2018
Young Environmental Leaders (YEL) Program
Upper Murray
2018 Young Environmental Leaders Program (YEL)

This Program is free and open to students in year 5-7. It will provide four students from your school with outstanding opportunities to develop as young leaders with public speaking and presentation skills as well as a connection to and respect for their local environment.

**Aim of the program**

Empower our young people and ensure they have a connection with nature and their local environment so they can appreciate it into the future.

Involve more schools and provide students with the opportunity to develop as young leaders.

Encourage the ‘ripple effect’ with students teaching peers and teachers sharing back at school and with the wider school community.

Encourage students to get involved and take action within their local environment, community and at home.

**What is involved?**

Four year 5-7 students per school attend one or all of the forums. The more they attend the more they will learn and achieve.

One adult/teacher/mentor from each school attends the forum(s) to supervise the students and assist with learning and activities.

There is one YEL forum per term and forums run from 9:45 am-2:00 pm.

YEL forum themes for 2018:

- Term 1: climate change
- Term 2: sustaining our natural resources
- Term 3: people in parks - connecting with your local environment
- Term 4: water for the future - looking after the River Murray

Forums are based on the environmental themes and include hands-on activities and personal skills development for all students involved.

Participants to bring morning tea and lunch to each forum. NRM Education will provide tea and coffee for teachers/adults.
What are the benefits?

The YEL program provides many benefits to your school as well as to the students and teachers/mentors who attend the forums. Here are just a few:

Students
Develop a connection to the natural environment resulting in smarter, healthier and happier kids who are more mindful of their surroundings.
Develop confidence and skills in leadership, public speaking, peer teaching and much more.
Build friendships and share ideas with students from other schools.
Develop natural resource management knowledge and skills.
Be inspired and empowered to take action and make changes in their local community and at home.
Be rewarded for their efforts in learning and sharing throughout the year.

Teachers/mentors
Will receive information to assist with lessons, resources, activities and curriculum links to share at school.
Have the opportunity to network with and learn from other teachers and NRM professionals.
Develop natural resources management knowledge and skills.
May receive professional development recognition for the forums they attend.

Schools and community
Direct links to the curriculum—these are not add-on projects! This is learning in authentic context.
Develop relationships with partnership schools and outside agencies including Local Action Planning groups, Landcare groups and NRM Education.
YEL students pass on knowledge, skills and what they have learnt to peers, friends and family members.
Improved sustainability due to student-led projects e.g. improved biodiversity or waste reduction.
Where possible NRM Education will provide in-school support for learning and on-ground projects.
Links to curriculum

Information and activities used at YEL forums can be linked to many subject areas in the curriculum, particularly Science, HASS, Health and Physical Education, and Maths. YEL activities tie in well with science, technology, engineering and maths (STEM). Environmental issues are often challenging, requiring complex solutions. We encourage the use of hands-on practical activities that help learners experiment, use new technologies, test ideas and make/create innovative solutions to real, complex problems.

Relationships with local industries and communities are also important to both teacher and student learning in both STEM and sustainability. YEL helps develop these relationships through guest speakers and linking with existing environmental projects.

Examples of links with the Australian Curriculum

Students explain interconnections between people and places and people and environments, describing how these interconnections change places and environments. (HASS)

Students examine how connecting to the environment can enhance health and wellbeing. (HPE)

Students predict the effect of human and environmental changes on interactions between organisms. (Science)

Students describe and predict the effect of environmental changes on individual living things. (Science)

Links to general capabilities

Literacy skills are developed by students presenting ideas and opinions, through sharing their learning back at school and within their wider community.

Critical and creative thinking is developed when students consider environmental issues and propose solutions.

Personal and social capability is developed through interacting with students from different schools, working in teams, and developing leadership skills.

Ethical understanding is developed by students engaging and discussing the ethical values of environmental issues such as climate change and sustainable living.

The YEL Program links extremely well to the cross-curriculum priority of sustainability. The sessions help students to develop the knowledge, skills, values and world views necessary to act in ways that contribute to more sustainable patterns of living. Students focus on protecting environments and creating a more ecologically and socially just world through informed action.
When and where?

Here’s a brief look at the Upper Murray forums for the year. A final flyer with full details and booking form will be sent out at least 3-4 weeks prior to each forum.

**Term 1: climate change**

Date: Wednesday 14 March (Week 7)  
Location: TBA  
Outcomes: Students will have a basic understanding of what climate change is, the causes of climate change and the impacts on their local region. Skills development for this forum will be based on the “news” badge and how to write a great newsletter article.

**Term 2: sustaining our natural resources**

Date: Wednesday 13 June (Week 7)  
Location: TBA  
Outcomes: Students will gain an understanding of what natural resources are and how we live more sustainably and have a positive impact on the environment. Skills development will be based on the “presentation” badge and what makes a good presentation.

