

PRIMARY SCHOOLS WORKSHOPS

WORKSHOPS AT A GLANCE

Benefits

11 educational modules meeting objectives of:

- Litter reduction
- Bin contamination
- Organic Recycling promotion
- Waste Reduction
- Resource Conservation
- Water Specific Conservation
- Sustainability



Encourages students becoming environmental stewards

Workshops cover a multitude of environment issues



Modules designed to engage students through movement and fun activities. Tailored for each learning stage, from preschool to Year Six

Workshops run for 45 minutes to an hour



Up to 5 classes, or approximately 150 students, can participate each day in the incursion-based workshops

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EnviroMentors is proudly supported by:

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ENVIROMENTORS

Since 1994, EnviroMentors has been the country's leading mobile incursion-based environmental education program, reaching every corner of NSW with sustainability workshops.

EnviroMentors modules provide a range of education services to improve community awareness and engagement on local sustainability issues and initiatives. Like other KAB NSW programs, EnviroMentors focuses on motivating communities to participate in simple and practical ways to improve their local environment. Our team are qualified educators as well as experts in sustainability.

EnviroMentors education services include:

- School Workshops
- Community Workshops
- Corporate Programs
- Waste and Litter Audits
- Education Materials
- Community Displays

WHO WE ARE

Keep Australia Beautiful NSW (KABNSW) are the leaders in transforming behaviour to create a less littered, more environmentally sustainable New South Wales. With a legacy of successful community engagement since 1975, our programs inspire individuals, students, organisations, businesses and government to actively care for their local environment. The Sustainable Cities and the Sustainable Communities - Tidy Towns Awards, Annual Litter Congress, and the EnviroMentors education service advocate for excellence in sustainable resource management and waste reduction.

KAB NSW is an apolitical organisation - we do not lobby governments. Rather, work in partnership with local and state governments, as well as industry, to deliver our range of practices.

We work particularly closely with the NSW Environment Protection Authority (NSW EPA) to connect with communities across NSW at a grassroots level.

Communities are at the heart of our mission and the KAB NSW programs are based on acknowledging and rewarding their endeavours. Over a 40-year history, we have built a state-wide network of dedicated individuals, businesses, schools, community groups and government bodies striving to deliver a cleaner environment.

Patron: Her Excellency the Honourable Margaret Beazley AO QC Governor of New South Wales

President: The Hon. Gladys Berejiklian MP, Premier of New South Wales

OUR TEAM

Our Sustainability Educators are fully qualified primary and secondary education teachers with a depth of experience in lesson planning and class management.

They are passionate about conservation, environmentalism and engaging young people and their communities in sustainable practices.

KAB NSW and our team of educators are dedicated to providing the highest quality education featuring content tailored specifically to each Council's local environment, which meets the needs of NSW Councils to provide education to their constituents.

EnviroMentors Primary School incursions

Up to five classes, or approximately 150 students, can participate each day in the incursion-based workshops.

Using class based incursions maximises student participation and learning. Unlike an assembly style presentation, students are engaged in learning with activities, demonstrations and games catered for their learning stage, thereby maximising learning and behaviour change.

EnviroMentors Primary School workshops

The EnviroMentors offer a series of different workshops that cover a range of current environmental issues. All modules are designed to engage students through movement and fun activities.

Workshops are designed to encourage students to become environmental stewards in their households, spreading the message to the wider community. The pace of the workshops is mixed by incorporating games, kinaesthetic learning and props to keep children engrossed and actively engaged.

Modules are tailored for each learning stage, from preschool to Year Six (ages 4 to 13), including students with special needs.

Workshops run for 45 minutes to an hour, with educators conducting up to five sessions per day. Schools receive a pack which includes follow up resources.

Benefits of Workshops

- Linked to the NSW Curriculum
- Fun and interactive: The workshops are designed to keep students thinking and moving
- One class at a time means higher levels of engagement
- Qualified and experienced educators
- Enhance the cross curriculum priority of Sustainability
- Follow up resources provided
- All stages from ES1 to 3 are catered for with age appropriate activities
- Often sponsored by your Local Government Association (LGA), which means that the program is free to schools
- Local information incorporated into workshops



Working with the local community

EnviroMentors work closely with local councils across the state. Before we head out to schools, we work with councils to tailor the program to local needs. This includes the council selecting the modules they would like to have taught in schools, and gathering information about local waste services and sustainability issues.

