

Case Studies

Medicine Chest of the Future

Middle Years

Port Vincent, Minlaton District School and Stansbury Primary School

Partners: Pt Vincent Aquatic Centre

This project, presented initially as a webquest, is available at <http://www.minlatons.sa.edu.au/specialproject>

It challenges students to investigate the sustainable use of the ocean as “the medicine chest of the future”. Web sites direct student to current research in this field. The unit was designed to stand alone or to be undertaken in conjunction with a visit to Pt Vincent Marine Studies Centre. Students trialing the webquest undertook an underwater treasure hunt to find species discussed. A “Treasure Chest” at the Centre contains complementary resources.

This project is an extension of the “Investigators” program at Port Vincent. It is used as a stand alone project at other schools

Staff and students found this a fascinating area of inquiry.

Students at Pt Vincent have continued to track developments in this field and are collecting related newspaper clippings, contacting scientists etc.

It is necessary for websites to be continually updated and this is something staff have found time consuming.

The success of the program is determined by

- The webquest was the State winner of the South Oz Projects, Australian Learning Quest Challenge 2002. Feedback and discussions among students reveals awareness raising has occurred.

Links between classroom work and environmental project

- The commitment and links vary from school to school. It is a useful tool to challenge students to think “outside the square” and to utilise technology to present research answers

Environmental Reporting Themes and Issues for this project

Themes

Issues

Biodiversity



- Threatened Species

Coasts and the Sea



- Health of the Marine and Coastal Environment

Environmental Reporting Themes and Issues for this project

- Design and Technology
- Science
- Society and Environment

Elements of the Essential Learnings that your project develops

Futures

- Learners developing an understanding of patterns and connections within systems

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
- Learners being able to effectively use communication in a range of modes

