



Petaurus

EDUCATION GROUP

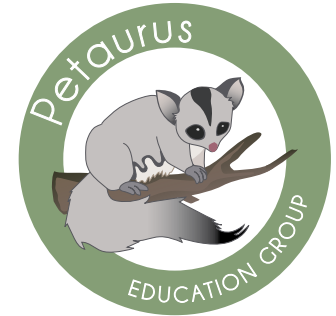
*Bringing nature, sustainable
agriculture and culture to the classroom.*



ABOUT PETAURUS EDUCATION GROUP

Petaurus Education Group Inc. was established by Wirraminna Environmental Education Centre in late-2014 to support its operations and develop a range of natural resource management and cultural education activities. The group is incorporated in NSW so that it can receive, manage and report on local, state and commonwealth funds.

Petaurus Education Group identifies, develops and delivers a range of learning and curriculum experiences, resources and initiatives for schools and community groups. The goal is to help connect individuals with Natural Resource Management topics such as land, water, biodiversity, productive farming, sustainability, as well as support cultural awareness initiatives.



GET IN TOUCH

Petaurus Education Group Inc.

Administered by a Board of Management supporting the aspirations of Wirraminna Environmental Education Centre and delivering projects such as Creative Catchment Kids.

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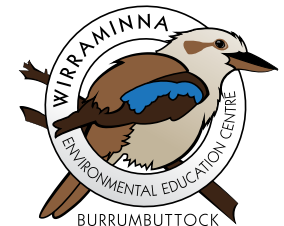
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wirraminna.org.au

ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION AT WIRRAMINNA

Wirraminna Environmental Education Centre (established in 1995 at Burrumbuttock, NSW) provides an engaging learning environment and its education outreach program connects school students with natural resource management across the Murray-Darling Basin.



VISITS TO WIRRAMINNA

Regional schools can visit Wirraminna for learning activities using the resources in the park that are delivered by our experienced education co-ordinator.

IN-SCHOOL SUPPORT

Schools receive support in the use of resources and delivery of environmental education services at Wirraminna, as well as curriculum support and classroom connections with the local environment.

SOUTHERN CORROBOREE FROG PROGRAM

The live Corroboree Frog display enables visitors to experience a connection to this critically endangered species.

WHAT WE DO

- Deliver the Creative Catchment Kids program.
- Deliver the Wiradjuri Artist in Schools program.
- Provide in-school support with use of resources, consultancy and delivery.
- Support regional excursions including the selection of sites, risk assessments and subsidised bus travel for field trips and excursions.
- Run tours around Wirraminna.
- Support schools to connect with local community Landcare groups, environmental and agricultural service providers, field officers and scientists from government and non-government agencies.
- Assist schools around calendar events such as National Tree Day, National Threatened Species Day, World Wetlands Day and NAIDOC celebrations.
- Support schools who wish to connect with cultural heritage education resources and personnel.



- Present 'Wirraminna on Wheels' incursions on threatened species, the Murray-Darling Basin and kitchen gardens.
- Provide curriculum support and opportunities to connect the classroom with the local environment and community.
- Provide Professional Development for teachers as well as speaking at staff meetings, conferences and field events.
- Coordinate the production of natural resources management, biodiversity, sustainable agriculture and Indigenous cultural appreciation educational videos.
- Coordinate the development and printing of publications on a range of topics.



CREATIVE CATCHMENT KIDS

Creative Catchment Kids (CCK) began in 2010 as an initiative of Wirraminna Environmental Education Centre. The program aims to improve engagement between the funding bodies and school students across the Murray-Darling Basin.

Our programs provide opportunities for positive, cooperative activities that encourage students to learn about and respond to, natural resource management and the importance of both agricultural production and cultural heritage.

Since 2010, more than 200 schools from Cabramurra to Tibooburra have benefited from being involved in Creative Catchment Kids.

