

Is it Wasteful or Wonderful?



Let's Learn to Care for Country from Traditional Owners

ACTIVITY 1	RESOURCES
<p>Mary G from the Kimberley tells us... that Country cares for us when we look after it...</p>	<p>SHOW these quick clips and ask children - <i>how can we begin to care?</i></p> <p>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YBcqG_ORzkw https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4ZWIF7oFn9w</p>
<p>EXPLANATION FOR EDUCATOR:</p> <p>Learning from Traditional custodians, about their ways of caring for country, can teach us to be thankful for what we have and to become less wasteful by turning to nature for creative uses and play... AND when we finish, we can return items to their natural settings where they will not add to the pollution of our world.</p>	

IMPORTANT NOTE ... To source native plant samples for education purposes (& for the activity below), from other than your own private property, educators must possess written permission from landowners or seek a Flora Collection Licence from DBCA – email for more info: wildlifelicensing@dbca.wa.gov.au

ACTIVITY 2	RESOURCES
<p>So Let's play a game that helps us understand that when we care for country, it will take care for us</p> <p>Is it Wasteful or Is it Wonderful?</p>	<p>Source natural items which demonstrate use by Traditional Owners in your region & Compare these to modern day versions of the same – LGS Members can download an Expansive Fact Sheet on '<i>Natural Resources Management on Wadjuk country</i>'.</p> <p>Source props listed in Table 3.</p> <p>Eg. Honky nut necklace vs plastic bead necklace</p> <p>Questions to ask children:</p> <p><i>What is it? /used for?</i></p> <p><i>When you finish with it, where does it go?</i></p> <p><i>So is it wasteful or wonderful?</i></p>
<p>EXPLANATION FOR EDUCATOR:</p> <p>This game can be played as a Treasure hunt (find the partner) ... as a Pairs match (based on purpose), A Compare & Contrast (use questions & objects) OR a Memory game (items on two covered trays)... Learning outcome:</p> <p>Traditional owners worked with nature to make the multi-purposed items they needed and when these break or are no longer needed, they simply go back to nature and DO NOT become waste ... HOW WONDERFUL IS THAT !</p>	

Is it Wasteful or Wonderful?



Educators should always seek to engage with cultural presenters to expand their own understandings of traditional knowledge.

The traditional ecological knowledge shared by Little Green Steps WA for this activity has been sourced through a partnership with Cultural Presenter, Leonard Thorn, a traditional owner of Wilmun, Wardandi and Wadjuk country.

Table 3 - Source & show the REAL Items or USE the LGSWA picture cards.

Natural Item	Modern Item	What is its use?	Waste or wonder ?
Quandong/Honky nut necklaces	Plastics beads & bangles		
Taap knife - quartz, stick and resin	Single use utensil set in plastic bag		
Kangaroo skin - booka	Polar fleece jumper		
Wooden tapping sticks	Plastic maraccas & beads inside		
Balga Resin, kangaroo poo & charcoal heated up	Glue stick		
Zamia fluff & balga flower spike fire sticks	Matches/lighter		
Bull banksia cone	Battery torch		
Plaited sedges	Nylon string		
Woven, cross hatched flat sedges	Plate		
paperbark	Stretch bandage		
paperbark	Alfoil wrap		
Woven basket/coolamon	Glass/metal bowls		
Charcoal/marri gum	toothpaste		
Mindarie fronds from Balga	Plastic straw		
Paperbark/gumtree leaves	Vicks or cough lollies		

Is it Wasteful or Wonderful?



ACTIVITY 3	RESOURCES
<p>Extension</p> <p>So How can we care for Country ...</p> <p>Learn about the Aboriginal Six Seasons to understand nature in balance - we can copy nature to show we care - eat in season, notice changes in seasons, learn what animals and plants do in season.</p> <p>Share creation stories which celebrate seasonal connections & responsibility to care.</p>	<p>READ books which provide children with agency to take action themselves:</p> <p>'Benny Bungarra's Big Bush clean up' - Native animals benefit when we care & clean up.</p> <p>Become Bushland Buddies by Adopting A Spot to keep clean. Make your own Six Seasons gardens to attract native animals.</p> <p>Celebrate the Seasons where you are.</p> <p>Listen & Watch songs and stories on the Six seasons:</p> <p>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WX3phljB3lg https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Jb6_SqclAmM</p> <p>Read 'Moodjar Yok' - The Christmas Tree Woman by Kerry Ann Winmar in the season of Birak . OR 'Waakar!' by Dorothy Winmar to explore how the rainbow serpent connects to country across all seasons.</p>
<p>EXPLANATION FOR EDUCATOR:</p> <p>Learning how we can care for country by exploring the Six seasons in our local areas, can give all people (especially children), the agency to care for country through its traditional connections and help keep it in balance for the future.</p>	

