

Student benefits from taking part

Kids in Action is an environmental education program aiming to increase knowledge and inspire action. Findings arising from a 2014 pilot evaluation study, carried out with 20 students from four participating Sunshine Coast schools, identified numerous program outcomes which included:

- valued learning process
- increased knowledge and awareness
- engendered protection and responsibility
- changed actions.

Valued learning process – constructivist learning

This pilot evaluation found that the Kids Teaching Kids method of learning is enjoyed and valued by students.

- 84% enjoyed the development of their workshops – specifically making and creating activities, working with others, learning new things and challenging themselves.
- 85% respondents felt the method of kids teaching kids helped to improve their learning about the environment.

Increasing knowledge and awareness – environmental literacy

The pilot study revealed children reported increased knowledge and awareness of the environment in particular relating to the conference theme.

- 81.25% reported an increase in knowledge from their workshop development and conference participation.
- 62.5% reported their knowledge about the local environment increased since attending the conference.
- 75% reported learning something new about the environment since participating in Kids in Action.
- 90% reported having more awareness of the environment from participating in Kids in Action.



Engendering protection and responsibility – environmental stewardship

Developing a deeper sense of care and protection for the environment was evident in children's responses.

- 95% reported post-conference that they wanted to protect the environment more since participating in Kids in Action.
- 85% reported sharing what they learned, particularly human impact and pro-environment actions, with family and friends.

Inspiring action – pro-environmental behaviour

Learning developed through the program has an impact on how children think and act towards the environment.

- 75% reported what they learned changed the way they thought about the environment.
- 70% reported a change in actions post conference, particularly being responsible for rubbish.



"Kids in Action showcases effective Environmental Education for Sustainability by engaging students through a long, deep investigation of local issues and topics. Including Indigenous ways of learning and Culture this year showed the interconnectedness of these two cross-curriculum priorities and the kids have had life-changing experiences through this program and developed stewardship and ownership of Country."

Kylie Moses,
Australian Association for
Environmental Education
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