



# Green Fingers Initiative

REUSE REDUCE RECYCLE REPLANT

The aim of this program is to provide children in the local community with a sense of pride and to create a "greener" environment.

The first stage went extremely well and over 150 children participated from 6 local schools. The subjects covered included "What is Fynbos and why do we need to conserve it?" and "How can I make a cutting and propagate my own plants?" which were followed by a practical session of propagating two plants each.

## The second stage

Presentations delivered by Mnr. Furness from Working on Fire (stood in for Marx-Lenin Nagan from Cape Nature Conservation) and Johann van Biljon from Waverley Hills who gave the following presentations:

1. Recycling
2. What will the consequences be if we do not change and recycle?

After the presentations every child made a pot using a 2l plastic bottle, wrote their names on pot and planted their plant. These plants are going to be kept at their school where it is the child's own responsibility to look after the plant.

## The third stage

Johann van Biljon (Waverley Hills) and Marx-Lenin Nagan (Cape Nature Conservation) had another successful stage of the Green Finger Program.

The third stage took place at the individual schools. The first part of the day Marx elaborated on the importance of fynbos conservation. The use of common and botanical names was then discussed with the focus on the children's plants. A practical explanation of garden designing followed. Everyone got their hands dirty when it was time to plant the plants. The following schools participated in this program: Drostdy Primer, Twee Jong Gezellen, Montrouge VGK Primer, Steinthal Kinderhuis, Petra Gedenk VGK Primer and Witzenberg Primer and VV Loots.

A big congratulation must go to the schools who prepared the gardens and for their wonderful participation.

## The fourth stage

Stage four took place on 23 September at Waverley Hills and was combined with the Cape Winelands District Municipality Tourism Event "Biodiversity is our Heritage".

In the practical session each child made their own medicinal board for the plants they have grown. These boards will be used in the school gardens.

Stage 4 marked the end of the 2010 Green Fingers Initiative and each school was awarded with a certificate of participation.

We are so proud of all the wonderful children that have taken part in this program. They have all taken responsibility of looking after their plants and the plants are healthy and growing! Congratulations!

If you are interested in getting further information on this environmental program, please contact Johann van Biljon on 0727347287 or [kelder@waverleyhills.co.za](mailto:kelder@waverleyhills.co.za)