

Upcycle Our Playground for Years K-6

The STEM project involved 8 students ranging from Early Stage 1 to stage 3 and the staff of Sherwood. The overall objective was to initiate and maintain a culture of STEM inquiry-based learning within a small and very unique rural school. The project 'Upcycle our playground' evolved over 3 Terms. The eight students at this small school were involved in the planning, designing and completing of projects using recycled materials designed to create a playground containing areas that were both practical and had a visual impact. Each student was given the opportunity to engage collaboratively, design, test and produce. Each student had responsibility for a playground project which the others helped to bring to fruition. The students designed and created a sustainable and authentic playground encompassing many STEM projects within. Work was then showcased at a 'Garden Party' inviting the community to celebrate the opening of the playground and their STEM journey.

Science and technology outcomes	STe-4WS STe-5WT STe-6NE STe-7NE STe-8NE STe-9NE STe-10NE	ST1-4WS ST1-5WT ST1-6PW ST1-7PW ST1-8ES ST1-9ES ST1-10LW ST1-11LW ST1-12MW ST1-13MW ST1-14BE ST1-15I ST1-16P	ST2-4WS ST2-5WT ST2-6PW ST2-7PW ST2-8ES ST2-9ES ST2-10LW ST2-11LW ST2-12MW ST2-13MW ST2-14BE ST2-15I ST2-16P	ST3-4WS ST3-5WT ST3-5PW ST3-7PW ST3-8ES ST3-9ES ST3-10LW ST3-11LW ST3-12MW ST3-13MW ST3-14BE ST3-15I ST3-16P
Mathematics outcomes	MAe-1WM MAe-2WM MAe-3WM MAe-9MG MAe-10MG MAe-16MG MAe-17SP	MA1-1WM MA1-2WM MA1-3WM MA1-9MG MA1-10MG MA1-16MG MA1-17SP	MA2-1WM MA2-2WM MA2-3WM MA2-9MG MA2-10MG MA2-17MG MA2-18SP	MA3-1WM MA3-2WM MA3-3WM MA3-9MG MA3-10MG MA3-17MG MA3-18SP

Statement of impact

Students were highly engaged on the STEM journey and were involved in projects that reached the greater community. External experts assisted in providing solutions to problems (for example the Botanical Gardens provided expert advice on suitable plants and natives). This shifted teaching practice and evolved into students using creative, critical and innovative thinking in all areas of the curriculum. Students exhibited a growth mindset as each project took shape. All STEM projects grew awareness in STEM careers and inspired students to be the engineers of tomorrow.

For more information

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