



Waste Authority

Media Release

Riverside Primary School Recycled Art Project Finalist in Environment Awards

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A Mandurah primary school arts project has made it as a finalist in this year's Western Australian Environment Awards for its festival recycled arts installation.

Riverside Primary School's Year 4 class put together the recycled maze, made of recycled materials, for the Mandurah Stretch Festival, an annual community arts festival held in early May.

The Trans-Cube-ation project involved the use of large recyclable cubes sponsored by Cleanaway for the event. The Year 4 students worked with their teacher, Terry Wozniuk, and a French artist, Bénédicte Guilhon, to produce an artistic maze entirely from recycled objects for the project.

"The class collected enough recycled materials to produce their exciting maze showing that objects once destined for landfill can have their lives extended into something of beauty," teacher Terry Wozniuk said.

The maze, an extremely popular installation on the Mandurah Foreshore, attracted many of the festival's 30 000 spectators.

"After agreeing on the concept of a maze for the recycled art project, students in the class formed themselves into groups of three," Mrs Wozniuk said.

"Each group was responsible for one wall of the maze and then devised a plan for their wall using recycled materials. The students learnt many new skills during the construction of their artwork including problem solving.

"They also had a growing awareness of the usefulness recycled objects could play in the project and were able to imaginatively come up with different uses for objects.

"The students were innovative in providing their own signage with each group of three working together to write a poem presented on a plastic bag framed by a plastic coat hanger for their wall of the maze.

“The project was a wonderful opportunity for the students and the wider school community to view recycling through new eyes.

“It was also a great collaborative effort with everyone learning about working with their peers and with a French artist, which also included a little culture and language. They also learnt about recycling, art, design, measurement and even writing.

“I enjoyed the challenge of the project, extending the students beyond their usual boundaries and working with the artist.

“The project helped to develop a sense of pride for the students and a public recognition that however young, it is not too young to make a difference.”

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