



WAR ON WASTE EXPO FOR A CLEANER GREENER ENVIRONMENT

SIYABULELA PRE-PRIMARY

On 22 March the Whale Coast Conservation Expo "War on Waste" went to Kleinmond to present the information on how to attain a cleaner, greener town to learners at 3 schools. Siyabulela Pre-Primary was one of them.

A total of 94 children from Siyabulela Pre-Primary came to the Expo. Some 50 Grade R learners were guided through the Expo on waste, and then heard a story by Stripes the Eco-Cat.



Louine Boothway showed them what types of litter, especially plastics that litter our beaches and discussed the impact of plastic on the marine environment.

She also showed the learners how our waste water systems operate and how easily it can be impacted by litter, leading to pollution of waterways and flooding in urban areas.



Fiona Matthes and Siyabulela educator Alta Van Wyk showed the children ways in which we can reduce our "waste footprint" and save money in the process.

They also talked about refusing one-use plastics such as straws, shopping bags, water bottles and polystyrene packaging. All of these plastics degrade into smaller and smaller pieces that are eaten by marine animals mistaking it for food. The world is drowning in plastic.



Shirley Mgoboza explained to the children that cigarette butts are bad for our environment. The filters are full of poisons that run out into the soil and the sea and harm both animals and people.



Denfred Bruintjies showed videos of the problems created by waste and litter around the world. A video of the 'wild' elephant that picked up litter and placed it in a bin was a great hit. Siyabulela educator Glenda Mojaki interpreted and translated the video into isiXhosa.

The Grade R class of 50 and 44 children ages 4 to 5 also heard a story written by Stripes the Eco-Cat. The story was about a baby whale called Eubaleana who got entangled in discarded fishing gear and was in danger of drowning. Stripes, with the aid of his friend Krissie the Crab and human Antonio, saved the day – and the baby whale. The moral of the story is that even fishing gear that's carelessly discarded can kill marine animals.



Anina Lee told the story in Afrikaans.



Shirley Mgoboza told it in isiXhosa.

The educators were delighted with the ideas and messages they could take back to the school and consolidate in the classroom.

The Expo on Waste at Siyabulela Pre-Primary and the WCC Anti-litter Awareness Project is funded by the National Lotteries Board.

