

## YWF-Kido Foundation

### Kids with Cameras Carriacou Environmental Education Report 2014-2015

KIDO Educational Eco-Game started in December 2014 with the participation of kids, age 10-16, at KIDO Youth Environmental Centre. Dario Sandrini & Marina Fastigi (KIDO directors) & KIDO facilitator Antonia Peters run the program assisted by volunteers Rickie and Antonio.

The blue mobile platform in the classroom represents the Planetarium space, The Commons and 4 decorated disks in the corners represent planets named Artis - Tekno - Kido - 'Spiteful'. The players are asked to form 'governance teams' to run the challenging affairs of each planet as well as the Planetarium Commons; each planet represents a salient aspect of current human endeavors.

**Artis** is an artistic planet, solving problems using **diplomacy, cultural exchange, art and communication**. Motto is "Our love songs win the wars"

**Tekno** pursues **science and technological innovation** to solve challenges. Motto is: 'We measure, we design, we find the solution & we share'

**Kido's** citizens are each and all diverse culturally and ethnically. Thinking 'outside the box' they solve problems using a 'different approach'. Motto is 'Unity in Diversity'

'**Spiteful**' is the nickname given to what was once the most beautiful bio-diverse and resource-full planet. The dominant species took over and fights endless wars threatening the existence of animals, plants, water, soil, sea, air and even the Planetarium. Motto is: 'Each one for himself'

The Game consists of solving challenges of complex nature posed by 'Spiteful Planet'. The first environmental challenge was Toxic Waste being dumped into the Planetarium Commons by Spiteful. In the Game players need to identify the dumped waste, separate toxic, recyclable & non-recyclable materials and label each lot. Then each Team searches for a practical solution to dispose of waste, also using tablets to find available references and ideas on internet. They share their findings, web links are examined and proposed solutions are discussed collectively. Kids themselves find & show websites-videos on worldwide waste issues and possible solutions are learned with much spontaneity and interest (see attached photos # 7 to # 18)

**Reality check:** During subsequent field trips to turtle nesting beaches (plagued by solid waste dumped locally or carried ashore by ocean waves and trade winds), the youths applied their learned lessons to remedy the situation; they organized

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numerous effective group clean-ups, separated the various materials for recycling and reusing. The huge amounts of plastics collected during these field trips (especially water bottles) shocked our **Tekno** students, who prompted the other teams to help them build a 10 ft sailing catamaran reusing discarded materials and plastic bottles, as a demonstration of ingenuity and a showcase for raising public awareness.

Concurrently, the **Artis** team came up with the idea of producing alternative grocery carrier bags made of discarded cloths, sewn in attractive designs.

KIDO Youth Eco-Club was officially formed with the motto: 'Changing Junk into Craft' and aim: 'With our WI KRAFT projects we believe that one man's trash is another man's treasure. Our aim is to reduce the level of solid waste pollution in Carriacou'

### To date 44 youths participated in:

- 16 classroom sessions (Internet search, related video projections and theme discussions)
- 15 field clean-up trips to different beaches: Anse La Roche & Petit Carenage (part of High North proposed National Park), Behind Sands and L'Esterre beaches (part of Carriacou Marine Protected Area), The Esplanade beach in town and White Island (one of the southern offshore isles of Carriacou, nesting ground for hawksbill turtles and rare marine birds).

Field trips included: monitoring severe beach erosion and the Carriacou dumping site at Dumfries, Sabazan & Grand bay (East coast) (see attached photo # 1) / Bird Watching (see attached photos # 2, 19 & 20)/ clean-up of Sargassum sea weeds surge in the main turtle nesting site of Petit Carenage (see photo attached # 37)

- 1 rescue, tag & release operation of a 150 lbs male hawksbill turtle, caught in a fishnet
- 1 rescue, tag & released of a leatherback turtle poached by fishers probably while nesting in a secluded beach (see photos attached # 33 to # 36)
- Several small group training/sewing sessions to create prototypes of grocery bags using discarded cloth. 4 prototypes were created and displayed during the UNDP/ICCAS Climate Change Walk on June 28 2015 (see attached photos # 3 to # 6).
- Several small group practicum sessions, helping to build the 10ft Recycled plastic bottle sailing catamaran, reusing discarded materials. KwC were

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also involved in the launching of KIDO Summer Cat recycled catamaran and they happily welcomed the boat landing at the Carriacou Regatta Festival, after her successful 5 km maiden sailing trip (see attached photos # 21 to # 24).

### Preparation of Planetarium Game

- Two WiFi range extenders were purchased and installed; a 27ft high WiFi antenna was placed in a strategic position above the forest trees foliage to provide free and stable Internet access at the hilltop KIDO Environmental Learning Center.
- The mobile 8x7ft game platform (Planetarium) was constructed and finely decorated, along with the 4 Planets (Dr. Fastigi's artwork). A WiFi HD wall projector was purchased (rather than a Samsung smart TV) because it is more efficient and less susceptible to failure in the tropics. Instant online video projection is an effective and innovative teaching/learning aid of encyclopedic capability, especially among isolated communities.

### Conclusions

As we had expected, students are enabled to instantly switch from the theoretical game to environmental research documentaries, with top scientists portraying those very same challenges in real locations around the world. Thus our youths now experience local wildlife and conservation issues with heightened sense of global participation, although they have yet hardly travelled outside their island. Furthermore they are enabled to apply the lessons learned during classroom time in hands-on practical projects, which aim to be showcases of reducing the problems of solid waste in Carriacou.

The Kids with Cameras Carriacou Facebook page is updated to highlight the progress of KIDO Planetarium Game and related educational conservation activities, including a video describing 2014 -2015 Kids with Cameras environmental education and conservation events  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=I2ImM33ZhAs>

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