Our butterfly garden

Salisbury Heights Preschool
In 2013 we were successful in applying for a Adelaide and Mount Lofty Ranges Natural Resource Management Board Action Grant to create a butterfly friendly environment. This work will take place in 2014.

We are establishing planting and landscaping to further promote the children’s engagement with nature and sense of wonder, in particular attracting butterflies with appropriate planting. Our frog pond will also be relocated to a more suitable location (increased light, proximity to our compost bins and increased visibility for the children) within this area.

Our plan is to renovate a pathway around the edge of part of our playground with butterfly attracting and butterfly food plants and grasses. The area will be integrated with existing play spaces. There will be seating for quiet observation or interaction, with space for more active play nearby. The path will be serpentine, weaving between existing and new planting with log edging to mark the path and garden beds.

Salisbury Heights Preschool has an ongoing commitment to promoting children’s engagement with nature through establishing natural play spaces, recycling food scraps and composting, gardening (flowers, vegetables and fruit trees as well as a small aboriginal food and cultural garden), observing lifecycles of Monarch butterflies, silkworms, chicks and tadpoles each year, caring for our Murray short-necked tortoise and rainwater collection.

One of the dot points in our philosophy statement is: support children’s interaction and respect for the natural world and awareness of sustainability.
Belonging, Being & Becoming learning outcomes:

- Children are connected with and contribute to their world when they show growing appreciation and care for the natural world, as well as explore relationships with other living things and observe, notice and respond. Also develop their awareness of the interdependence of living things.
- Children have a strong sense of wellbeing when they are happy, healthy, safe and connected to others; manipulate equipment and manage tools with increasing competence and skill and also demonstrate spatial awareness and orient themselves, moving around confidently and safely.
- Children are confident and involved learners when they develop dispositions for learning such as curiosity, co-operation, commitment, enthusiasm and persistence, as well as develop a range of skills and processes such as problem solving, experimentation and hypothesising.
- Children are effective communicators when they interact verbally and non-verbally with others for a range of purposes.

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<tr>
<th>Reflect, Respect, Relate—Assessing for Learning in the early years.</th>
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<td><strong>Children’s wellbeing can be observed when they demonstrate</strong></td>
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<td>happiness and satisfaction</td>
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<td>- confidence and self esteem</td>
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<td>- sense of self</td>
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<td>- vitality</td>
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<td>- enjoyment/sense of humour</td>
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<td>- ability to rest and relax</td>
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<td>social functioning</td>
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<td>- social initiative</td>
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<td>- assertiveness</td>
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<td>- coping/flexibility</td>
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<td>- positive attitude towards warmth and closeness</td>
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Plan of the area
Before the first working bee
First working bee - 5-4-14. Placing log edging for garden beds and path.
Path area defined with compacted quarry sand - 2nd working bee 25-5-14

Planting out Poa poiformis

Trying out our new cubby area
While working on the frog pond we could see our sunflowers in the vegetable garden. We saw lots of bees and butterflies.

Digging out the soil for the frog pond

Adding sand for the base of the pond

Checking the level of the pond

Filling the pond
Planting out some of the butterfly attracting and caterpillar food plants

The garden beds so far
Adding moss rocks

Preparing new garden bed for planting

Adding water to our new birdbath

Spreading mulch on the garden beds
Plants used in our butterfly garden

**Indigenous /native plants**
- Brachycome spp
- Calocephalus citreus
- Calytrix albiflora
- Casuarina glauca ‘cousin it’
- Chrysaephalum baxteri
- Convolulus erubesans
- Eutaxia myrtifolia
- Glycine latrobeana
- Goodenia albiflora
- Goodenia amplexans
- Hardenbergia violacea
- Helichrysum apiculatum
- Hibbertia vestita
- Kennedia prostrata
- Kunzea pomifera
- Linum marginale
- Lomandra densiflora
- Lomandra leucocephala
- Lomandra multiflora

**Non-native plants**
- Lomandra multifloradura
- Lotus australis
- Melaleuca thymifolia white lace
- Myoporum parvifolium
- Oleria minor
- Poa labillardieri
- Poa poiformis
- Scaevola albida
- Scaevola crassifolia
- Senna artemisiodes
- Templetonia retusa
- Vittadinia spp
- Wahlenbergia stricta

**Wallflower**