



Kenza - Battery collection boxes

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

What was your goal and what did you achieve?

I wanted to change something in my community to make it more sustainable. I ended up doing a battery recycling scheme by making small boxes to collect batteries to be able to recycle them. I laser cut and created a prototype for a mini battery recycling box which can go on a desk to collect up the batteries. I also created a flyer to give information about it and I presented that to my school. I did a little bit of research for the flyers, but I mostly knew it from shows. I used Publisher – they have a brochure template and from there I created it.

Who did you work with?

My dad mostly, he was the one that has the laser cutter, so he helped me design the box and my teacher proof-read the flyer.

How did you promote your work?

Most of the flyers I letterboxed, and I went and talked to people in the community about it. I talked to my teacher, and from there I talked to my Deputy Principal and we're going to see if we can put up the boxes around the school. It wasn't too difficult to get a meeting with the Deputy Principal, I know her better than the actual Principal.

What will happen now?

First I need to get the boxes up in my school and then I'll probably try and see if I can move it on to different schools, maybe at my high school next year. The boxes are just for collecting the batteries and then once it's full you can take them to either Officeworks or Aldi, places like that, to be recycled properly.

How will it continue at your school?

My brother is still at the school so he can do it, but we're talking about putting up monitors or someone to volunteer to manage it.

What have you enjoyed most?

Actually being able to do something about climate change and doing something towards being sustainable. Our school already has a lot of plans in place - they have rain tanks, solar panels, a good recycling system, 10c recyclables - so finding something and helping out is a good reward.

Your advice to other students?

Stay motivated, keep working at it, it's worth it in the end.