**Term 3: people in parks-connecting with your local environment**

Date: Wednesday 5 September (Week 7)  
Location: National Park (TBA)  
Outcomes: Students will connect with a special part of our local environment. Skills development will be based on the “kids teaching kids” badge and how to work with younger students.

**Term 4: water for the future-looking after the River Murray**

Date: Wednesday 7 November (Week 4)  
Location: TBA  
Outcomes: Students will understand their connection to the river and its importance. Skills development will be based on the “action” badge and how everyone can make small changes for large impact.
Requirements/expectations

It is not a requirement or expectation that your school attends all YEL forums, or that the same students come to each forum. The content and activity at each forum will be such that anyone who attends will learn and take away valuable knowledge and skills which can be shared and utilised back at school.

This program can only be great and beneficial to the students with the cooperation of all involved. Here’s what we need from you/your school and your students to make it work:

**Students**

Actively participate in activities and presentations during the forum(s).

Commit to share information back at school based on the skills learnt and the badge that is available to earn after the forum(s). This may involve writing newsletter articles, making presentations or teaching younger students.

Commit to providing NRM Education Officers with copies of or evidence of the way in which they have shared information back at school in return for their reward badges.

Throughout the year, think about their connection with nature and what they can do to take action/make change and live more sustainably.

Bring packed morning tea and lunch to the forum (keeping in mind we would like to keep waste to a minimum).

**Teachers/mentors**

Select and register four students for the forum(s) your school is able to be involved with.

Ensure registration forms are sent to NRM Education Officer on time prior to each forum and that each student has completed a signed photo release form.

Transport students and supervise them at the forum(s).

Provide support to the students after the forum to ensure they complete their information sharing.

Share resources, activities and information with fellow teachers at a staff meeting after the forum(s).

Bring a packed lunch to forums.

**Schools**

Provide time/resourcing for teacher/SSO/mentor to attend each forum with students and support them in their information sharing back at school.

Support students in their YEL participation and to share their learnings and new leadership/public speaking skills back at school via peer teaching/sharing or presentations.

Promote the excellent work of the YEL students throughout the school community.
Sharing back at school

Students sharing their knowledge and teaching their peers what they have learnt is one of the ways the YEL program is so effective. Whether it be presenting to the school assembly or running an activity from YEL with a group of students. There are many ways to share, create the ripple effect and ensure the excitement and passion flows through the whole school community.

This year we will focus on four of our most popular ways of sharing. At each of the four forums, students will spend time on development skills which will assist them in sharing information back at school, earning the reward badge which relates directly to those skills.

Term 1: news badge
At the forum students will learn how to take what they have experienced and turn it into a captivating article to submit to the school newsletter or local paper.
Once the article has been published, a copy will need be sent to your NRM Education Officer so that “news” badges can be sent out to the students involved.

Term 2: presentation badge
Students will participate in activities which will assist in improving public speaking skills and identifying what makes a good presentation.
Back at school students will develop and make their very own presentation about the YEL forum topic and deliver it to their class or at assembly. Once complete and an update provided to your NRM Education Officer, the badges will be sent out.

Term 3: kids teaching kids badge
Students will learn skills which will assist them in delivering an activity or lesson about the forum topic to their peers or younger students back at school.
Photos or a video of the activity can be submitted to your NRM Education Officer once completed so that badges can be sent out to students involved.

Term 4: action badge
At the forum students will learn about how to take action back at school or home and will be given simple ideas, resources and tools to do just that.
Students will provide examples of action they have taken to your NRM Education Officer and badges will be sent out to students involved.
2018 YEL forum general risk assessment

This is a general guide only. Excursion risk assessment and safety of students is the responsibility of the school and teachers/adults in attendance. This information is provided as a guide only for assistance with school risk assessment evaluation and can be included with any school excursion paper work/information and noted by all teachers/adults present at YEL Forums.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ACTIVITY</th>
<th>HAZARD</th>
<th>RISK ASSESSMENT LEVEL (1=VERY Unlikely, 5=Very LIKELY)</th>
<th>CONTROL MEASURE</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>YEL Forum at location outside any school grounds (eg. bush block, river etc)</td>
<td>Bushland – separation from group</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Students aware of need to stay within view of the group and not wander off. First aid kits, mobile phones and water to be carried by adults/NRM Education Officer.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bites</td>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Students to be warned of possibility of presence of snakes (warmer weather), ants, spiders and other insects. First aid kit to be carried. Students to wear appropriate clothing for the outdoor activity.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Barbed wire or electric fences</td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Students to be aware not to touch any fencing or cross any fence lines. First aid kit to be carried.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cross country walking – sprains</td>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Students to be made aware of likelihood of uneven terrain, rabbit warrens etc. No running on site and to take care if moving through vegetation. First aid kit to be carried.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cross-country walking – tripping</td>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Students to be made aware of possible tripping hazards at the site eg. Sticks, rocks and vegetation and care to be taken at all times. NO RUNNING.</td>
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<td>Extreme heat or cold</td>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Students to be made aware of weather conditions on the forum day and they are to wear suitable clothing including hats and enclosed shoes. Activity will be postponed in extreme weather case including if it is raining on the day. Students/teachers to supply own refillable water bottles. **If fire danger rating for forum date is “Catastrophic” the forum will be cancelled and held on another day.</td>
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<td>Illness</td>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Teacher/school to be aware prior to excursion of any illness/medical conditions and appropriate medication to be carried either by student or teacher. NRM Education Officer to be made aware of any medical conditions prior to forum. First aid and mobile phone carried at all times.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Travel sickness/vehicle</td>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Teacher/adult transporting student to be made aware of any issues prior to travel. Students to carry own medication if required on bus/in car.</td>
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2017 YEL school/student registration

