



The Queensland Early Childhood Sustainability Network (QECSN)

Proudly presents

Walking the Talk

Footsteps along the path to sustainability

Saturday 17th September 2011

Venue: Mt Gravatt Kindergarten (Lady Gowrie),
Entrance next to 23 Gosford St, Mt Gravatt

The Program

8.15 -8.45am	Registration	
8.45 - 9am	Acknowledgement of country- Aunty Sharron Welcome from the Chair of QECSN – Lyn Bower	
9 – 9.45am	The power for change -using an ecological footprint tool	Associate Professor Julie Davis & Dr Lyndal O’Gorman (QUT)
9.45 - 10.30am	Sustainability in Swedish preschools Early childhood education for sustainability in Japan	Eva Ärlemalm-Hagsér Michiko Inoue
10.30-11am	Morning Tea	
11- 11.30am	Now after the audit:	Fleur Carter
11.30- 12.30pm	Moving your centre towards natural play spaces and sustainable environments	Melindi Robertson & Margaret Sear
12.30pm-1.15pm	Lunch	
1.15-2.15	Organic gardening : connecting children	Leonie Shanahan
12.15-3pm	2 workshops- Native Bees -No dig gardening	Robert Luttrell Margaret Sear
3.- 3.15	Close	

Presentation Synopsis

The power for change- using an ecological footprint tool: Julie and Lyndal will jointly present some recent research which investigated the use of an ecological footprint tool with preservice early childhood teachers. The students responses to their engagement with the calculator illustrated the power of such strategies for encouraging people to reflect on the sustainability of their lifestyles,

Sustainability in Swedish preschools: Through her work in teacher education at the Mälardalen University, Eva became interested in children’s agency, learning and understanding in relation to

sustainable development. Her presentation will discuss sustainability in a Swedish context.

Early Childhood education for sustainability in Japan: Michico will talk about her perspective on, and support for early childhood centres to adopt education for sustainability.

Modifying playgrounds to create more opportunities for play in natural environments and incorporating sustainable practices in your centre: Melindi and Margaret, both practicing early childhood teachers, will share their experiences and ideas to help you achieve sustainable changes in your centres.

Organic Gardening – Connecting children: Leonie, author of *Eat your garden: Organic gardening for home and school*, will talk about her work and experiences with school communities and early childhood centres to inspire children and adults alike to engage in organic gardening. She will also demonstrate practical examples of work that can be done with young children such as worm towers, potting up, types of seeds to plant and games.

After the Audit : Fleur spoke of her work in ecological auditing of early childhood centres at the September workshop day in 2010. She will discuss outcomes from these audits and the impacts of proposed initiatives such as carbon tax, and waste management levies on centres.

Working with Native Bees: Native stingless bees have become popular as an interest in schools and kindergartens interested in gardening. Robert will discuss the value of bees, and demonstrate how to establish and maintain a hive and extract some of the honey (Sugarbag).