

Royal National Park Environmental Education Centre

SSEEN

Southern Sydney Environmental Education Network

Minutes of Meeting

Date: 15 March 2018, 4:00-5:50 pm

Location: Royal National Park Environmental Education Centre

Recycling & Fundraising

[Return and Earn](#) – 152 million items returned since December 1 2017 [Schools](#) can register to become a Donation Partner with nearest Reverse Vending Machine RVM for 3 months Plastic bottles poppers glass bottles and flavoured milk containers. RNPEEC have applied to become a Donation Partner. Currently earning money from cans and bottles found during fieldwork.



Recycling & Fundraising

Drop and Go [EnviroBank](#) Sydney Depot 34 Mavis Street Revesby. Year 10 students from Lucas Heights Community School are driving a recycling program through their families. It is hoped to expand across the broader school community.

Social & Economic

[Who gives a crap](#) toilet paper, paper towel and tissue supplier. Works out at 50 cents per roll of toilet paper. 50% of profits donated to building toilets in the developing world.



WHEN IT COMES TO OUR TOILET PAPER, WE WANT IT TO BE AS GOOD FOR YOUR BOTTOM AS IT IS FOR THE PLANET AND THE PEOPLE LIVING ON IT.



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Citizen Science

EchidnaCSI – Conservation Science Initiative - upload photos of echidna sightings or scats via this app.

<http://grutznerlab.weebly.com/echidna-csi.html>

To id an echidna scat check out

<http://grutznerlab.weebly.com/using-the-app.html>

Citizen Science

Frog ID Australian Museum's "Shazam" for frogs - submit calls of frogs to help map their distribution

<https://news.frogid.net.au/>



Citizen Science

[School of Ants](#) investigation demonstrated using samples set up on grass, paved areas and bushland. Food options sugar water, frankfurt or scotch finger biscuit. Samples are now being processed in U.S.

Technology

Using iPads as a way of encouraging teachers to work outside with students



iPad art & photography

1. Take students outside; use camera app to take photos of beautiful things (e.g. a leaf, bark texture, flower, insect)
2. Open '[Mega Photo](#)' app (students may need some time to play with all the options!)
3. Select effect #137 (kaleidoscope)
4. Tap on the gear icon
5. Select 'Image/Video From Library'
6. Navigate to camera role and choose photo you'd like to import
7. Select 'Done'
8. Now you can tap and change kaleidoscope effect on the image
9. When you get a pattern you like, tap the blue circle to capture the image. It will now appear in the camera roll.
10. So many options now – students can go outside and replicate pattern using natural objects; can cut out shapes and fold and glue and turn into 3D flowers; can tap the 3 overlapping circles icon in Mega Photo and layer another effect over the image.



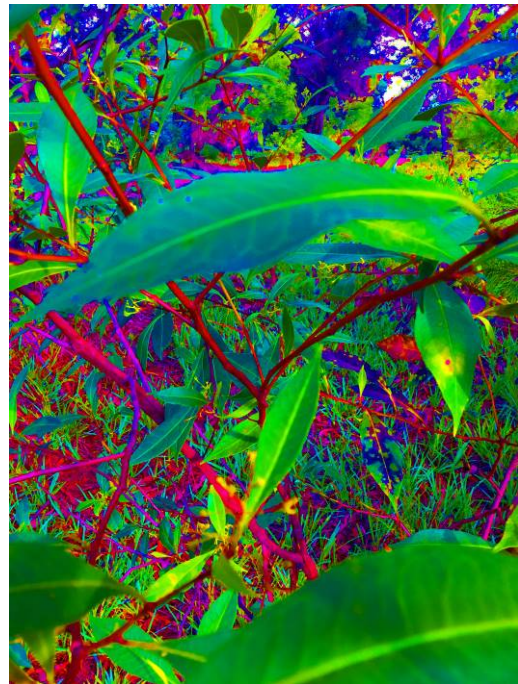
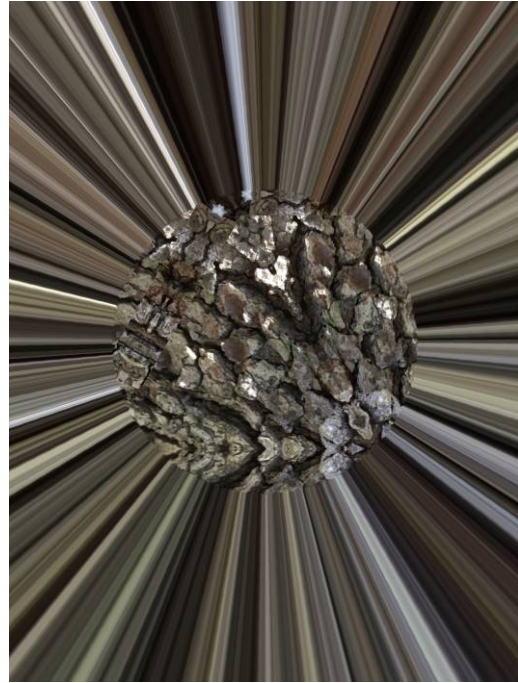
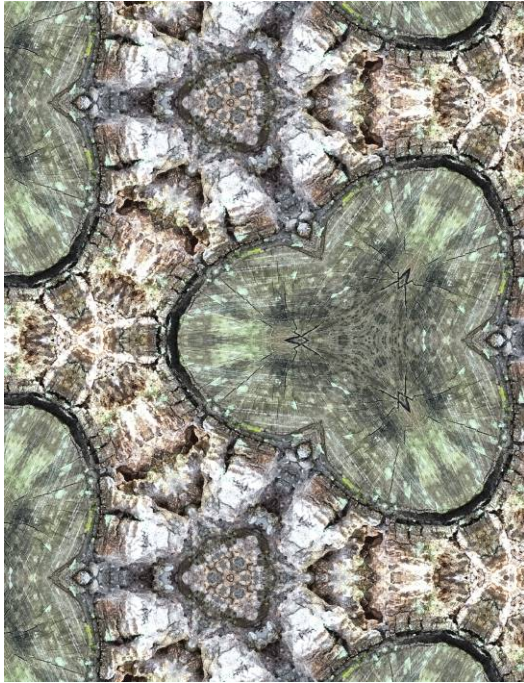
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Some of the iPad nature art teachers made at the meeting (in about 10 minutes):



