

## Project Update: October 2009

This summer, the students of Punta Banco elementary made multimedia sea turtles out of local flora. With their permission, their artwork was photographed and will soon become part of a wrapper design for a new line of chocolates, of which part of the proceeds will be donated to CAP to continue its work.



(Photo: multimedia turtle collage).

Back in March 2008, Punta Banco students and artist Ashlie Gaos spent time in the classroom talking about our environment and the impact we have on our ecosystems. The class came up with a mural theme to depict the local ecological riches of the area and show pride for environmental stewardship. The students made carefully observed drawings of the tropical jungle animals, plants, and sea life of the area. Ashlie guided them through the process of choosing a wall, transferring their finished designs on to a mural, and then every single student re-drew and painted their contribution to the mural. Now, when the students walk by, they proudly show visitors which animal or plant they drew.



(Photo: Nuestra Naturaleza mural).

In July and August 2008, the community was busy breaking ground for the first local community organic 'art garden'. Organic fruit and vegetables will be cared for by the school and local adults and the produce is destined for donation to the school for the lunch

program. Here is a photo of the crew at the beginning of the process, digging up hard-to-kill weeds with shovels and sweat!



(Photo: organic art garden crew).

Women, men and children participated in the popular afternoon art workshops on Wednesdays. A favourite activity was creating jewellery and textiles to sell in local shops in order to raise money for hauling trash to the distant dump.



(Photo: Women's taller).