



PRACITIONER PRESENTATION

Waste education for CaLD (Culturally and Linguistically Diverse) communities utilising a strength based community development approach and the multilingual learning resource WasteSorted – Talking my language

Emma Syme, City of Wanneroo

Abstract

This presentation explores the benefits and challenges of adopting strengths-based community development approaches to waste education with CaLD (culturally and linguistically diverse) communities. “WasteSorted – Talking My Language” is a multilingual learning resource developed to assist waste sorting behaviours and language development for CaLD communities. This resource was activated through partnerships with community leaders, to overcome the difficulties experienced by CaLD demographics in understanding waste services information due to language and literacy barriers.

Capacity building workshops and learning kits in the language of choice were provided, with guidance on how to deliver a learning session, to all community leaders involved. This model of activation built positive community engagement, and reinforced the importance of connection to community through the everyday experience of sorting your household waste.

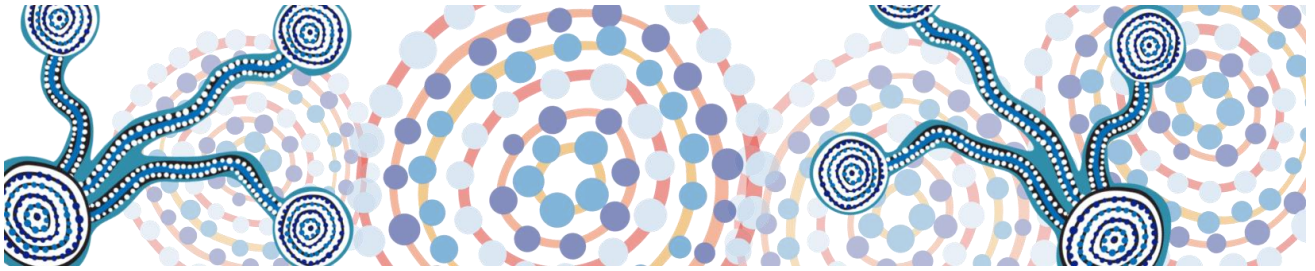
Learning kits were also distributed to local school environments to support the Western Australian Curriculum’s sustainability cross-curriculum priority in Languages syllabus. In this setting the shared, everyday experience of sorting your household waste becomes a cross cultural development tool to build stronger communities, while making waste education information more universally accessible.

Acknowledgement

We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of the land on which we meet and pays respects to their Elders past and present.

Other Acknowledgements:

The WasteSorted – Talking My Language project is funded by the State Government through the Waste Avoidance and Resource Recovery Account, and administered by the Waste Authority.



Speaker Profile

Emma Syme is passionate about ensuring all members of community can access information that helps them live healthy and environmentally aware lifestyles. She has a diverse background in community and youth education nationally and internationally, including working with the Jane Goodall Institute – Uganda to integrate environmental education resources into the mainstream school system. Currently she is supporting the City of Wanneroo community transition to a new three bin system as a Waste Education Officer. She is the creator of the WasteSorted – Talking My Language learning resource that has dynamically changed the way the City communicates with its CaLD community

Website links

