

Whole School Waste Management

Early Years
Primary Years
Middle Years

Aldgate Primary School

Partners: Mount Barker Recycling Depot
Adelaide Hills Council

Our school resource use and waste management program has several learning approaches.

- The school has a community recycling centre used by the Hills Community, students help with the sorting process.
- Bins in the school are labelled - landfill, recycling and compost and children are encouraged to use the correct bins.
- Weekly litter-free food days with popcorn incentives.
- Paper 'recycling' with a focus on 'reduction' as the higher order skill
- Paper making as 'reusing', featured in our environmental electives
- Recycled art/craft activities
- Worm farming and composting for food scraps
- KESAB Award for 'Trash Team' educational video, 2002 - made by a group of students and parents.
- Action Research by one class as to why children litter and then positive action taken to reduce the litter.
- Year 7 School Community Roles to support the recycling centre and school initiatives.

"By modelling preferred sustainable lifestyle options as part of our daily school life we hope to have positive, long term impacts. Our school planning has Sustainable School as a major focus. Staff, students and parents are working together to achieve this.

This learning also integrates with other aspects of our Sustainable School project eg with Biodiversity through the use of the compost and worm liquids on the propagated plants. Our learning focuses on systems and cycles. Students learn to consider a range of perspectives in making decisions and that that decisions they make have both short and long term impacts."

The success of the program is determined by

Our Sustainable Environment group has set targets (agreed to by staff and students) for the reduction of landfill and ways to measure this eg once per term the grounds person with students, chooses a landfill bin to weigh and sort. From this we can monitor the amount and types of waste going in to the bin and take action to reduce it.

Links between classroom work and environmental project

All environmental learning is linked with the State of the Environment Report and the SACSA Framework. Classes integrate the learning areas to learn about the issues with waste management (eg through maths and science) and the positive strategies they can use to address concerns (eg through society and environment, art, and English).

Environmental Reporting Themes and Issues for this project

Themes

Issues

Human Settlements • Waste

Environmental Reporting Themes and Issues for this project

- Arts
- Design and Technology
- English
- Health and Physical Education
- Mathematics
- Science
- Society and Environment

Elements of the Essential Learnings that your project develops

- Futures
- Learners developing an understanding of patterns and connections within systems
 - Learners building scenarios of preferred futures
 - Learners acquiring skills that will enable them to thrive in a fast changing world rather than becoming

casualties of such change

Interdependence

- Learners coming to an understanding of what is needed for sustainable social and physical environments
- Learners cooperating to achieve agreed outcomes
- Learners acting to benefit their communities

Thinking

- Learners developing enterprising and creative solutions for contemporary issues

Communication

- Learners having the ability to make effective use of language, mathematical information and the tools of information and communications technology