

Snapshot report

Under the Investing for Success Agreement for 2020 Moreton Bay Environmental Education Centre received

\$5,496

Our full 2020 agreement can be found at:

<https://moretoneec.eq.edu.au/supportandresources/formsanddocuments/documents/investing-for-success-2020.pdf>

Our school initiatives are on track to meet or exceed our targets

During 2020, Moreton Bay EEC focused on maximising the benefits of the *Investing for Success (I4S)* funding for students despite disruptions due to COVID-19 and restrictions on working with schools. After reviewing our *I4S* agreement, we are proud of our efforts to meet targeted student outcomes. We continue to implement our initiatives to ensure that every student succeeds.

Initiatives implemented include:

Development and delivery of extension STEM programs targeting high achieving students within the WMsea cluster and beyond; including programs targeting specialist groups.

During the year that was COVID-19, STEM programs were morphed into alternative offerings. STEM extension programs were conducted with Wynnum SS across multiple year levels; and Prep-Year 2 *Minibeast* programs across multiple cluster schools. The *Champions for the Bay* guest series was initiated and this provided opportunities to share the inspirational and cutting-edge work of our incredible partners discussing aspects of Moreton Bay. These interviews were shared through our Facebook page, newsletters, website and YouTube Channel.

Interviews were conducted with:

- Dr James Udy, Adjunct Professor with QUT and Director of Science under Sail.
Topic – Seagrass importance, health and diversity within Moreton Bay.
- Dr Monique Grol and Diana Kleine from CoralWatch, a global Citizen Science Project.
Topic – Coral diversity and health in Moreton Bay and how citizen science has a role to play.
- Dr Eva McClure, Research Fellow, School of Environment and Science from the Australian Rivers Institute, Griffith University and part of the GLOW (Global Wetlands Project).
Topic – Moreton Bay live initiative and empowering citizens to connect to Moreton Bay.
- Sebastian Lopez-Marcano, PhD Candidate from the Australian Rivers Institute, Griffith University and part of the GLOW (Global Wetlands Project).
Topic – Artificial intelligence (AI) platform to automatically detect and classify fish.
Moreton Bay EEC support Sebastian's project by sharing hundreds of hours of Baited Remote Underwater Video (BRUV) footage which has increased his data sets and sped up the development of the platform. Six months ago, the [Global Wetlands Project team](#) won a [Microsoft AI for Earth Grant for US \\$10,000](#). The grant was awarded to continue the development of Sebastian's smart remote monitoring tool FishID, which is used to analyse fish monitoring datasets from underwater footage around eastern Australia automatically.



Wonder of Science partnership program: In excess of 200 students took part in this partnership program where students engaged with PhD students in the classroom with a range of pre-program activities. On program day with Moreton Bay EEC they adopted the role of Environment Managers exploring various marine environments, discovering how living things are affected by the physical environment and human activity impacts upon this balance.

Development of quality STEM resources that schools are able to access from their own site.

Moreton Bay Environmental Education Centre offered the [Moreton Bay Studies program as a virtual field trip](#) during learning@home to support schools, teachers and their students during the initial phase of senior students returning to the classroom. This program supports the QCAA Biology Senior Syllabus, Unit 3, Biodiversity and the interconnectedness of life.

Students use a stratified sampling process to conduct an ecological survey of sites in Moreton Bay. The Moreton Bay Studies program enables completion of the Unit 3 mandatory practical while developing a deep understanding of unit outcomes. The extensive suite of resources includes video, student booklet, data sets for analysis together with learning sequences. Resources are distributed through OneNote Classroom with video housed on [Moreton Bay EEC's YouTube channel](#) to allow easy access.

MBEEC staff are conducting online professional development with biology teachers to orientate them with the resource package and study context. Blended online sessions (using Collaborate Web Conferencing and OneNote) are being conducted with biology students from various regions. Staff member presented at the virtual University of Queensland Biological Science Open Day on this program highlighting the extensive range of resources and opportunities for schools.

Young Writers Program: Active participation of students in this partnership program with an award winning environmental author from concept to publication.

Mt Gravatt SHS students engaged in a Young Writers program resulting in 28 stories published in an anthology titled '*Edging for Hope*'. This extension program with the Mt Gravatt SHS 'Edge Class' has resulted in five books, 140 published student authors and five community celebratory book launches.

Additionally, select primary schools engaged in Young Writers extension programs which saw them become immersed in special places to provide the stimulus for the development of stories.

Progress of initiatives resulting from I4S funding was shared with our community through the Centre's newsletter, website and YouTube Channel.

(Newsletters: May 2020, June 2020, August 2020 and December 2020).

