Fairgrounds

Context

The anticipated learning in this project links closely to the New Program of Study and the New Secondary Curriculum. Families taking part in the project should be made fully aware of the aims of the activities. These centre upon the comprehensive benefits and principles of RA3, whereby the learning of students can progress far beyond that normally expected as it seeks to develop parental participation in their children's education. Schools will be able to adapt certain aspects of the project and expand on areas possibly using their own expertise and resources. It is intended that the project be delivered leaving as much freedom as possible in the design and make process. This will facilitate a maximum level of learning as well as enjoyment. Students should be encouraged to take the lead with activities and parents / carers should be encouraged to take up a role of support, showing enthusiasm for the children's learning.

Outcomes

The project should centre upon the following areas of the New Curriculum / Program of Study: Creative thinking; making products and systems to meet human needs; the local ethos and community; systems; aesthetics; technical; cultural; health; social; economic and environmental.

Adults and children will:

Develop skills and acquire new skills, knowledge and understanding in science, technology, engineering and maths.

Learn about sustainable energy and its importance in the community and wider world.

Improve skills in communicating with adults / children about their ideas and their work.

Develop their confidence and the ability to feel at ease when working together.

Be more aware and appreciative of the help and support provided by school.

Activities

Activities contained in the unit of work can be used as a guide and teachers should feel free to develop further areas or adapt areas to suit the teacher and the families. Students and parents should be given as much freedom as possible in the tasks. The starter activities can be extended and possibly used as home study tasks. These activities could be saved for mid-session use and also include a feedback session at the end.

Recording the process

Learning should be based upon an enjoyable experience. There are no wrong answers and participation and freedom of expression is the key element. Photographs and / or video recording can be used to record the design and make process. Planning sheets and mind maps will also form a key role in the recording of activities.

Reflection and Evaluation

Teachers who deliver the project can provide feedback to the authors on the success of the unit. Suggestions for improvement are welcome. Activities developed in schools will be made available to other participants on the RA3 website. Family groups will be asked to reflect on and assess their learning and consider how the project has impacted on them.