

## **Sandwatch comes to Coogee Beach in Perth, Western Australia**

Students at South Coogee Primary School have commenced Sandwatch activities at their local beach. Under the guidance of Coastcare Officer, Craig Wilson, City of Cockburn Environmental and Education Officer Vicky Hartill and teacher Steven Lushey, students will carry out a range of Sandwatch monitoring activities under the auspices of our Verve Energy sponsored Adopt a Beach project.

Over the course of the year, students will be learning about climate change and adaptations that can be made to better manage potential impacts. In order for the students in Perth to understand how climate change impacts can affect communities the school is planning to link with a school in Kiribati. To share experiences with students in a low lying atoll country such as Kiribati will reinforce the importance of controlling carbon emissions in developed countries and provide a valuable learning experience for the students in Australia.

On their first excursion to Coogee Beach, students measured beach width's at a series of sites and participated in a 'Creature Feature' beachwalk where coastal plants and animals were photographed and identified. June 2011 will see students planting coastal species to strengthen the dune system from storm damage and to improve habitat for animals including birds and reptiles.

Craig Wilson

Coastcare, Kwinana, Australia



**Coastcare Office Craig Wilson, talks to South Coogee Primary School about coastal plants and take some measurements**