

# West Greenwood Primary School

## Loose Parts Proposal By Michaela Williams

### 1. **Summary:**

Children need environments they can manipulate and where they can invent, construct, evaluate and modify their own constructions and ideas through play. I would like to propose a whole school “Loose Parts Play” at West Greenwood Primary School.

### 2. **Benefits:**

When children interact with loose parts, they enter a world of “what if” that promotes the type of thinking that leads to problem solving and theoretical reasoning. Loose parts enhance children’s ability to think imaginatively and see solutions, and they bring a sense of adventure and excitement to children’s play (Daly and Beloglovsky, 2015).

- Increasing levels of creative and imaginative play
- Children play co-operatively and socialise more – Less conflict more inclusivity in the playground
- Children are physically more active
- Curriculum outcomes occur through informal play with loose parts
- Loose parts facilitate communication and negotiation skills when added to an outdoor space (Maxwell, Mitchell and Evans, 2008)
- Encourages open ended learning
- Enjoyed by all ages

### 3. **Committee:**

I propose that I form a committee with a variety of staff across all year levels and administration. I would also open the committee to parent involvement which would assist with acquiring materials and assistance where needed.

### 4. **Statement of work:**

What is required:

1. Negotiate areas in the school

**Things to consider:****Location:**

Do we want to open the play areas for mixed year groups (as they do at other schools) or keep designated existing play areas?

Can we use the bushland area next to the tennis courts?

**Storage:**

Where to store the equipment?

- Next to the staff room there is a coat rack area, opposite the boys toilets
- Next to Room 5 in a coat rack area and opposite OSH
- Alongside the library

**Items required:**

- Loose parts: The suggested amount of loose parts is 3 items per child (Nature Play WA). We need to consider how many children will be using it at once. (At Greenwood Primary they budgeted for 120 students due to cost and storage and have found it very adequate).
- Storage containers for loose parts, preferable on wheels so as to roll them away
- Lockable storage containers for heavy equipment
- PD for staff
- PD for parents and carers.
- Workshops for children

Organisation	Hire	Purchase	Storage boxes	PD's
<b>Nature based Play</b>	\$900 + GST per term for 1 kit		\$350	Staff \$210 (45 mins) Kids and carers \$200 for up to 30 kids
<b>Nature Play Solutions</b>		\$4970 + GST	TBA	For staff up to 50 (4 hr workshop) Parent and carer workshop (1 ½ hrs) Inclusive of purchasing kit
<b>Loose Parts in Carts</b>				Staff (20mins) \$150  Working party project \$500
<b>Remida</b>		Membership \$310 per year and unlimited use of materials for whole school.		

Organisation	Package	Contact Details
<b>Nature Based Play</b>	Loose Play Parts Kits and items, based on natural materials and recycled items. Including handcrafted timber storage boxes, play tables and other outdoor learning furniture items.	Sarah Gautrey O'Connor 9331 2997 0419 041 565 <a href="http://www.naturebasedplay.com.au">http://www.naturebasedplay.com.au</a>
<b>Nature Play Solutions</b>		Kerry Logan West Perth 9361 1355 <a href="mailto:play@natureplaysolutions.com.au">play@natureplaysolutions.com.au</a> <a href="http://www.natureplaysolutions.com.au">www.natureplaysolutions.com.au</a>
<b>Loose Parts Loose Parts in Carts</b>	"Loose Parts in Carts" package: includes planning advice, demonstration play sessions, online templates, curriculum links and sharing forum and follow up support.	Ann Grace Karrinyup 0401 915 131 <a href="mailto:ann@loosepartsincarts.com.au">ann@loosepartsincarts.com.au</a> <a href="http://www.loosepartsincarts.com.au">www.loosepartsincarts.com.au</a> <a href="http://www.facebook.com/loosepartsincarts">www.facebook.com/loosepartsincarts</a>

**Grants available:**

- Mindarie regional council offer a \$500 community grant to purchase items at their tip at Tamala Park. (Email [admin@mrc.wa.gov.au](mailto:admin@mrc.wa.gov.au) attention projects sent on a West Greenwood Primary School letterhead).

**5. Project Schedule:**

Task	Duration
Informing Staff of project	
Forming a committee	
Accessing Funds for the project – school based or a P&C request	
Collecting materials	
Purchasing storage containers	
Whole school Professional Development	
Parent and Carers Professional Development	
Implementing across year levels – suggesting initially: 1. Year levels 2. Mixed aged groups (buddy classes) 3. Whole school	
Stage 2 Community Garden	

**Professional Learning Undertaken:**

Maggie Dent from the sandpit to Adulthood

Meeting Student Sensory Needs

Nature Play

Nature Play Loose Parts – Karrinyup Primary School

Bold Park Community School – an understanding of the Reggio Emilio philosophy which incorporates loose parts play.

Extensive reading in particular:

Loose Parts inspiring play in young children by Miriam Beloglovsky & Jenna Daly

Loose Parts Play by Theresa Casey & Juliet Roberson

Storage