In 2015, Creative Catchment Kids won the NSW Junior Landcare Award. This was followed up in 2016 by the program winning the National Junior Landcare Award. A great achievement for everyone involved.

wirraminna.org.au/petaurus/creative-catchment-kids/



HOW THE ENVIRO-STORIES BOOK WRITING PROGRAM WORKS

Enviro-Stories is a part of the Creative Catchment Kis program. It is an environmental literacy program for primary and secondary schools where students write and illustrate their own short books.

To achieve this outcome, we engage schools from a region, run workshops with those schools and provide ongoing assistance to teachers and students throughout the course of the program.

Each school produces a 12-page illustrated book about their chosen person and/or business. The final stories are published, with copies of the books located in the online Enviro-Stories library: library.envirostories.com.au.



The printed books are distributed at book launch events across the region where local dignitaries, media and all people involved can attend. There is no cost to schools as we source funding partners on their behalf.



WIRADJURI ARTIST IN SCHOOLS

David Dunn, a proud Wiradjuri man, is an award winning, international selling artist with thousands of art pieces distributed around the world. David has worked in over 100 early childhood centres, primary and secondary schools in NSW and Victoria.

WHAT WE OFFER

Classroom Art Workshops

David instructs the children how to draw basic people and animal figures. Children use his teaching to complete their own silhouette paintings on canvas boards.

Murals and Story Poles

David helps schools create individual art works in the form of paintings, murals and story poles which relate to the area. The murals and story poles become a feature in the playground while the paintings can be displayed inside. Recently David has been creating Acknowledgement of Country signs (see middle photo above).

Mentoring

David can provide mentoring programs for students around connection to Country and Aboriginal culture. Please contact us to find out how a mentoring program could support your students.



WIRRAMINNA ON WHEELS

WHAT WE OFFER

Live Water Bug Experience

In this hands-on interactive experience children can capture, sort into groups and identify water bugs collected from your local waterway. At the end of the session children will appreciate the many different types of water bugs, have an understanding of their life cycles and why they are important for a healthy environment.



Aussie Animal Habitats

Through searching for our puppets that have been strategically placed in different areas of your playground or local reserve, children will learn about Aussie Animal Habitats and what different animals need to survive. The session finishes with a story time focussed on the different Aussie Animals found 'Out in the Bush'.

Magnetic Fishing Game

Children will 'fish' in the river using a magnetic rod and fish and learn about native and pest fish in our Murray River. They will measure their 'fish' and use charts to identify and categorise the species of fish, understand size/bag limits as well as learning how to manage pest fish populations.

Bush Treasure Hunt

On a Bush Treasure Hunt children must search for items that animals see as treasure. From twigs to make a nest to a chewed leaf that has provided a snack, children must find this Bush Treasure and create a collage.

PRESCHOOL OUTREACH

Petaurus Education Group is supporting preschools in achieving their community, cultural, art and environmental outcomes. We offer incursion programs and the development of promotional resources that shine a spotlight on early childhood education.

WHAT WE OFFER

- Published books that showcase your preschool, a special program you've been running or even used as part of an annual report (see the gallery).
- Creating a preschool website.
- An Indigenous artist in residence program where our artist, David Dunn, runs art workshops with the children, creates murals and paints story poles for your grounds.
- Our environmental educators can come and run a range of fun workshops in your preschool with our 'Wirraminna on Wheels' program. Example activities include: water bugs, Aussie animal habitats, bush treasure hunt and exploring solar energy.

PRESCHOOL BOOK GALLERY

bit.ly/PEGpreschools

Burrumbuttock Preschool



Learning about Culture at Burrumbuttock Preschool



Coleambally Preschool



Griffith East Preschool,
Children Learning Through Play



Gulpa Pre-School 2016



Leeton Preschool 2016



Pleasant Hills Preschool



Uranquinty Preschool



Bike and Road Safety
Adelong Preschool



SQUIRREL GLIDER LOCAL AREA MANAGEMENT PLAN

The purpose of Burrumbuttock Squirrel Glider Local Area Management Plan (LAMP) is to secure viable populations of squirrel gliders in the Murray catchment through community action. A LAMP is essentially a map that shows what on-ground work needs to be done in the area to ensure the viability of the local squirrel glider population.

