

Jack - Revitalising the school garden

What was your goal and what did you achieve?

I wanted to achieve a more environmentally friendly garden at my previous school which didn't work the best but it was an improvement. I changed schools in the middle of the year which was a challenge. The first thing I did was to work out where to put it, then I had to plan it out.

Unfortunately, the plan wasn't finished because one of the plants wasn't going so well. For the plants, we tried to get hold of the National Parks but none of them replied so we had to improvise and get some from Bunnings. I worked with my dad, my mum, the Principal and my nephew, and some of the younger kids are watering it for me and maintaining it, so that's a plus.

We tried to get a page in the newsletter to promote it, but they didn't accept it, so some people didn't even know it existed until I left. I know now that the teachers and students are actually using it. I know that one of the teachers has lemon myrtle tea every day (from the garden).

Your biggest success so far?

Completing the garden and making it aesthetically pleasing, and having people using it, instead of having a random garden that's dead.

Next steps?

As far as I know the classes are still using it, and my mum helps to water it once a week when she's in town for work.

What did you enjoy most?

Seeing the final product, seeing how the lemon myrtle is growing better at school than at our house, because we got two of each plant.

Your advice to other students?

Try to be persuasive about the spot to put it, sometimes it doesn't work. I tried including the Kindy which had a perfect spot, but the teachers in the Kindy had some idea that they might eat the plants or something, which was kind of the point.

This case study was transcribed from an interview. These are Jack's words and opinions.

