



10 Ways Schools can become “Landcare” Schools

<http://greatersydneylandcare.org/> March 2016.

All schools have access to nature to embed an ethic of care for the environment into their schools' life. A “Landcare” school is one that treads gently and values the biodiversity and natural capital within and surrounding the school environs. Is your school a “Landcare” school? The following 10 Ways are a guide only to help your school determine if they are a “Landcare” School.

Our 10 ways to become a “Landcare” School:

1. **Work with local “care” groups e.g. local bushcare or Landcare groups**
2. **Work on-site creating habitat at school e.g. bring the small birds back**
3. **Tree planting trips and other regional programs away from your school**
4. **Citizen science programs e.g. Streamwatch, EarthWatch Institute programs**
5. **Whole school opportunities e.g. celebrating National Tree Day**
6. **Embedding in Curriculum e.g. Green Lane diary program**
7. **School network projects e.g. Taronga In situ program**
8. **Work with local Aboriginal organisations - understanding caring for country**
9. **Have a Bush School / Nature Play program**
10. **Just enjoying nature e.g. developing a School Environment Walk**

Is your school a ‘LANDCARE’ school already??

Does your school already do some of the 10 Ways to become a Landcare School, then consider joining the Greater Sydney Landcare Network GLSN <http://greatersydneylandcare.org/> and link, learn and share with other “Landcare” schools. The schools found on the Google map are members and are there to help; your school can be added by contacting Greater Sydney Landcare Network.

www.google.com/maps/d/edit?mid=z_mUY9Ssg_KY.kTVqo8bEOuCU&usp=sharing

You can also get some help from your local council or Environmental Education Centre, just ask them www.curriculumsupport.education.nsw.gov.au/env_ed/centres/

Some schools get help from local businesses, Coles Landcare grants are a big help too, watch out on the Junior Landcare website <http://www.juniorlandcare.com.au/> For more help talk to the Landcare support officer or Vanessa Keyser at the Greater Sydney Local Land Services Phone 47253041 or email vanessa.keyser@lls.nsw.gov.au

<http://greatersydney.lls.nsw.gov.au/our-region/community-groups>

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Our 10 ways to become a 'Landcare' School Tips

Action	Overview	One example
1. Work with local groups	Work off-site in bushcare or in the council nursery as part of the co-curriculum program or service program, Duke of Ed service, Year 6 or 10 end of year activity	Join a bushcare group www.bushcare.org.au/ Get help from your local council
2. Work on-site creating habitat at school	This could be in a sport afternoon, school environment day, House activity, Environment group activity fauna monitoring program, bee hotel	Habitat Network www.habitatnetwork.org/ Get help from your local DET Environmental Education Centre
3. Work with regional Landcare groups	Find a regional group to work with e.g. North Sydney bushcare partner with Boorowa, Riverview boys work with Harden Landcare, YATZ help the Regent Honey Eater in the Capertee Valley	Ascham tree planting www.ascham.nsw.edu.au/Activities/Community-Service/Environment/Environment
4. Citizen Science programs	Join up to investigate nature e.g. StreamWatch, Questa Bird, BirdLife, Australian Museum, SQUID (stormwater devices), EarthWatch Institute, WilderQuest Learning	School of Ants http://schoolofants.net.au
5. Whole School opportunities	Have a green calendar of events to mark e.g. National Tree day, Clean Up Australia day	National Tree day http://treeday.planetark.org/
6. Embedding in Curriculum	Do: a Nature diary, Birds in Schools unit, Landcare lessons http://greatersydney.ils.nsw.gov.au/resource-hub/resources-for-schools	Green Lane Diary www.greenlanediary.org/
7. School network projects	Work with Taronga, Sustainable Schools school networks, do a catchment day www.environment.nsw.gov.au/sustainable-schools/connect/envnetwork.htm	In situ https://taronga.org.au/education/workshops/diy-project-insitu-toolkit
8. Undertake Aboriginal cultural awareness	Connect to country, seek Aboriginal heritage list in local area	Murra Mittigar www.murumittigar.com.au/
9. Create Bush School / Nature Play program	Link with Centennial Parklands www.centennialparklands.com.au/education/bush_schools	Take me outside http://takemeoutside.ca/
10. Just enjoy nature, celebrate success	Find the local bushwalking program, create an environment walk around your school	Landcare Award & Challenge http://juniorlandcarechallenge.com.au/

Some ideas to try at school: make artwork from sticks, a smart app, a website about local area or geo tag along a walk, construct a bee hotel, or bird, bat or mammal box with the local Men's Shed, grow a tree as a graduating present. What is your idea? Please share with us.

This guide has been developed to assist schools on the sustainability journey to become "Landcare" schools. If you would like further information or you have a tip that you would like to add contact Vanessa Keyzer at LLS 47253041 vanessa.keyzer@ils.nsw.gov.au

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