



WAR ON WASTE EXPO FOR A CLEANER GREENER ENVIRONMENT

LAERSKOOL GANSBAAI

On 28 March the Whale Coast Conservation presented its Expo "War on Waste" to Laerskool Gansbaai. A total of 144 learners from Grades 4 to 7 attended the Expo.



Rob Fryer showed the learners the classification of plastics and how to tell what plastic items can be recycled. He used an innovative 1,300 year time line to illustrate the rate at which different waste items degrade – disposable nappies take 550 years and chip packets till the end of time (line)!



Denfred Brintjies encouraged learners to examine ways to easily reduce our "waste footprint" and save money in the process.

He challenged them to think of ways to re-use disposable items.



Sheraine van Wyk showed them what types of litter, especially plastics, are collected on beaches and discussed the impact of plastic on the marine environment. Sheraine also used a simulated storm water drain to show 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.



Shirley Mgoboza impressed on the learners that cigarette butts are toxic waste. The filters do not biodegrade, but trap toxins from smoke, which leach into the environment.

Shirley showed them the bins developed and manufactured by Whale Coast Conservation to encourage smokers to “bin your butts”.



Denfred Bruintjies showed videos of the problems created by waste and litter around the world. A video of an elephant picking up litter and depositing it in a bin was much enjoyed by the learners. “If he can do it, so can we.”

The learners and educators were agreed that the expo was a great way to give classroom learning a real life perspective.

The Expo on Waste at Gansbaai Academia was funded by Anglo Vaal Industries Community Trust.



The WCC Anti-litter Awareness Project is funded by the National Lotteries Board.

