

CHILDREN'S ART DECORATES MARINE POSTERS

Department of Conservation and Land Management Marine Conservation Branch Community Liaison Officers, Sue Osborne and Lauren Monks, have been developing educational material for two proposed marine conservation reserves in the Montebello-Barrow Islands region, and the Dampier Archipelago to Cape Preston region.

The educational material ranges from large booklets on the ecological, cultural and socio-economic setting of the regions, to brochures and posters on the study areas.

Using images and few words, posters can be an excellent educational tool. When they are bright and eye-catching, they arouse curiosity and can quickly pass on a great deal of information.

In a break with past practices, children's paintings are being used in a series of posters aimed at making people aware that the marine environment is used for many purposes, and that one use is seldom more important than any other.

The posters shown here are among the many designed to illustrate the different uses and attributes of the region, such as recreational and commercial uses, as well as cultural heritage, natural heritage and science and educational values. Most of these uses and values depend on the maintenance of a healthy marine environment.

The paintings have been contributed by years 1 to 7 pupils at Dampier, Roebourne, Mosman Park, Melville, North Beach and Roleystone Primary Schools.



Each colourful painting depicts a child's wonderful perspective of the marine environment.

It is important when a marine conservation reserve is proposed, that the local community is encouraged to develop a sense of ownership and stewardship for the area. This is facilitated by that community becoming involved in the planning and development of the reserve, via community-based advisory committees such as public workshops and other avenues.

The use of children's art shows that some very important members of the community—the children—have also been involved in the process. They are this nation's future and it is vital that their interest in marine conservation is developed from an early age.

Some of the colourful art created by primary school students.



STEPHANIE LEE



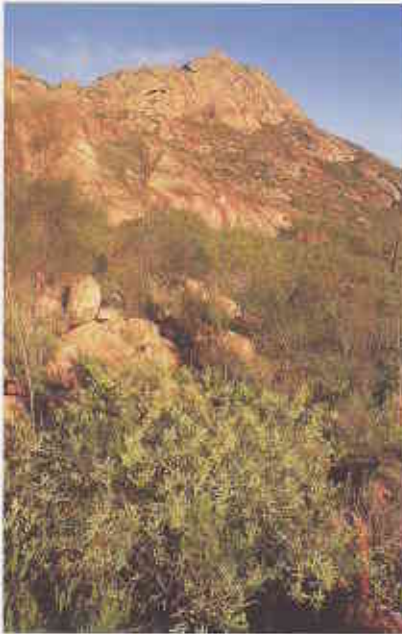
MOSMAN PARK PRIMARY



Winner of the 1998 Alex Harris Medal for excellence in science and environment reporting.

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Peak Charles and Peak Eleanora, protected within Peak Charles National Park, form granite islands in a sea of bush. See page 10.



Butterflies have a short life span, but they bring pleasure to many people who visit Rottnest Island. See page 23.



The Swan River is a recreation area for humans and a home for migratory birds. See page 16.



A partnership between State and Commonwealth governments, and a group of pastoralists is helping to fill the gaps in the conservation estate. See page 43.



Many marine creatures have evolved ingenious survival methods. See page 49.

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C O V E R

Well-known Australian artist Ken Done captures the colour and turbulence of the horizontal waterfalls on the Kimberley's Wandjina Coast.

Painting by Ken Done
Racing Tide, Kimberley Coast, May 1999
(51 x 36 cm) oil crayon and gouache
on paper.



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