



## Mackenzie - Raising awareness to keep our beautiful beach clean

### What was your goal and what did you want to achieve?

I live on Yorke Peninsula and lately it's become more and more popular to tourists and there's not any camping spots around. So people decide to camp on the beach and you're not allowed to camp at the beach whatsoever. Lately I've noticed that there has been more and more rubbish on the beach.

I wanted to do an awareness thing for my community and visitors, like tourists, about what could happen to animals and all that rubbish.

I designed two information signs that I wanted to survey with people in my community and visitors. Unfortunately, I did it in the holidays so I only got one response, and I was planning on putting bins there for tourists to use to put their rubbish in so that my beach would be maintained and be beautiful, no waste whatsoever.

Whenever there's a storm there is heaps of rubbish and sometimes that rubbish is still left on the beach, no one picks it up.

### Who else did you work with?

I met with Letitia, the Environment Officer from Yorke Peninsula Council. I had a face-to-face conversation with her about it and I've contacted her over email. She's been really helpful and supportive.

My middle school Coordinator was the first one who brought up the YEC to me and he supported me in doing my project. We met every Wednesday at lunch and did more and more work on my project.

### What did you find challenging?

I don't usually have that much self-motivation to do things, I try here and there. But I went ahead with my project anyway.

Other challenges would be when there are no people in town for my survey to do.

Also, when I email Council they sometimes don't respond straight away.



## How have you shared your work?

During term we have a middle school assembly and I wrote a mini speech about my project. When I was about to walk off, my middle school coordinator made me stay up there and said to everyone, she's managing her school time and home time to create this project to stand up for things that other people may be too afraid or just can't be bothered to do.

## Next steps?

I want to continue it next year. I want to establish the signs that I've created, but I need to know which one people prefer.

I made two designs; one was neutral and the other one had a little bit of colour on it. I coloured in the tidy man symbol, he has red shorts, a green t-shirt and pixelated sunglasses!

## Your advice to other students?

Don't listen to people who say negative comments and make sure you don't do surveys in the holidays when nobody is around, because you won't get any responses!

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