To maintain a relevant education program, we will ask participating teachers to fill out a short survey during the workshops. This information is kept by KAB NSW and is sent to your local council to give them a better idea of sustainability education within local schools.

EnviroMentors & your school

We want to make a real contribution to environmental education in your school. Whether you are kick starting your sustainability initiatives, running into problems or have a long history of sustainability in your school, we will bring a fresh and enthusiastic approach to learning.

Our educators have extensive knowledge on issues of sustainability and the environment. They inspire students and teachers to ask questions, share stories and seek advice.

Working with you

We understand that schools are busy places, and aim to make our visits as smooth as possible. To this end, we:

- Work around YOUR daily timetable
- Are flexible with last minute class swaps
- Bring all the materials - all we need is a space
- Remind you of upcoming workshops
- Are happy to incorporate school sustainability initiatives into workshops
- Are available to discuss timetabling, administration or class needs
- Provide Risk Assessments



For more information, contact KAB NSW

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ENVIROMENTORS
MODULES

Recycling

The module is tailored in each region to account for local recycling services, teaching students about the broader implications of resource recovery.

The aim of the module is to facilitate the development of students' knowledge, attitudes, skills and behaviour in relation to recycling, its products and social and environmental benefits. By learning about reducing natural resource, energy and water use, students are motivated, willing and able to adopt correct recycling actions and to encourage others to do so.

In the Bin

The module is tailored for each specific Councils' waste services and local community conditions, with practical and immediately accessible lessons imparted through creative drama activities and a 'waste relay' game.

The aim of the module is to raise awareness of the consequences of a range of waste management actions as well as the implications of littering. Students investigate the benefits of avoiding waste, reusing, and recycling, with an emphasis on local content. This develops skills and attitudes that facilitate the adoption of waste minimising actions and empowerment to encourage others to do so also. The module also investigates the problems of littering and illegal dumping, promoting behaviour change.

ACTIVITIES

- Analysis of potential waste items through visual prompts
- Discussion and brainstorming of how to avoid and reduce creating a waste hierarchy
- Identifying common contaminants and the waste hierarchy
- Sorting waste, recycling, drop off and composting relay

CONCEPTS

- There are items that can be recycled at drop off points
- Waste is a valuable resource
- Correct waste disposal matters
- Environmental benefits of waste minimisation
- The need for individuals to take responsibility for their waste
- Strategies to reduce and minimise personal and domestic waste

ACTIVITIES

- Exploration of recyclable items in their LGA
- Discussion of complex items such as e-waste and facilities available in their LGA
- Investigation of the complete recycling process from kerbside/ drop off to recycled product
- Hands-on look at different materials throughout the entire recycling process

CONCEPTS

- Local council recycling practices (tailored for each region)
- Waste is a valuable resource
- Recyclables are made out of different natural resources
- Recycling is a complex process with different steps
- Social and environmental benefits of recycling
- Importance of buying recycled and recyclable items
- Problems of contamination in the recycling bin

Objectives

- Bin contamination
- Waste reduction
- Resource conservation

Objectives

- Bin contamination
- Resource conservation
- Sustainability

*In the Bin and Recycling modules
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IN THE BIN MODULE CURRICULUM LINK AT KABNSW.ORG.AU



RECYCLING MODULE CURRICULUM
LINK AT KABNSW.ORG.AU

School Waste Audits

Designed to help schools achieve their goal of diverting and reducing waste going to landfill. Students will assess the schools waste production by identifying major sources, types of waste being produced and evaluating the schools current recycling programs.

Teachers will be provided with a comprehensive resource booklet to guide them through the steps leading up to the audit, where the EnviroMentors will visit the school to deliver two "In The Bin" workshops for students to gain an understanding of waste services in the LGA as well as a waste audit after lunch.

In conjunction with council, a tailored waste minimisation guide can be created for schools focussing on reducing waste, composting and recycling programs available in the area.

