

STEM LAB NEWS

Term 1 4th edition



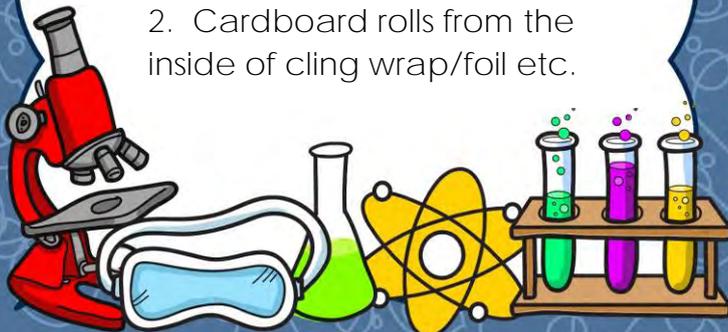
New Arrivals

We have 3 new tanks set up with these colourful characters to observe and care for. Thanks to Aiden V and his Mum for the donation of the huge fellow from their home and the many families for the tanks.



This week please collect:

1. Pop tops from water/juice bottles.
2. Cardboard rolls from the inside of cling wrap/foil etc.



Left: Dave Canavan sharing *augmented reality* glasses with teachers.



Right: Mrs Hayes with Rebecca Johnson from Windaroo SS. Mrs Johnson is a children's author and winner of the PM Prize for Science 2016.

Primary Science/STEM Teachers Network Meeting

On Thursday MCSS hosted 36 Science and STEM teachers from across the South Coast Region in the STEM lab for a networking meeting. Ideas were shared and some valuable new resources were explained. The feedback about the opportunities offered for our students was extremely positive with new partnerships formed that will benefit our students throughout 2017 and beyond.

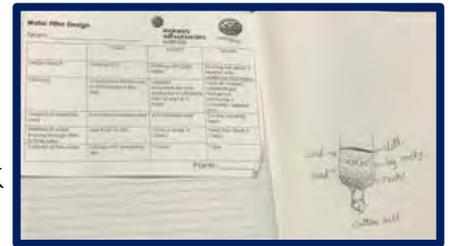


This week in the STEM lab...

Year 6- Engineers without Borders (EWB) and the clean water challenge...

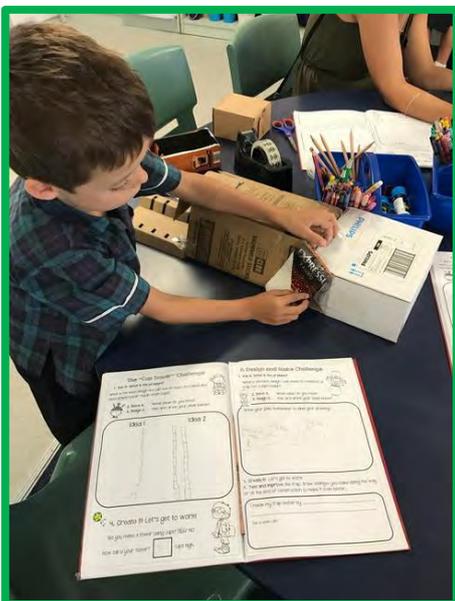
The STEM Island challenges continued with a little technical support from the Griffith Universities EWB crew of Eric, Jacqui and Sarah as well as Tui Adams from QSTEM. Students displayed their ability to apply the engineering design process to a real world problem to plan, build and modify a water filter using limited materials.

The EWB team then taught the Year 6 students to use a 'turbidity tube' to measure the clarity of the water produced. It was inspiring to see the quality of discussion and problem solving applied to the task by our students. The team of Brendon, Jake and Ben produced water that was even clearer than all the EWB team!

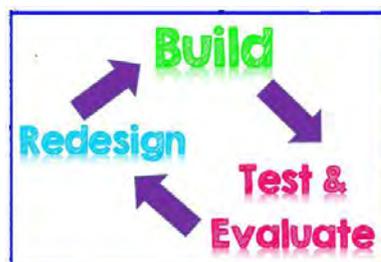
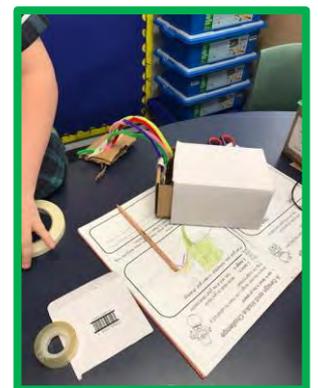


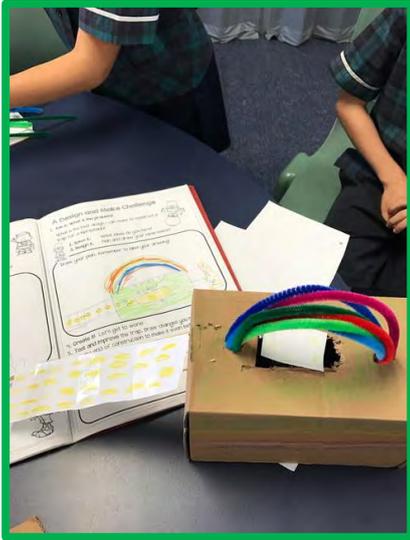
Year 2: Do you have a problem with cheeky leprechauns?
Need a trap ready for St Patrick's Day?

Construction is complete on the traps.



The focus for the students was to ensure that their finished trap looked like the original plan before any modifications were made in the process.





This trap was improved when the student found that the ladder he had made wasn't stable enough to support any weight. He added toothpicks across the ramp like the rungs of a ladder. Problem solved.

Check out the cool rainbow to lure the leprechaun in!



Garden Update:

With the delivery of some more soil, new strawberries, capsicum and lettuce plants were added this week. Thank you to Mr Schultz and Ms Vicki for their help in creating our new composting containers by recycling 2 old garbage bins. Please feel free to deliver your food wastes to them as you go past!



