City to have its first Disney Park in a village

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Gurgaon: The Millennium City is all set to have its own Disney Park. But, here's the catch. It will not be an entertainment park, styled on the lines of Disneyland, but will be an eco-friendly community park which will also have a play area decked with Disney characters for children.

A city-based private school is building the community park at Naya Gaon, a village in Bhondsi off Sohna Road, 20 minutes drive from the city centre. Ryan International School has been selected by Disney India, out of 200 schools in NCR, to develop the park. It will be India's first such Disney Park in a village.

Sixteen-year-old Atul Garg, a student of the school, has come up with the idea to build the jogging track with



Students, with the help of an NGO, will conceptualize the park

red clay and cow dung, while Komal Thakur, another student, has been working on the layout of a bird bath area in the park. "We are trying to understand the needs of the villagers, especially kids, so that the park can be developed accordingly. The aim is to create a green and recreational space," says Atul.

Aprajita, another student, adds: "We are also studying

the flora and fauna and the type of soil found in the region. We want to build a park that can be easily sustained in this village."

The students plan to build a tree house, a nursery, benches, bird bath area and a play area decked with Disney characters for children.

"It is good to see rural and urban kids working together. We are planning to form an eco-club by involving rural children and women. They will have to take the responsibility of watering plants, rooting out weeds and keeping the park clean. We will, of course, provide them assistance and support when required," says Chandni Taneja of Navjyoti, an NGO that runs an evening school in the village.

Disney India, which has shortlisted nine schools out of the first 200 in NCR, says it is glad that Ryan has chosen to develop the park in a village. "We are keeping an eye on the redevelopment processes. A panel of judges has been visiting the sites on a regular basis. We are glad that Ryan International chose to develop a park in a village. It will be the first Disney Park in a village," Jyodirector, Corporate Communications, Disney India, said.