

Thinkers Unlimited

Earthlings High School
P.O. Box 1111
Johannesburg, 2000
Tel: 011 724 3623
Fax: 011 724 3622



Project Name: **Recycle Africa**

Objectives:

- To create a database of places that help you recycle
- To distribute this database to as many people as possible
- To promote an awareness of the importance of recycling
- To encourage the school and local community to recycle

Principle Team Members and responsibilities:

- Mary: Project Leader
- John: Secretary
- Xolani: Treasurer
- Sugen: Research Co-ordinator
- Peter: Publicity Co-ordinator

Plan of Action:

- Approach the school management with the proposed project idea
- Establish a research committee and a publicity committee incorporating other learners
- Research committee will contact local companies and obtain information regarding recycling in the area
- Publicity committee will obtain sponsorships for posters and pamphlets
- Research committee will obtain statistics and general information regarding waste disposal and recycling
- All the research will be compiled
- Target audience will be determined
- Posters and pamphlets will be made and distributed
- Specific schools and businesses who are guilty of not recycling will be individually approached

Implementation:

Diary of tasks performed:

- Day 1: Principle members of team (as mentioned above) elected at general meeting of Thinkers Unlimited
- Day 2: School principal and science teachers approached with project proposal – it was welcomed with great enthusiasm
- Day 3: Announcement of project in the school assembly by Peter, president of Thinkers Unlimited, who also made a call for volunteers from the learner body
- Day 4: Meeting of volunteers and election of sub-committees
- Day 5-8: Research performed and possible sponsors approached
- Day 9-10: Compilation of research and sponsorships
- Day 11: Project meeting during the lunch break – discussion of progress and determination of target audience
- Day 12-13: Posters and pamphlets made
- Day 14: Posters displayed and pamphlets distributed to learners at Earthlings High School and scientist invited to speak to learners about the environment

- Day 14 (Friday): Final meeting and planning for the next day
- Day 15: (Saturday) Along with teachers, Thinkers Unlimited march to predetermined businesses to present them with recycling options. Pamphlets are also distributed at traffic lights in the area. Lunch for participants provided by various sponsors. During lunch, a brief review of the day is done.
- Day 16: Lunch break meeting for all participants and discussion of project

Photographs and records:

- List of sponsors:
 - o MONDI
 - o Zeb's Printing and Stationery
 - o Al's Burger Joint
- Names of participants
 - o Hansel
 - o Gretal
 - o Jack
 - o Jill
 - o
 - o
- Letter of sponsorship <attached>
- Sample pamphlet <attached>
- Sample poster <attached>
- Recycling database <attached>
- Photographs <attached>

Review

Follow-up investigations:

- Businesses that we had approached were revisited and all have begun recycling
- Feedback forms were given to learners to find out how many households have begun recycling – over 50% success rate!

Were the objectives achieved?

- Database was established successfully
- This database was distributed in the form of pamphlets
- Awareness campaign was successful (pamphlets, posters, invited speaker)
- Almost all of the target audience have begun recycling
- Therefore we feel that the project has achieved all of its objectives

Lessons learned:

- It is really easy to obtain sponsorships
- It was easier than expected to obtain scientists to speak to the school learners
- We should provide more cool drinks on the main publicity day
- We should allow more time to make the posters
- We should approach other schools to join in on the project (learners from nearby schools who we met on the streets seemed very keen to be involved)
- It was a good idea to make the project known to the rest of the school at the assembly as many very helpful volunteers came forward

Future:

- This will become an annual event for our school and for Thinkers Unlimited
- Next year we will invite the neighbouring schools (Mars Secondary and Venus Middle School) to participate in the project
- We aim to build up the database for next year and include it in our school newsletter