ACTIVITIES:

- Pre audit guide to the school, including counting all bins in the school
- Two "In The Bin" workshops for two classes before the audit (see page xx)
- Waste sorting, counting and discussion
- Clean up
- Waste Audit follow up guide provide to the school for all students to reflect on the waste produced using Maths activates

CONCEPTS:

- Waste sent to landfill is substantial
- There are many ways to reduce waste produced
- Environmental benefits of waste minimisation
- Strategies to minimise waste and divert waste from landfill

Objectives

- Waste Reduction
- Bin Contamination
- Resource Conservation
- Organic Recycling Promotion
- Litter Reduction



WASTE AUDITS MODULE
CURRICULUM LINK AT KABNSW.ORG.AU



Sustainability

The concept of sustainability is broken down into an easily digestible format for students. Natural resources are explored through games, with students collaborating to identify actions they can take in their daily lives at home and school to consume less and conserve resources for future generations.

The program utilises critical thinking skills to empower students to make sustainable choices and take action in their daily lives.

ACTIVITIES

- Younger students explore sustainability in the context of needs and wants
- Understanding that everything students need and use has come from the environment
- Explore renewable and non-renewable resources through discussion and brainstorming
- Problem solving to identify how different resources can be used
- Picture-investigation group work and role-play which identify actions promoting sustainability
- Environmental Footprint Relay to consider students' own impact on the environment

CONCEPTS

- The earth has a limited amount of resources
- The extraction, use and disposal of resources and products impacts the environment
- Changes in behaviour can reduce the impact individuals have on the environment
- We can all save and preserve resources

Objectives

- Resource conservation
- Sustainability



SUSTAINABILITY MODULE CURRICULUM LINK AT KABNSW.ORG.AU

Composting

Students will learn fundamental lessons about disposing of the organic waste they generate – both at home and school. They will learn that their old food scraps and garden waste are a valuable resource which can be used as fertiliser. They will look at the benefits of using this resource, exploring composting as an environmentally sound alternative to reduce organic waste sent to landfill. Maintaining compost and the ecosystems found within are explored through games. The issues associated with methane production at landfills are also discussed.

Schools have the option of setting up their own compost bins through this module.

ACTIVITIES

- Board sorting and games to familiarise students with different types of organic waste
- Discussing the benefits of composting at home or school
- Sorting relay to identify compost items
- Investigation into the mini-beasts and microorganisms living in the compost and their roles
- Explore new waste items which are compostable
- Troubleshoot common issues associated with school and home composts
- Hands on exploration by touching and smelling compost
- Compost set up sessions can also be completed at the schools request

CONCEPTS

- Organic waste is a valuable resource that does not need to be buried in landfill
- Issues of methane production at landfill
- Benefits of composting
- Composts have ecosystems
- How to care for compost



Objectives

- Organic recycling promotion
- Waste reduction



COMPOSTING MODULE CURRICULUM LINK AT KABNSW.ORG.AU

Schoolyard Harvest

Worm Farming

Worm farming is a simple and effective way to recycle food scraps. Students enjoy discovering how a real worm farm looks and works, while learning the correct way of caring for their own.

Students develop an understanding of the benefits of organic recycling through the use of worm farms and the ecological place worms play in the environment.

Schools have the option of setting up their own worm farm through this module.

ACTIVITIES

- Observation of the EnviroMentors' live worm farm including touching compost and worms
- Discussion of correct organics to be put in the worm farm and detriment effects of incorrect items
- Complete worm farm puzzle to reinforce the structure of the worm farm
- Worm farm set ups can be completed at the schools request

CONCEPTS

- The benefits of worms in a garden ecosystem
- The benefits of organic recycling
- How to set up a worm farm
- Correct care of a worm farm

The workshop draws the essential connection between growing and caring for a garden and the food we eat. It also introduces the benefits of keeping chickens for fresh eggs, and gets kids thinking about how they can be more self-sustaining in their backyards for their health and the environment.

Students get to plant their own vegetable pots at school to care for in class, furthering the learning experience, and leave the workshop equipped with information and seeds to start their own vegetable patch at home or at school.

This module aims to raise student's awareness of gardening and chicken keeping as enjoyable activities that are sustainable and beneficial to them and their environment.

