

Student Workshops

A. Climate Change Presentations

Climate Change and Sustainability are not the latest buzz words but real life issues for the children of this generation. As such it is important for young people to be both empowered and responsible for what is actually happening in the world.

This presentation leaves the students both awakened, responsible and in action making a difference to an issue that can quite often leave them

It is led as an inquiry and begins with an exploration of what they know – giving us an opportunity to clear up any misconceptions (e.g. The hole in the Ozone Layer). The presentation then moves into exploring some of the suggested causes – both historically and technologically – and also how they are part of the “problem”. It becomes very interactive and the students become massively aware how much they are part of a culture that is wasteful without thought. The presentation ends with the students taking action by auditing their homes and even the school.

This presentation fits well with the start of any sustainability or environmental units teachers are covering.



Timeline: Talks can be from 45 – 1 hour long and prefer groups up to 50 students

Testimonies

Roberta Williams: Science Coordinator – Yarrowonga Secondary College

“Thanks so much for your huge effort educating so many children on ‘Global Warming’ and how they can make a difference....it’s amazing the impact one person can have not only on students but also on staff by practicing what you preach.”

“you are a sensational speaker – who is able to put things to the level understood by younger and older kids.”

Sarah Davis, Year Level Coordinator

“Adrian presented a ‘Global Warming and Climate change’ session to 80 students. The session was well planned, organised and presented. Adrian tested students prior knowledge, then built on their understandings to dispel any myths and misunderstandings the students had. He was able to engage his audience and definitely shocked the students when they realised just how much energy they waste daily, as well as providing ways in which they can help minimise the destruction of our earth and atmosphere.”

B. Stand Tall – Stand Proud (run by Anne Rittman)

The intention of the Stand Tall – Stand Proud workshop is to engage as many young Aboriginal and immigrant children in a painting project calling forth pride, partnership and unity, both amongst themselves and with non-indigenous people.

By painting their totem the young people exhibit pride in their culture. The putting together of 1000 or more paintings in a year's time in 'one grand painting' has proved a very inspiring vision to the children so far. They are excited by taking part in an event much bigger than themselves. We have suggested the possibility of auctioning these paintings and donating the proceeds to The Unity Foundation who provide housing for Aboriginal homeless youth.



Timeline: Workshops can last up to 3-4 hours depending on the group

Testimonies

Donna: Koori Educator St Peters Primary School, Bendigo

"... I have never seen our kids so 'out there'. They were as proud as punch with their efforts. The children were very clear they were part of something big and were very inspired by that."

Student at St Peters Primary School, Bendigo

"Drawing and painting our totems was fun. Also meeting you Anne!"