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Conservation through Education

Baldvis Children's Forest
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Baldvis Children's Forest Award recognition

Since 2006 the multi-award winning Forest project has been recognised in State, national and international arenas for biodiversity conservation, education and Aboriginal cultural reconciliation. Although the Forest now has its own entity, teacher Judith Hill and Baldvis Primary continue to be major drivers and supporters of the project and as such the awards recognise this strong partnership.



The entry submitted by Baldvis Primary School students' detailed sustainability in the Baldvis district and featured their inspiring work to create the Baldvis Children's Forest. Teacher Judith Hill and students Emily Rayner and Kimberly Diery won a trip to UNESCO in Paris in 2006 to share with other delegates from around the world their hopes for a better future.



The Baldvis Children's Forest project was a finalist in the 2008 State Landcare Awards Community Landcare Group category for their work in flora and fauna conservation.



The Baldvis Children's Forest project was the 2008 Winner of the State Sustainable Cities Biodiversity Conservation award.



The Baldvis Children's Forest project was the 2008 Winner of the State Sustainable Cities Heritage and Culture Award.



Government of **Western Australia**
Department of **Indigenous Affairs**



School to assist with the development of a Dreamtime drive trail through the Rockingham and Kwinana districts. Baldivis Primary School has also been recognised for this work, winning awards in the **Department of Indigenous Affairs PALS** program from 2006-2010.

Aboriginal cultural studies have been a part of the Forest’s schools activity days since 2004.

In 2006 a bush tucker walk trail, artworks and signage were created at the Forest (Envirofund grant). In 2007 a large reconciliation breakfast and all-day activities were held at the Forest. In 2008 and 2009 we joined with Baldivis Primary



The Baldivis Children’s Forest project was the **2008** Winner of the Inaugural City of Rockingham Awards for their work in biodiversity conservation.



The Baldivis Children’s Forest Project won Baldivis Primary School the **2009** WA Landcare Australia’s Westpac Education Award. This award recognised:

1. The contribution that the founding Baldivis Primary School makes to the Forest project through teacher and student involvement, committee membership and special learning events (i.e. conferences, Aboriginal cultural events);
2. The growth of the Baldivis Children’s Forest project to now include hundreds of students from more than 25 schools annually in the schools activity days;
3. The development of a secondary school student volunteer and training program involving hundreds of secondary students annually; and
4. The development of a popular community events program.

The project continues to be child-centred and led, with all children contributing to the development and management of the Forest when they visit.





The Baldivis Children's Forest project was voted the **2009** Western Australian Landcare People's Choice Award.



The Baldivis Children's Forest Project won Baldivis Primary School the **2010** National Landcare Australia's Westpac Education Award.



September 2010 saw the announcement of a Schools First Award for the partnership between Baldivis Primary School and the Baldivis Children's Forest.