ACTIVITIES

- Plant and seed identification quiz
- Discussion and exploration of the parts of a plant and what plants need to grow
- Planning a seasonal garden group work including companion plants
- Planting real seeds and setting up a pot garden, which students will watch grow in class over time

CONCEPTS

- Plants give us food
- Plants need to be cared for to stay healthy
- Growing your own food is healthy
- There are natural ways to keep pests away from plants
- Growing your own food helps the environment

Objectives

- Organic recycling promotion
- Waste reduction

Objectives

- Resource conservation



WORM FARMING MODULE
CURRICULUM LINK
AT KABNSW.ORG.AU



SCHOOLYARD MODULE
CURRICULUM LINK AT
KABNSW.ORG.AU

Saving Water

In one of our two water education modules, students examine through puzzles and interactive demonstrations the water cycle, just how much potable water we have on earth and how we need to share this limited supply of water. Ideas to save water at home and school are role-played through activities.

Current local water restrictions, dam levels and council information can be included in every workshop.

ACTIVITIES

- Role plays to understand the natural processes of the water cycle
- Picture and poster analysis of the water cycle and labelling game
- Investigation as to the amount of freshwater and saltwater on Earth
- Discussion of strategies to share water resources
- Role playing simple water saving initiatives using props

CONCEPTS

- Water is a universal need
- Water cycle processes
- The value of water
- Appropriate/ inappropriate use of water
- Sharing water
- Strategies to reduce personal/ domestic water consumption



SAVING WATER MODULE CURRICULUM LINK
AT KABNSW.ORG.AU



Objectives

- Water conservation



Keeping Waterways Clean

Students role-play the harmful activities carried out by characters in a catchment story. After observing the effects these actions can have on water quality and biodiversity, students brainstorm environmentally friendly practices to protect our fragile waterways.

This module aims to foster students' understandings of how and why appropriate behaviours and activities will prevent stormwater pollutants entering our waterways. This assists in developing skills and attitudes that promote the achievement of environmentally sustainable management.

Our 3D interactive models are a fascinating component of this module.

ACTIVITIES

- Demonstrate negative effects of inappropriate behaviour in a catchment by engaging with the 3D catchment model
- Card acting game to identify suitable behaviour
- Story role-play to discover alternative actions through hypothetical scenarios
- Identification of cause-and-effect through brainstorming
- Understanding of the path stormwater takes into oceans and rivers

CONCEPTS

- The difference between sewage and stormwater
- Definition and function of a catchment
- The school's surrounding catchment and stormwater infrastructure
- Appropriate and inappropriate waste disposal and actions and their effects on our waterways
- Strategies to act positively to prevent stormwater pollution

Objectives

- Litter reduction
- Catchment protection



KEEPING WATERWAYS CLEAN MODULE
CURRICULUM LINK AT KABNSW.ORG.AU

Lunches Unwrapped

Students develop an understanding of waste avoidance and the significant amount of packaging used on food. They explore the environmental implications of using different materials to package foods, evaluating the benefits and detriments of a range of options to make an informed choice about the best or better alternative to single use packaging.



ACTIVITIES

- Food packaging waste relay game
- Bin identification activities for various waste items
- Analysis of waste items through visual prompts
- Discussion and brainstorming of how to avoid and reduce waste in lunchboxes
- Lunchbox rating and how changing materials can increase their score according to the waste hierarchy
- Group work to correctly order the waste hierarchy

Objectives

- Sustainability
- Waste reduction

CONCEPTS

- Which bin is best for waste
- Waste avoidance
- Impact of school rubbish becoming litter
- Amount of waste created from school lunches
- What happens to waste
- The best wrapper to use

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LUNCHES UNWRAPPED MODULE CURRICULUM LINK
AT KABNSW.ORG.AU

Litter

This module aims to reduce the amount of litter in schools and the surrounding community by equipping students with the information required to introduce litter reduction strategies at school, home, and in their communities. The focus is on parks, beaches, retail, transport and entertainment precinct.

The module will create in primary-school age children, their friends, siblings and extended families a sense of pride, ownership, caring and responsibility for their environment.



ACTIVITIES

- Fishing game used to identify different types of litter
- Examine specimens of litter and how they have aged over time
- Card acting game to identify suitable behaviour
- Role play game to explore hypothetical scenarios and correct responses
- Relay game to determine correct disposal of litter
- Litter Audit activity can be completed at school's request

CONCEPTS

- Identify what litter is
- The dangers of littering
- Understanding what a littered space looks like
- How do common littered items impact our environment?
- Identify what illegal dumping is and where tricky waste goes
- The best litter disposal areas



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Objectives

- Litter reduction



LITTER MODULE CURRICULUM LINK
AT KABNSW.ORG.AU

