

ACTIVITY 3

“Rotten into Right”

Turning Rotten into Right offers inspiration on how to embed environmental/waste education into the Kindergarten/Foundation/Grade 1 setting, via nature play, gardening, interventions and with supporting infrastructure. This article tells of a year-long, hands-on interdisciplinary curriculum, weaving important scientific concepts with language arts, social studies, art, music, technology and sustainability. The lessons develop an environmental custodianship in the children.

Depending on the activities chosen, sessions can meet the following aspects of the Australian Curriculum.

English ACELY165 | Create short texts to explore, record and report ideas and events using familiar words and beginning writing knowledge

English ACELY166 | Create short imaginative and informative texts that show emerging use of appropriate text structure, sentence-level grammar, word choice, spelling, punctuation and appropriate multimodal elements, for example illustrations and diagrams

Maths ACMNA001 Establish understanding of the language and processes of counting by naming numbers in sequences, initially to and from 20, moving from any starting point

Maths ACMNA012 Develop confidence with number sequences to and from 100 by ones from any starting point. Skip count by twos, fives and tens starting from zero

Science ACSSU002 That living things have basic needs, including food and water

Science ACSSU017 Living things have a variety of external features

Science ACSSU211 Living things live in different places where their needs are met

Science ACSHE013 That we can use our senses to explore and observe the world

Science ACSHE 021 Science involves observing, asking questions about, and describing changes in, objects and events

Science ACSIS011 That we can make observations using the senses

Science ACSIS233 That we can engage in discussions about observations and use methods such as drawing to represent ideas

Science ACSIS027 Use a range of methods to sort information, including drawings and provided tables through discussion, compare observations with predictions

The Arts ACAVAM107/107 Use and experiment with different materials, techniques, technologies and processes to make artworks

Sustainability OI.1- OI.9 All life forms, including human life, are connected through ecosystems on which they depend for their wellbeing and survival, sustainable patterns of living rely on the interdependence of healthy social, economic and ecological systems, and actions for a more sustainable future reflect values of care, respect and responsibility, requiring us to explore and understand environments

Method

Use the inspiration from Turning Rotten into Right to develop activities, routines and educational opportunities for the children.

Reference

Gopal, J (2014) Turning Rotten into Right: A Kindergarten Study of Decomposition, Green Teacher Magazine: Education for Planet Earth, viewed 11 February 2021, <http://greenteacher.com/turning-rotten-into-right-a-kindergarten-study-of-decomposition/>

