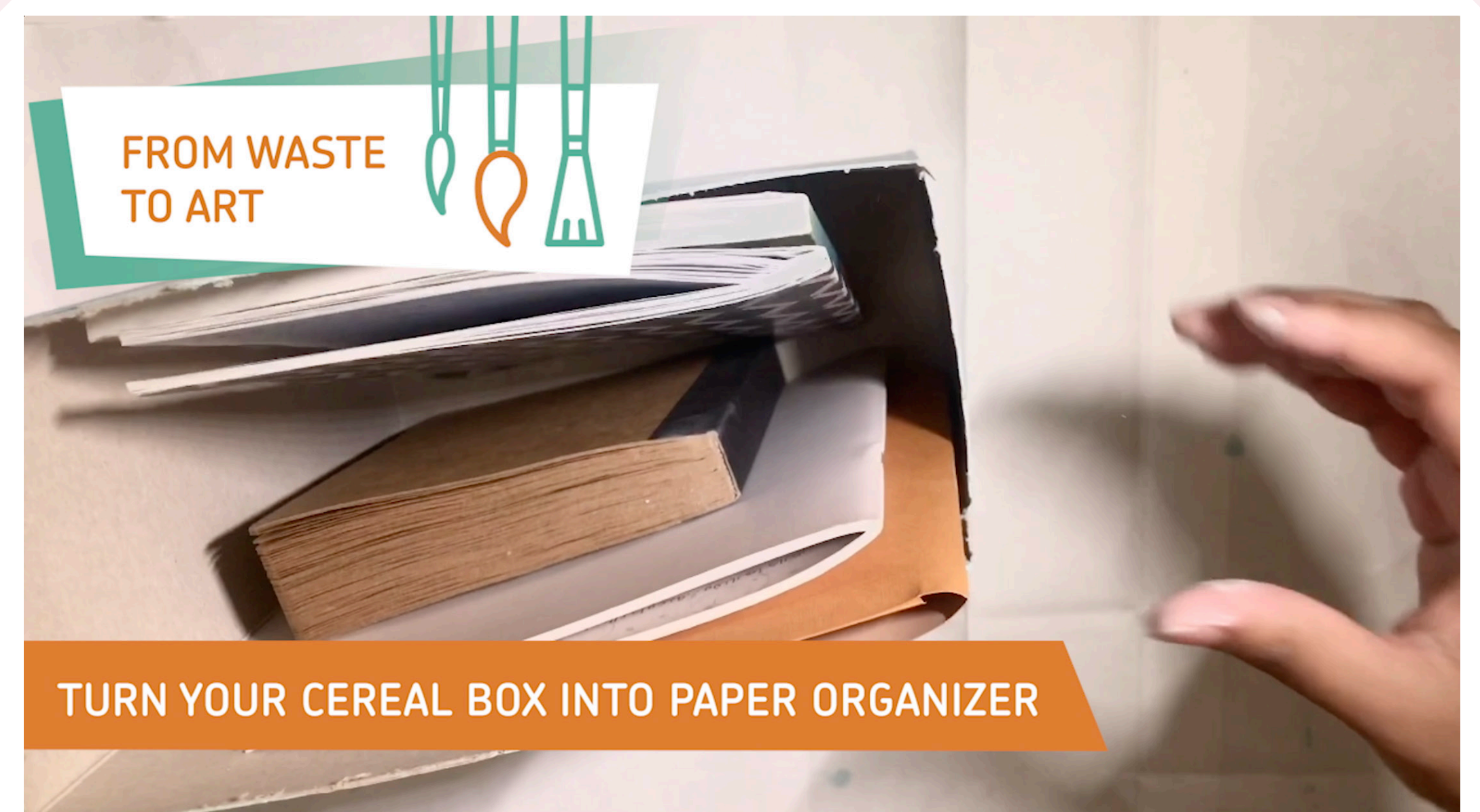
FROM WASTE TO ART



TURN YOUR CEREAL BOX INTO PAPER ORGANIZER

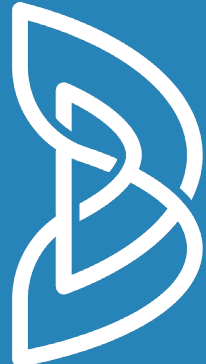


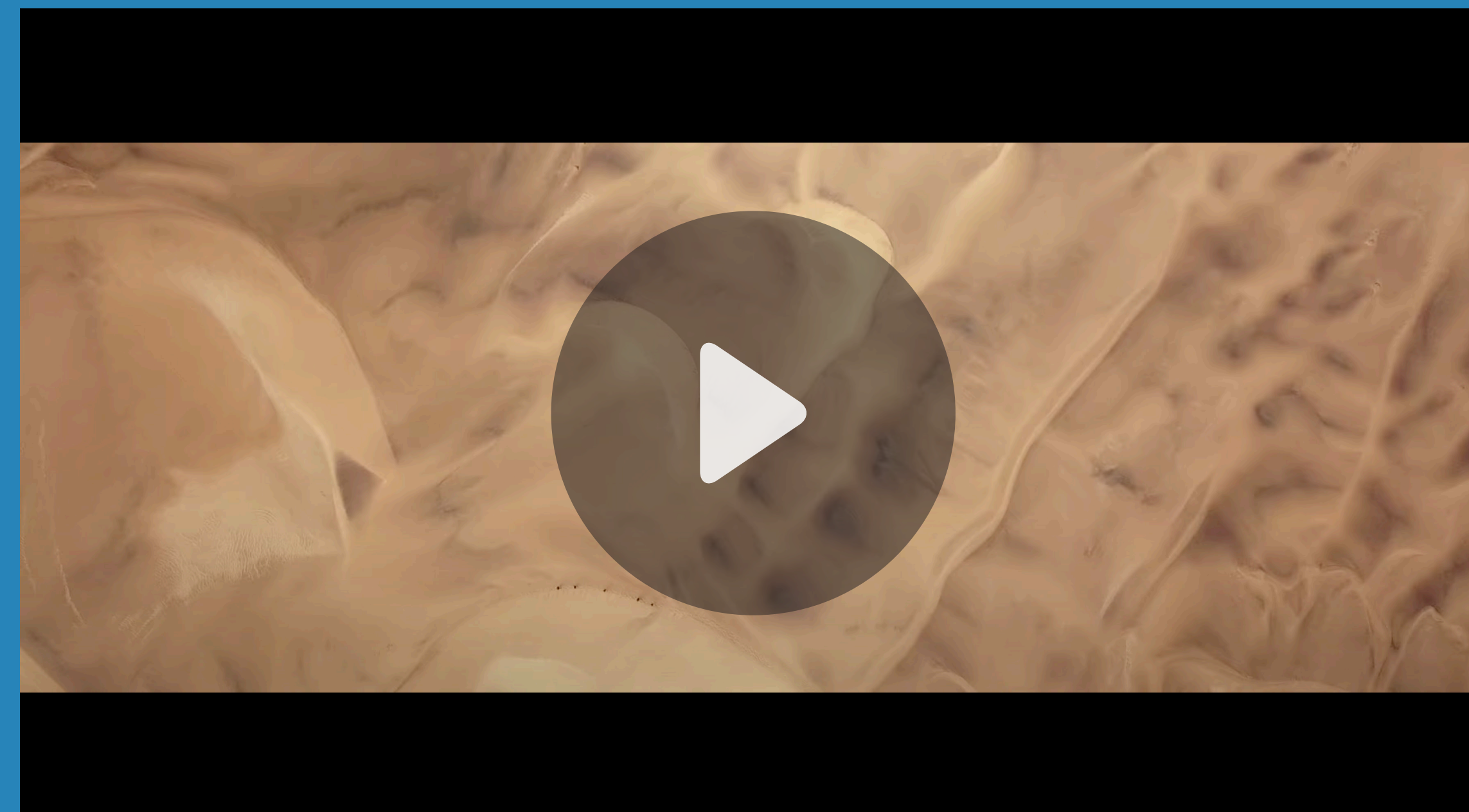
CLICK ON THIS VIDEO TO VIEW THE STEPS



BE FEATURED



BEEAH  بيئة



Bee'ah is now **BEEAH**, a Group of Companies working together for a better tomorrow. Over the years, we have grown across industries and borders to become a force for change. Led by our vision of pioneering sustainable quality of life, guided by our core pillars of sustainability and digitalization, **BEEAH** will now operate as a holding company across dedicated verticals; including **Bee'ah Tandeef**, **BEEAH Recycling**, **BEEAH Energy**, **BEEAH Environment Services**, **BEEAH Digital** and **BEEAH Transport**. Over the coming weeks, we look forward to sharing more details about our new identity with you. Learn more by visiting our website: beeahgroup.com