



Gourd it.



What?

We at Awareaway are committed to educating and inspiring all people to think and live sustainably. One of our core aims is a regenerative approach. 'Gourd It' is our program in sustainable, regenerative and circular economy thinking, where growing gourds - nature's tupperware, is a tool to demonstrate how we can apply these principles to production and consumption.

Through 5 intensive workshops following the 10 month cycle of growing gourds, participants are invited to explore an alternative to plastic and other non-compostable/unsustainable materials. Whilst exploring this alternative, hands-on, we also discover that the solution to plastic waste and other resource heavy industries, is that there is no 'one' solution, and that in tackling this wicked problem; the many make up the one.



This crib to cradle examination of a natural 'manufacturing' process is filled with real-time learning opportunities and hands-on application of knowledge. From soil, seed, to cup or bowl as we grow gourds and measure the resources involved, students not only end up with a beautiful, sustainable and biodegradable product, but also come out of the process with an indepth and innate understanding of sustainability and our responsibility to regenerate our natural surrounds; our ecosystem.

Age: Year 5

Group Size: 15-30 students



The workshops

WORKSHOP 1: SOWING THE SEED (1.5hrs)

***This workshop is to be held in early September**

In Sowing the Seed we introduce the key concepts relating to the program, these include: circular economy, disposability and long-term thinking. We delve into the history of the gourd and its uses and why we are growing gourds! We will talk about the set-up and first steps for our project.



WORKSHOP 2: PLANTING THE GOURDS (1.5hrs)

***This workshop is to be held in mid September *Subject to frost**



Here we continue our learning about the concepts in the first workshop.

We make a schedule and plan for measuring the resources we use for growing our 'product', and explore how we can use protection, prevention, and prior knowledge. We transplant our seedlings to their permanent plot.



WORKSHOP 3: HOLIDAY WORKSHOP SHAPING THE GOURDS (1.5hrs)

***This workshop is to be held in January**

This is a hands-on workshop that involves preparing simple moulds to manipulate our gourds into practical designs. This involves experimenting with reused tin cans or plastic bottles, as cup moulds, or 2 flat pieces of wood secured to the gourd to make a flat bottomed or box-shaped vessel, a 3D printed mould and whatever other ideas come to mind! Being aware of the concepts that lead us, circular economy and long-term thinking, we will note down our observations of the project together.



WORKSHOP 4: THE HARVEST (1.5hrs)

***This workshop is to be held in April or May**

This workshop is a celebration of all our work! We will hang our gourds to dry until wintertime. We talk about the resources used during the growing process, the time and the energy that goes into this product.



WORKSHOP 5: END PRODUCT CREATIVE SESSION (halfday)

*This workshop is to be held in June/July

This is the final workshop and the most hands-on! Where we choose what we will do with our gourds and get creative, this might be making a bird-house, a fruit bowl, a cup or a sculpture, or new ideas that come up along the way!



Curriculum Links



- Critical and creative thinking
- Design and Technologies
- Economics and Business
- Ethical Capability
- Health and Physical Education
- Science (Biological)



Budget A

Setup; constructing frame and preparing garden beds: **\$860**

Materials: **\$1251**

Workshops x5: **\$1626**

Project coordination: **\$1245**

Maintenance & Pest control: **\$450**

Deinstallation: **\$270**

Total: \$5,702

Additional Requirements

This project requires:

- A space of land with full sun for planting the gourds, minimum size of 20m².
- Connection to mains water or tank water.



Budget B

A more accessible price involving in-kind contributions from recipient school and Awareaway.

Setup; constructing frame and preparing garden beds: provided by the school with **in-kind** assistance from Awareaway

Materials: **\$1251**

Workshops x5: **\$1626**

Project coordination: **\$1245**

Maintenance & Pest Control: **in-kind** by Awareaway

Deinstallation: **in-kind** from School w/ assistance from Awareaway

Total: \$4,122



Additional Requirements

This project requires:

- A space of land with full sun for planting the gourds, minimum size of 20m2.
- Connection to mains water or tank water.

