



LANDMARK FOUNDATION – GOURITZ CLUSTER BIOSPHERE RESERVE
COLLABORATIVE

VANWYKSDORP PRIMARY EDUCATION REPORT

FOOD GARDEN SET UP AND OCEANS DAY CLEAN UP **18-19 SEPTEMBER**

FOOD GARDENS SET UP AT VAN WYKSDORP PRIMARY SCHOOL:

Food Gardens are becoming more and more instrumental in changing the way we interact with nature. It is a catalyst for strong community cooperation and it can begin to provide a more holistic way for people to bond and build relationships.

Apart from the obvious food provision, food gardens can secure a future connection to the elemental way of living.

It has been my experience that most people from all walks of life have “forgotten” how to be self-sufficient with regards to food and medicine obtained from plants. They have lost the knowhow to plant and harvest food and seeds.

The planting of the food gardens at the school aims to bring back the parent involvement and it will certainly be able to provide a much needed nutritional value to the food the learners will be receiving. It is only the beginning but the vision is to have parents participating in the growth of their children, their school and the community as a whole. The school will provide a place where parents and community members will gather on a Saturday for a work day in the garden, and help with the much needed maintenance at the school. After which a veggie potjie will add to the celebrations of the day. These will begin to be the new “stories” and will be more conducive to happy memories.

The Jobs for Carbon team were offered training in the NO DIG METHOD of planting. They were encouraged to share their knowledge and begin planting at home.

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INTERNATIONAL COASTAL CLEAN UP/OCEANS DAY CLEAN UP

This year marks the 30th Annual International Coastal Clean-up. There are 120 countries that participate with about 700 000 volunteers.

Vanwyksdorp Primary was registered as a contributing school to the collection of data for awareness campaigns and research purposes.

The learners undertook to clean up a tributary of the Gouritz River. The walk to the river was approximately 7km along a sand road. Most of the road was littered with plastic chips packets as well as glass bottles. People often use this road to dump heaps of bottles and tins. Other items found were plastic bottles and caps.

The learners were assisted by a team of J4C members and 300kg of litter was collected. We hope to take most of this to the re-cycling station in Oudtshoorn and get money for the Green Butterflies Environmental Club. Thank you Andre for organizing this.

They thoroughly enjoyed the walk, although long (14km) they loved every minute of it. The swim under the bridge was a highlight to the learners.

They are connecting with each other in a more positive manner and they really enjoy the veld. I am most satisfied with their positive attitude. There were some interesting comments and observations made by the learners about the evident littering done by the drivers of vehicles and adults in general. They are beginning to see that they can change it by their newly attained attitude.

Thank you to the learners for their enormous willingness to participate in every activity afforded to them. Also to the J4C team that participated, did so voluntarily. Most of them are parents of these learners. Great connections happening!



Regards,

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For more pictures follow the link

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