

Our Waste Our Place Our Actions

Mornington U3A, Monash University and Mornington Park Primary School came together to explore our waste, our place and our actions through art.

We tried creative upcycling. What waste wisdoms will you explore?

Refusing
Reducing
Reusing
Remaking
Repairing
Repurposing
Life-Cycle Thinking

Restoring
Recycling
Redesigning
Respecting
Remembering
Upcycling

Intergenerational 'know-how' through upcycling: Waste is a problem that we all share. Our waste became a catalyst for an intergenerational place-making project when seniors, children and pre-service teachers came together to participate in a day of upcycling where our waste was reconsidered for its material possibilities.

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MORNINGTON PARK
PRIMARY SCHOOL



What upcycled magic can we make together? This was the question that pre-service teachers, seniors and children asked as they explored the potential of waste through art. After lots of material play, friendly chatter and some great sharing our intergenerational know-how was put to work!

- Single-use plastic bottles became self-watering pots.
- Old cardboard boxes and CDs transformed into dream-catchers,
- Throw-away plastic cutlery was recovered to make God's Eye weavings,
- Unwanted coat-hangers were given new life through sculptural form
- Waste cardboard was reconsidered for printmaking
- Old t-shirts became wearable jewellery and
- Wooden offcuts were assembled into animal sculptures
- And our art and craft practices were re-thought through waste.

Sharing our waste wisdom: As we made art together, we shared our upcycling actions across our everyday lives, our different generations, institutions and communities. We considered what other waste products could be revalued through creative upcycling (or not) and how we could reduce waste in the first place. Through our making and intergenerational wisdom, we got to think about waste from lots of perspectives. We shared ideas about the merits of upcycling versus recycling and shared ideas about refusing, reducing, reusing, remaking, repairing, repurposing, restoring, recycling, redesigning, respecting, remembering, upcycling, and life-cycle thinking.

