



SUSTAINABILITY CENTRE OPEN DAY + PRIMARY PD

9:30AM- 2:30PM

THURSDAY 8TH MAY, 2025

FREE TEACHER PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT DAY focusing on how to introduce students to the Circular Economy and the value of nature.

Learning will be FUN and ENGAGING, you can even SWIM WITH WHALES!

Teaching primary-aged students about the Circular Economy is essential as it instills the significance of sustainability from a young age. By exploring how resources can be reused, recycled, and repurposed, children cultivate a sense of responsibility for the planet's future. This knowledge not only promotes environmentally conscious habits but also enhances their critical thinking skills, allowing them to grasp the effects of waste and consumption on the environment. Early education on the Circular Economy nurtures a mindset that values sustainability, minimises waste, and encourages innovative solutions to everyday challenges—skills that will serve them well in their personal lives and the world at large.

In this program, we will focus on enhancing teachers' understanding of the Circular Economy and its practical applications in the classroom, from Foundation to Grade 6. We will showcase our curriculum-based programs, provide tours of our facilities, and conclude the day with a collaborative workshop, empowering teachers to effectively teach about the Circular Economy.

9:30AM

Official welcome, Acknowledgement of Country, plus introduction of Gould League and how we've inspired generations of scientists, problem solvers and eco warriors for over 100 years.

9:40AM

"Eco Anxiety" and the Disconnect from Nature. An Introduction to Gould League's Programs and how they aim to strengthen students' connection to their natural surroundings. Additionally, it aligns with curriculum standards to ensure comprehensive learning.

10:00AM

Closing the Loop

This session aims to delve into the distinction between linear resource consumption and closed-loop resource utilisation, enhancing our understanding of the Circular Economy. Nature offers us abundant inspiration in this regard.

10:20AM

Introducing invertebrates such as worms and insects can be a great way to inspire students about the concept of closing the loop. These organisms play a vital role in decomposing organic material, recycling nutrients, and promoting plant growth, showcasing interconnected natural processes that resemble a circular economy. By observing invertebrates, students can develop an appreciation for ecological balance and sustainability, while also understanding how human actions can align with the environment.

10:40AM

Morning tea break and invitation to participate in our Marine Timeline activity. There are prizes to be won!

11:00AM

Cheltenham Sustainability Centre Tour

Come along for an interactive tour of our incredible facilities, where you'll discover how our programs enhance understanding of resources, their origins, and their final destinations. You'll have the chance to explore each uniquely designed learning area, view the materials and costumes we utilise, and engage with our knowledgeable educators about our waste and biodiversity initiatives tailored for the Foundation to Grade 6 curriculum.

LEARN MORE ABOUT GOULD LEAGUE www.gould.org.au or follow us on



12.00 PM Lunch and time to swim with whales in our "SodaStream Oceans of our Future 3D Experience."

12.30PM

The GOOD the BAD and the UGLY of Plastics and Marine Timeline activity.

The amount of plastic waste in our world is one of the largest concerns societies have today. Discover how to prevent and treat the problems associated with marine plastic pollution and how you can empower your students to be part of the solution.

1:00PM

Circular Economy and Beyond - Pathways to a Sustainable Future

Join international Sustainability and Circular Economy expert Anne-Maree McInerney in this fun and engaging workshop. Discover how to achieve zero waste by working with your local community. It promises to inspire, surprise and awaken new possibilities for you, your students and or your community and could inspire your students to show what's possible when we innovate and collaborate to problem solve issues such as waste.

1:30PM

Group discussion

Time to share your successes and limitations to improving engagement and empowerment of children to move towards the circular economy, and also your school's sustainability performance.

1.45PM

Group Activity

This collaborative workshop is focused on designing a learning program that can be applied in your workplace. Whether the program lasts for one hour, one week, one term, or even an entire year, we will work together to develop a plan that increases student's connection to their natural environment and work towards the Circular Economy

2:15PM

Discussion and questions

2:30PM

End of program.

Meet the Speakers



Anne-Maree McInerney

Anne-Maree is Gould League's General Manager. She is a highly regarded international sustainability thought leader, educator and advisor.

Anne-Maree uses powerful and meaningful stories of transformation to inspire change. She creatively shows us that sustainability is not just an aspiration, it's a practical reality that is sweeping our businesses, communities and governance systems – providing significant financial, environmental and social returns.



Romy Madeley

Romy's lifelong curiosity about flora and fauna, especially invertebrates, began in her childhood, inspiring her passion for nature and sustainability. She holds a diploma in bioscience, a Bachelor in Biomedicine, and completed the Bugs 101 course at the University of Alberta. Romy has been an Insect Breeder for a sustainable Agri-business and alternative protein company. As an educator at Gould League and Reptile Encounters, she promotes conservation featuring native Australian animals, particularly invertebrates. A member of the Victorian Entomological Society, Romy is dedicated to fostering children's curiosity and advancing sustainability.



Rebecca Ceveri

Bec has been involved in environment education and conservation for almost twenty years. She completed a Bachelor of Science with majors in Marine Biology and Environmental Science. In her 10+ years of experience with Gould League she has been instrumental in delivering and writing our programs from Kinder through to VCE.

Bec thoroughly enjoys the opportunity to introduce students to Victoria's unique biodiversity and influence community behaviour to produce positive environmental change.

FREE EVENT - INCLUDES MORNING TEA AND LUNCH

BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL DUE TO LIMITED PLACES

BOOK HERE



This learning program is best suited to educators of Primary aged students from Foundation to Grade 6, which includes co-ordinators of incursions/ excursions, green team leaders, Out of School Hours staff, CRTs or community group leaders (e.g Scout leaders).

All attendees must hold a current Working with Children Card (Volunteer Cards are fine if you represent a Community Group) or VIT card, as we share the building and facilities with Le Page Primary School.

GOULD LEAGUE SUSTAINABILITY EDUCATION CENTRE 77 ARGUS STREET, CHELTENHAM



WE LOOK FORWARD TO YOU JOINING US THURSDAY 8TH MAY

Happy Teachers = Happy Students

Let us provide hands on learning activities linked to the curriculum that MAKES LEARNING FUN, so your kids are not so disconnected from the world in which they live - as the more they are connected to the natural world, the more they they will fight to protect it!

This is why Teachers come to our PD Days...

"It made me think about how I can use the info to teach children about positive action they can take. The whole day was filled with positive messages rather than doom and gloom. It's good to acknowledge eco-anxiety exists."

Steven - Grade 5/6 teacher and Green Team Leader, Northcote Primary School

"Very engaging and informative; relevant to my role in curriculum development and delivery. Great opportunity to brainstorm & discuss with like-minded people. Enjoyed checking out the facilities"

Nicole, Grade 3 Teacher and Head of Inquiry - Haileybury College

"Staff were really knowledgeable and friendly. Information and activities were interesting and engaging and left me wanting to learn so much more."

Monique, CRT - ANZUK

JOIN OUR MAILING LIST TO FIND OUT ABOUT ALL OUR PDS AND EVENTS.

Email gould@gould.org.au