

Subject:	REEN Term 3 – Online
Venue:	Online- Microsoft Teams
Date:	Wednesday 7 August 2024
Time:	3.30pm to 4:30pm
Chair:	Bonnie Mackenney and Emily Quinn Smyth

1.0	<p>Welcome</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tell us about some of the current sustainability and environmental programs your school is working on <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Julie from Field of Mars – discussed new Urban Heat modules available for year 11 and year 10 in the near future. ○ Jess – report pending on scholarship linking math to school gardens
2.0	<p>Guest Speaker 1 – Landcare Australia</p> <p>Learning Centre https://juniorlandcare.org.au/learningcentre/ Trish O’Gorman - juniorlandcare@landcareaustralia.com.au See attachment 2</p>
3.0	<p>Guest Speaker 2- Australians Together</p> <p>Curriculum Resources https://australianstogether.org.au/education/curriculum-resources Professional Learning https://australianstogether.org.au/education/professional-learning Lauran Quinn, Partnerships Manager- NSW, QLD & ACT lauran@australianstogether.org.au See attachment 3</p>
4.0	<p>Environment and Sustainability</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Professional Development Opportunities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Total Catalogue Free Online Courses Total offers free online self-paced courses for teachers of Environment/Agriculture subjects. Courses include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ - Introduction to weather and climate ▪ - Biodiversity Conservation Trust ▪ - Exploring beyond diesel <p>More information: https://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/education-and-training/school-resources/for-teachers https://courses.tocal.nsw.edu.au</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BushBlitz TeachLive Bush Blitz Teach live is a fully funded educational and professional development program that places Australian primary and secondary school

teachers of science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) and geography as research assistants on Bush Blitz expeditions

Applications and more information can be found here:

<https://earthwatch.org.au/programs/bush-blitz>

- Lesson plans

- **Marine Estate Agents Program**

The Marine Estate Agents is tailored for Stages 1-3 (Years 1-6), it aligns with NSW syllabus subjects Human Society and its Environment (Geography) and Science, addressing cross-curriculum priorities such as Sustainability and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Cultures and Histories.

Throughout the Marine Estate Agents program students will journey through world-class coastal environments, build values, attitudes, and skills to help improve the health of the marine environment.

<https://www.marine.nsw.gov.au/statewide-projects/enhancing-community-benefits/teachers-resources-for-primary-schools>

- **Emergency Ready Week 16-22 September**

Australian Red Cross has developed resources to help teachers educate students from pre-school to year 12 about important emergency preparedness and recovery information.

Emergencies can be as large as a bushfire, flood or cyclone or as personal as a death in the family. But the better prepared you are for them, the easier it is for you and your family to recover.

Teachers notes and activity sheets linked to NSW curriculum -

<https://www.redcross.org.au/emergencies/resources/resources-for-teachers/>

Pillowcase Workshops – For year 3 and 4 students

Delivered by Red Cross volunteers and staff, the workshop encourages children to be active participants in their own emergency preparedness.

Register / book a free incursion at your school -

<https://www.redcross.org.au/pillowcase-workshops/>

Cooling the Schools lessons plans – for year 5 and 6 -

<https://www.nationalparks.nsw.gov.au/education/teacher-resource-cooling-schools-stage-3-geography>

- Competitions

- **Wild at Art: Threatened Species Art Competition for Kids**

Primary school children are invited to create an original artwork of one of Australia's many threatened native animals or plants, along with a short-written component on their chosen threatened species

Entries close 12 August - <https://www.acf.org.au/wild-at-art-competition>

- Citizen Science Programs

- **National Waterbug Blitz** <https://www.waterbugblitz.org.au/Get-Involved>

- Grant opportunities

- **We Join Grant – Variety the Children's Charity**

Variety's We Join Community Grant supports schools and organisations for grants up to the value of \$10,000 to promote inclusivity for all kids.

- For support children aged 0 – 18

- Directly support kids or young people living with a disability, chronic illness, financial hardship or geographic isolation
More information <https://www.variety.org.au/nsw/we-join-community-grant/>
- **WASM Litter Prevention Grants**
Schools eligible for stream 1 - Up to \$5000 for 'clean-up' projects.
 - Intake 4 Opens 18 October and Closes 22 November.
 - Projects that rely on repeated clean-ups as the main way of reducing litter, without aiming to stop litter before it occurs, will not be competitive as grant proposals. However, where a site requires a once-off clean-up to address historical littering (or the effects of litter e.g. sites located on or next to water), a grant is available for a once-off clean.
 - More information - <https://www.epa.nsw.gov.au/working-together/grants/litter-prevention-grants-program/grants-available>
- **Greening Australia - Cooling the Schools**
Get your kids planting free trees in a curriculum-linked lesson. Want to give your students hands-on learning about the benefits of cooler, greener schools and cities?
Complete the form to register your interest in participating in Cooling the Schools. <https://www.greeningaustralia.org.au/projects/cooling-the-schools/>

Council updates and General Business

5.0

- Evelyn, from City of Ryde Circular Economy attended to gauge interest in a reusable period products education program for schools
- Get Grubby program has a new contact: ange@dirtygirlworld.com
- Spring Garden Competition Register your School Garden
Registrations Open 1 July and Close 31 August - Nominate your class to grow sunflowers - Free seeds, pot and growing instructions will be available for collection from Eden Gardens from **Sunday 4 August 2024.** - <https://www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/Events/Spring-Garden-Competition>
- Edible Gardens update - The Edible Gardens project has recently been completed with Gladesville Primary School and Epping Boys High School. The project will be happening again this FY. If interested to find out more email: EmilySm@ryde.nsw.gov.au
- SWAP - SWAP Exhibition 6 September – 19 September (check opening hours [here](#)) at the See Street Gallery, Meadowbank
SWAP Digital Exhibition 6 September – 22 September Online (available on the [SWAP webpage](#) from 6 September) <https://www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/Events/SWAP-Sustainable-Waste-2-Art-Prize>
If you would like to arrange a school excursion during the exhibition, please email cor.swap@gmail.com
- Eastwood Seed Library - It is a free seed sharing program sustained through donations from the community.
- The Seed Library supports seed diversity and open pollinated varieties suited to the local environment.
- Growing plants and saving seeds is a great opportunity for adults and children to learn about the life cycle of plants.
- <https://www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/Library/Visit-Us/Eastwood-Library/Eastwood-Seed-Library>
- Community workshops – worm farming - https://www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/Events/Listing/Bookable/Worm-Farming-Workshop-ev_c51990cdf88842148ce4f7fff8e6a414 and composting workshops https://www.ryde.nsw.gov.au/Events/Listing/Bookable/Composting-Workshop-ev_e68c769da43044aea11f340960f6b366
- Current available incursions

- Scienza Viva - <https://www.scienzaviva.com.au/>
If you are interested in environmental incursions, please contact bonniem@ryde.nsw.gov.au Available to primary and high schools.
- Australian Environmental Education -
School Incursions – Contact Karen Player for more information - karen.player@australianenvironmentaleducation.com.au
- Enviromentors - Incursions the topics of 'Keeping Waterways Clean' and 'Sustainability' for Primary School Students. Please contact bonniem@ryde.nsw.gov.au to express your interest

General Business

Next meeting is on 29 October. This will be in person. Invitation to be sent closer to the date.