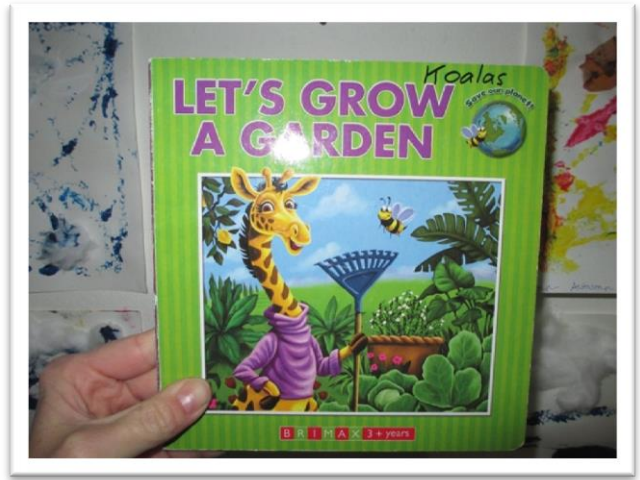
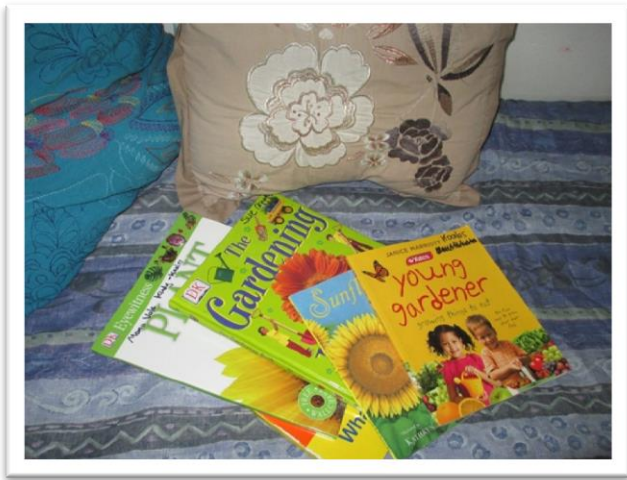


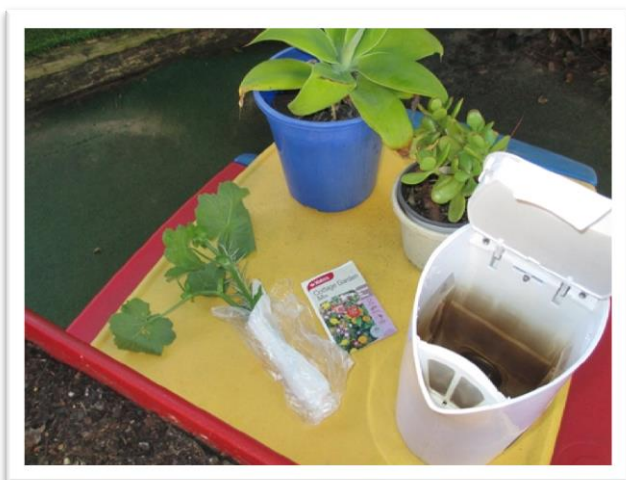
June 2014

## Upcycling Project

Over the last few weeks we have been doing some **UPCYCLING** activities as part of our learning about sustainability. Upcycling is the process of re-using and re-purposing waste materials or 'useless' products into new useful materials and products of better quality or for better environmental value. If you have any ideas or old materials and objects we would love you to bring them in for our project. Lately we have been combining the upcycle process with our ongoing interest in gardening - here are some of our exciting ideas so far!



We have been reading some gardening books and the children especially enjoyed seeing what the Giraffe was planting in his veggie patch in 'Lets Grow a Garden'. We have been talking about the gardens we have created at Kindy, discussing how to plant different trees, flowers, fruits and vegetables.



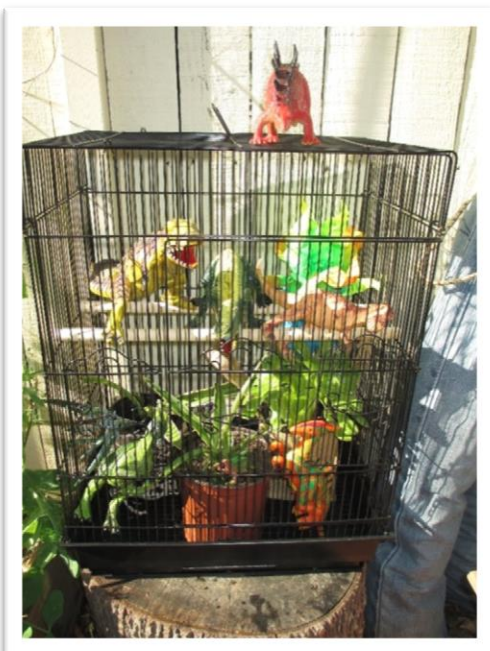
Sue brought in some plants and seeds, and an old kettle to plant in for Kindy's Upcycle garden! All the children helped to place bark pieces in the bottom of the kettle to help with drainage... Then we planted a Geranium cutting from Sue's own garden! We watered it, and then carried out to join the other plants on display.



Sue has also been bringing in a variety of old crockery mugs and teapots that she found during weekend excursions to op shops and Kimbriki Tip. The children have enjoyed helping to fill them with soil and planting pansy seeds into them. They know to be gentle when handling seedlings.



And a big **thank you** to one of the daddies who has brought in an old bird's cage for our dinosaurs in the garden. Please stop by for a look – we hope they don't escape from the cage!





Tania brought in her old toilet from home and we loved watching her plant a huge cactus into it – there was lots of giggling and fun!



We often take the opportunity to take turns to check on and water all of our newly planted plants – they are looking happy and healthy in their new upcycled pots next to our scarecrow.



## EYLF Learning Outcomes:

**Outcome 2:** Children are connected with and contribute to their world.

These upcycling and gardening experiences can encourage children to become socially aware of the environment, as well as developing a responsibility and respect for the environment. They can also help children to develop a sense of belonging to group or community, as well as understanding the reciprocal rights and responsibilities necessary for active community participation.