

Transforming School Grounds into Productive Learning Environments

- a 'Permaculture in Schools' Teacher Training

CHRISTCHURCH

Learn how to work with children to integrate gardening into the school curriculum and help them design nourishing outdoor environments.

2-DAY WORKSHOP COVERS:

- Introduction to Permaculture principles & design process
- Facilitating fun, hands-on permaculture design with children
- Integrating gardening into the school curriculum
- Using Earthcare's Interactive Teaching Toolkit

Tutor: Robina McCurdy (*Earthcare Education Aotearoa*)

RECOMMENDED PROGRAMME

Mon Eve, 12 November, 7 – 9pm

'Growing Schools' documentaries

– open to the public. Entry: koha (see sample of typical poster)

DAY 1: TUES 13 Nov

Session 1: (9.00– 10.30am)

- * **Introduction** to each other, gauging experience, intro to the programme,
- * **Permaculture Overview**
- * Permaculture and Gardening **distinction** (including biodynamics)
- * **Our Learning Outcomes**
- * Relevant **books, videos and organisations** (to add to as we go along)
- * **Group Agreements** for our optimal learning

Session 2: (11 – 12.30)

- * **Research Evidence:** the **proven benefits** of permaculture, gardening and nature connection for children's motivation, academic achievement, health and wellbeing.
- * Different approaches to designing and operating a **Whole School Permaculture and Gardening Programme**
- * '**Culture within Permaculture**' as a key motivating factor in engaging children
- * **Designing wholistic class-based Permaculture Programmes for Children's Learning**
- * Selected snippets from documentary: '**Enriching Gardeners: Gardening at the Heart of the School Curriculum**', followed by reflection questions.

Session 3 (1.15 – 2.45pm)

- * Steps in facilitating **the Permaculture Design Process** with different age groupings of children, from site analysis to concept design to whole school grounds edible landscape implementation
- * **Practical Implementation** recommendations

- * **Introduction to the Interactive Teaching Resource Kit**
- * **Using Interactive Ground-Maps, 2D Maps and 3D Models**
- * **Client Interview methods** and intro to children's interview question sheet

Session 4 (3 – 4.30pm)

- * **Introduction to facilitating Site & Sector Analysis** survey activities with various age groups (using guide-sheet provided)
- * **Intro to soil testing** activity (demo outside) and how to use survey sheet.
- * **Introduction to Facilitating Permaculture Design** (Broadscale & Gardens) with Classes - practicing using models &/or maps and interactive teaching toolkit

Prep for next day: Overnight participants need to watch short food forest DVDs and read through handouts on food forests.

DAY 2: WED 14 Nov

Session 1: 9am – 10.15am

- * **Environmental games to use with children** (playing these together)
- * **Reflections and questions from yesterday**
- * **Preparation for next sessions with children** (organisation in small groups – roles & materials)

Session 2: 10:40–11:40 = class 5 half class (15 children aged 10yrs old)

- * **Facilitating Site & Sectors Analysis activity** (in pairs) – 40 mins
- * **Feedback and amalgamation of information** – 20 mins

Session 3: 11:40–12:40 = class 5 other half (15 children – divided into 2 groups)

- * **Facilitating Permaculture Design** (Broadscale) with (using models &/or maps and interactive teaching toolkit)

Session 4: 1:20–3 = Class 7 half class (12/13 year olds)

- * **Facilitating Detailed Design** – food forest theme

1.20 – 2pm (observation of tutor teaching this)

Intro to food forest concept: Participatory activity plus powerpoint, then setting up pairs and introducing resource materials we will work with

2 – 2.30pm

Design of a basic food forest guild - participants guiding this with class in groups of 3 (including viewing drawings of examples)

2.30 – 3pm

Siting our guilds on the landscape (whole group)

Session 5: 3 – 4.30pm (course participants only)

Debrief afternoon sessions, **maps amalgamation, outcome steps** (to leave with garden teacher), **feedback forms; networking, followup, further support** (our group) **certificate giving**