

Global Connections Article re. The Environment

Our concerns for the environment from the point of view of Australian students

Australia has a unique flora and fauna. Our native animals form is part of our Australian identity. Koalas, Emus, Kangaroos, Echidnas, Wombats, Dingo, Kookaburra, Salt water crocodiles, Bilbies, just to name a few.

Most recently, in the beginning of 2020, nearly 3 billion animals were killed or affected by the bushfires, 6382 koalas were killed leaving as few as 43,000 koalas in the wild.

As for the Kangaroos, their population plummeted by 25%. Approximately 5.8million hectares of trees and land were burnt, leaving the kangaroos no option to flee or die of hunger.

There are many causes leading to climate change and at our school, we try to prevent that and raise awareness about the issue. At Kilvington, we try to do the following things Having different bins, for different rubbish items. Such as compost bin, recyclables, paper bins and plastics.

- In our classrooms we have recycling bins for loose paper.
- We have posters which remind us to close the lights
- We also have fans as a replacement instead of air conditioners, as they use less energy, can be reused and is better for the environment.
- We have plenty of hand sanitisers in every room, to keep students safe and healthy.
- Instead of relying on the lights in the classroom, we open our windows, to allow natural light come in.
- We have drinking fountains which encourages students to bring their own drink bottle and to stay hydrated.
- We try to print double-sided, to reduce the amount of paper we use.

These facts highlight how extreme fires are becoming due to climate change.

As our partner school, we are keen to hear what are the environmental issues in your country and what your school does to address these? Please write back to us and we will publish your article in our newsletter. Are there any other global issues, you would like to exchange ideas about it, we are interested in having a global perspective on a range of topics.

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