



# What is the Earth Smart Science Program?

The Earth Smart Science (ESS) program will assist schools to become more sustainable. The program is an election commitment of the Queensland Government to expand the number of environmentally sustainable schools in the State from 60 to 1000 by 2012. This also includes Education Queensland's declaration of 2010 as the Year of Environmental Sustainability.

## What does it mean for schools?

- All state primary schools in Queensland will be required to participate in the ESS program by 2012.
- ESS will focus on a whole-of-school approach to environmental sustainability.
- Curriculum links will focus on Science and Maths.
- Schools will be supported to develop, implement and monitor School Environmental Management Plans (SEMPs) to reduce their ecological footprint.



## How will ESS be implemented?

- The ESS program will be implemented through the Queensland Environmentally Sustainable School Initiative (QESSI) regional hubs.
- The Queensland Murray-Darling Committee (QMDC) and Amaroo Environmental Education Centre (EEC) will each be supporting 15 schools annually in the Darling Downs and South West Queensland.
- Schools will receive support in the form of training for staff, resources and visits from QESSI hub staff.



## Earth Smart Science Program



Funded by:



Australian Government



Queensland Government



Darling Downs QESSI Hub - Supporting schools in the Darling Downs & South West Queensland

[www.qmdc.org.au](http://www.qmdc.org.au)

[www.amarooeec.eq.edu.au](http://www.amarooeec.eq.edu.au)



## How can your school be involved?

- Online information sessions will be held on **Monday, 26 October** and **Thursday, 12 November** from 3.30-4pm. Please register with Renee (4637 6224, [reneef@qmdc.org.au](mailto:reneef@qmdc.org.au)).
- QMDC and Amaroo EEC are each seeking expressions of interest (EOI) from 15 state primary or P-10 schools in the Darling Downs and South West Queensland to participate in 2010.
- Please contact Renee for more information (4637 6224, [reneef@qmdc.org.au](mailto:reneef@qmdc.org.au)).



## Benefits of the program

There are a range of educational, social, environmental and economic benefits associated with becoming a sustainable school. Some of these include:

- numerous opportunities to engage students in Science, Maths and cross-curricula learning activities, in an authentic context,
- cost savings in the following areas: waste disposal, cleaning, excess water or energy bills, dependent on the focus chosen,
- the promotion of student responsibility, leadership, collaboration and team work, and
- partnerships with external organisations and school community.

## Questions

Please direct any questions to:

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