By registering your interest in the YEL program and receiving this information pack, you will now receive information about future YEL forums.

At least four weeks prior to each forum you will receive an email with registration forms and location information.

Registration forms will need to completed and submitted along with photographic consent forms prior to each forum.

If you would like to register four students to attend all four forums for the year please return the registration form below. Send it to your NRM Education Officer before 16 February along with the completed photographic consent forms.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Student name</th>
<th>Year level</th>
<th>Medical/dietary information</th>
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Teacher/mentor name: ...........................................................................................................................

(This is the name of the teacher/mentor who will accompany students to each forum):

Ph: ........................................ Email: ............................................................................................................

Dietary requirements: .................................................................................................................................

A signed adult photo release form is essential for any adult in attendance and must be included along with submission of this form.
Children Consent Form

TALENT RELEASE FORM
For the use of images for promotional purposes

I: ____________________________

(parent’s/guardian’s name - PLEASE PRINT FULL NAME)

of: __________________________

(address - PLEASE PRINT)

On behalf of: ____________________________

(child’s name - PLEASE PRINT)

1. am the parent or guardian of the child named above;

2. consent to the use of my child’s image and performance in video footage or photographs taken by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (the Department) on behalf of the Minister for Environment and Conservation (the Minister) for the purposes of promotional activities or other Government purposes, (including print publications, websites and advertisements or other means of communication);

3. agree that copyright in any recording made or image taken by the Department of my child, or any performance of my child, in connection with promotional activities is owned by the Minister and I further agree that any use by the Minister of my child’s performance or my child’s image is authorised for the purposes of the Copyright Act 1968, Privacy Act 1988 and any other applicable laws such as the Information Privacy Principles (SA);

4. acknowledge that my child’s participation in promotional activities may be edited at the sole discretion of the Department;

5. acknowledge that the Department is not obliged to include my child in the promotional activities;

6. release the Crown in right of South Australia from any claim by my child or anyone on my child’s behalf for any cost, expense, loss or damage arising out of the use of video footage, photos, or other images of my child for promotional activities or other Government purposes, (including print publications, websites and advertisements or other means of communication);

7. acknowledge that there will be no payment or other consideration paid for the use of my child’s image or my child’s performance.

Signed: ____________________________

Date: ______/_____/______
Adult Consent Form

TALENT RELEASE FORM
For the use of images for promotional purposes

I: ________________________________________________________________
(PLEASE PRINT FULL NAME)

of: ________________________________________________________________
(address - PLEASE PRINT)

1. am over the age of 18 (eighteen);
2. consent to the use of my image and performance in video footage or photographs taken by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (the Department) on behalf of the Minister for Environment and Conservation (the Minister) for the purposes of promotional activities or other Government purposes, (including print publications, websites and advertisements or other means of communication);
3. agree that copyright in any recording made or image taken by the Department of me, or any performance of mine, in connection with promotional activities is owned by the Minister and I further agree that any use by the Minister of my performance or my image is authorised for the purposes of the Copyright Act 1968, Privacy Act 1988 and any other applicable laws such as the Information Privacy Principles (SA);
4. acknowledge that my participation in promotional activities may be edited at the sole discretion of the Department;
5. acknowledge that the Department is not obliged to include me in the promotional activities;
6. release the Crown in right of South Australia from any claim by me or anyone on my behalf for any cost, expense, loss or damage arising out of the use of video footage, photos, or other images of myself for promotional activities or other Government purposes, (including print publications, websites and advertisements or other means of communication);
7. acknowledge that there will be no payment or other consideration paid for the use of my image or my performance.

Signed: _______________________________________________________

Date: ______/_____/______
Contact details

If you have any questions about the Upper Murray 2018 YEL program, or to submit your registration and photographic consent forms please contact:

Cindy Kakoschke
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Natural Resources Centre
2 Wade Street, Berri
SA 5343
Ph 08 8580 1837
Fax 08 8582 4488
Email cindy.kakoschke@sa.gov.au


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