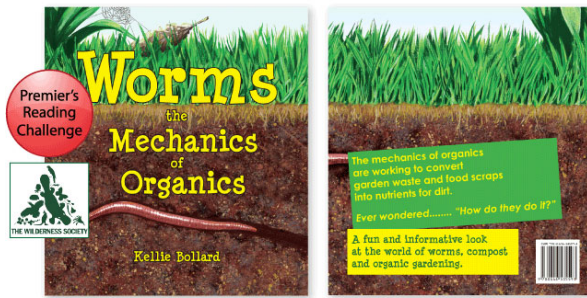
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Worm Faming



Literacy Link – An excellent text supporting worm faming is Worms the Mechanics of Organics. Worm Farm Food A3 Poster also available from local author Kellie Bollard through [Growing up Greener](#)



Growing Up Greener

Children's Books & Educational Resources

Worm farm <http://www.tumbleweed.com.au/>

Spare parts <https://products.tumbleweed.com.au/collections/accessories-and-spare-parts?page=3>

Worm suppliers: check out Gumtree – Sans Souci and Peakhurst suppliers of fresh healthy worms

WormsDownunder <http://wormsdownunder.com.au/> supply larger scale worm farms and worms

Check out YouTube for guides on building a worm farm from a bath. Many designs and techniques out there. Here is a short video from Costa on Gardening Australia.

<https://www.facebook.com/ABCiview/videos/1604418219580817/>

[JustAddWorms](#) summarises the steps we took, though lining slightly different, in 8 clear steps:

1. Get your hands on an old bathtub. ...
2. Make up a frame to support the bath. ...
3. Make grate to fit the bottom of the bath. ...
4. Place netting over the wooden grate. ...
5. Attach tap to bath waste pipe. ...
6. Line the bath with weed mat. ...
7. Add bedding. ...
8. Cover the worm farm. ...

... then add worms and introduced food slowly. Cover with pre soaked thick hessian potato sacks or thick degrading coir door mats.

RNPEEC's outdoor bathtub worm farm is covered in with metal sheets. A skilful GA made this. It was funded by an EcoSchools grant. It looks neat and subtle in a public space. As a bonus we have not had any issues with red back spiders nor bush rats being this enclosed.

Handouts attached: Steps for setting up a worm farm (RNPEEC), Holiday Treats (RNPEEC), FAQ's Worm Farms (Tumbleweed)



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Education
Public Schools

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Post script to meeting

Bug Hotel video: https://youtu.be/iFA66szDn_U



Sustainable Schools NSW is now fully managed by Australian Association of Environmental Education NSW Chapter. Join up to the Sustainable Schools Newsletter by clicking on link below and encourage other staff also.

Visit the new website at www.sustainableschoolsnsw.org.au
Read the latest newsletter [here](#) Sign up for newsletter [here](#)



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