

## Sandwatchers stabilize dunes in Western Australia

### Students planting in the Coogee Beach dunes, Perth, Western Australia.

An important component of the South Coogee Primary School **Sandwatch program** is “Taking Action”. This winter, after rain had saturated the dunes, students planted coastal species to protect the dunes from erosion and to create habitat for native animals such as bandicoots (a small ground mammal the size of a rabbit) reptiles and insects. Planting native species also assists in the control of invasive weeds and encourages students to think about climate change and sea level rise and the impact storms and higher tides might have on Coogee Beach.



South Coogee Primary School teacher Mr Steven Lushey said, “The students enjoyed the planting activities as they understand how important it is to protect the dunes from erosion and they also enjoy the opportunity to visit the beach and experience nature while having fun at the same time”. “**Sandwatch** is an excellent opportunity for the students to learn about the coastal environment, gain an understanding of potential climate change issues and have exposure to student activities in other parts of the world” he said.

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