

# Millennium Kids-Life for Environment



Millennium Kids is a not for profit organisation based in Western Australia, run by young people between 10-25 years of age, which promotes improving the environment by constructive action. In 2011 they applied to Wheatbelt NRM to run a series of workshops "Millennium Kids-Life for Environment." They conducted a number of site visits to locations and set up meetings with teachers and local young people to develop the program for 2011. Key young people, teachers and community members assisted in the development of the program partnerships. In total 6 schools participated in the sustainability activities on offer with some schools participating in both school based activities and promoting week-end participation to their students. On Saturday 18th of June Sarah Mason from Carrah Farm, Calingiri, organised a tree planting afternoon and barbecue for the Forest Bats, Pizza and Planting activities. Sarah ran a Cocky's for Landcare tour pointing out cocky habitat and how they were protecting various areas on the farm to ensure there was habitat for Cocky's and other native animals. Participants

planted over 500 trees in a waterlogged area. In the evening Joe Tonga ran a FrogWatch program and bat stalk for two hours taking participants to various areas of the farm and comparing numbers of frogs and bat evidence. COSP Ambassadors from Perth and Life for Environment members Calingiri PS joined the event

## Wheatbelt NRM Small

### Community Grants 2011

**Recipient:** Millennium Kids Inc

**Amount Funded:** \$13,755

**People Involved:** Approx 250

and shared ideas on how to set up a rehabilitation project and kids outlined their plans for the revegetation project at Calingiri Primary School. On Sunday 19th of June, the Reptiles and other creatures of the bush program was run. Sarah Mason undertook a tour of sustainability features around her farm, including worm farm vegetable garden, water harvesting and discussed biodynamic farming techniques, tree planting

and showed the participants plan for revegetation, including areas planted over last ten years. After lunch Joe Tonga took the team into the Rica Erikson Reserve to look at a natural habitat. He discussed monitoring local bats, reptiles and other critters including the introduced European Bees and how to use a GPS systems to register their whereabouts.



CARING  
FOR  
OUR  
COUNTRY



wheatbelt  
natural resource  
management



Community  
Small Grants



The next activity was Sustainable September- October – November at Boshack and Northam. Many schools wanted to participate in a conference but due to time constraints and Risk Management and Assessment policies preferred a one day event of school based activities. To this end Mk developed a one day event at Boshack and an incursion for schools in Northam and Toodyay. On September 6th, an Indigenous Experience and Life for Environment Conference was held at Boshack. Deryck Brockhurst, the owner of Boshack, gave a presentation on the background to Boshack and his interest in getting kids into the natural environment and the benefits of having a wild experience in Boshack. Students participated in a range of activities to help them understand the sustainability issues at Boshack such as:

- Get to Know Your Bushland
- Birds and Bones in the Bush
- Stories of Water
- Woodlands Survival and Reptiles
- Birds in the Bush

On Sunday 25th September the Toodyay Friends of the River hosted Millennium Kids at Duidgee Park. Vanessa Paget ran a reptile workshop. Local children were able to join the activities learning about local

reptiles, their habits and habitat requirements. Young people were able to take part in a reptile handling workshop, learn about the threats to local species while Calingiri PS students helped with the training workshop. Three representatives from Toodyay Friend of the River talked to the participants for 30 minutes about the history of the river and their attempts to care for the area. They discussed past engineering and clearing efforts and promoted the river photographic exhibition on show in Toodyay. After lunch participants went on a river walk, took photographs of the river and created an animoto which was put on the Centre for Water Research Realtime Management System.

In Northam on 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> November 2011 workshops were run with schools, with 129 participants. These entailed activities such as:

- Eagles, bones and feathers.
- Tracks, Scats and other interesting ways to monitor the bush.

Overall a wide number of young people were reached both during and out of school times. There was a mixture of incursions, where Millenium Kids visited the schools, and excursions where the students came to various localities outlined.



CARING  
FOR  
OUR  
COUNTRY



wheatbelt  
natural resource  
management



Community  
Small Grants