The LAMP process uses the local community to help steer the planning and implementation of threatened species conservation.

The Squirrel Glider LAMP project is a partnership between Petaurus Education Group Inc., Murray Local Land Services, the Office of Environment and Heritage, Greater Hume Shire, West Hume Landcare, Wirraminna Environmental Education Centre and Burrumbuttock landholders. The project is funded by the Australian Government's National Landcare Programme and Catchment Action NSW.

For more details about this project, go to:

wirraminna.org.au/petaurus/squirrel-glider-lamp/



JUNIOR LANDCARE GALA DAYS



Petaurus Education Group coordinates Junior Landcare Gala Days for schools and preschools. These days could involve:

- a multi-school event with expert presenters
- tree planting days
- seed collecting and propagating native plants
- weed identification and removal
- making, installing and monitoring nest boxes
- wildflower walks



KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

- **Winner of the 2016 Yates National Junior Landcare Team Award.**



- Winner of the 2015 NSW Junior Landcare Team Award.
- Over 200 books published through the Enviro-Stories writing program.
- Over 20 videos developed about Natural Resource Management issues. These are now being used in schools across Australia.
- Presentations at the 2013 Australian Association for Environmental Education Conference Melbourne, and the 2013 World Environmental Education Congress, Morocco, on Creative Catchment Kids.
- Development of vast teacher and student curriculum resources that link to videos on various topics.

wirraminna.org.au



- Supporting the development of over 80 NRM projects with schools.
- Establishing an extensive education network for sharing and responding.
- Empowering students in developing more resilient landscapes.

KEY PARTNERSHIPS

STATE AND FEDERAL GOVERNMENT AGENCIES

Key agencies we have partnered with include Murray and Riverina Local Land Services, NSW Office of Environment and Heritage, Murray-Darling Basin Authority, Murray-Darling Wetlands Working Group Ltd., Landcare NSW and regional schools and preschools.

PEEKDESIGNS

PeeKdesigns is an environmental education, community engagement and graphic design business. They developed an innovative Enviro-Stories program in 2009 and Creative Catchment Kids has been part of this program since 2011.

We have been working with PeeKdesigns on many projects in recent years for the development of education materials, consulting on project promotion, website development and supporting the implementation of Creative Catchment Kids.



The Hon. Sussan Ley MP with Henty Public School student, Jessica Toogood, at the 2016 Henty Machinery Field Days Creative Catchment Kids book launch.



Peter Coleman and Owen Dunlop shake on the partnership formed between PeeKdesigns and Petaurus.

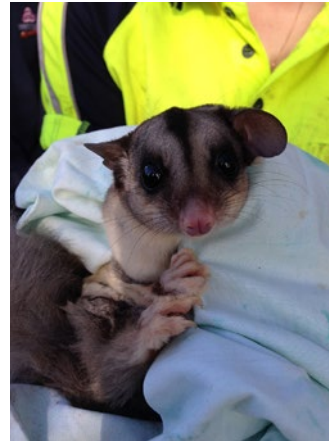
CONNECTING WITH OUR COMMUNITIES

The Creative Catchment Kids motto is about “Connecting Kids to their Region”. This reflects getting kids out of the classroom and into their local area, as well as connecting them with scientists, land managers, local Landcare groups and others in the wider community. The Squirrel Glider LAMP Project reflects this connection.

SQUIRREL GLIDER LAMP PROJECT

Creative Catchment Kids and the Burrumbuttock community is involved in the Squirrel Glider LAMP (Local Area Management Plan) Project. The project aims to secure the local Squirrel glider population through a collaborative process with the whole community.

CCK schools have produced three books about Squirrel gliders and how the project started, which have been combined into an interactive book available on the iBooks app. The a new book is being created about the land



wirraminna.org.au/petaurus/squirrel-glider-lamp/



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