Learning with a spirit of adventure

As the River Ambassadors enter week two of their adventure, you can bet they’re dreaming of hot showers and soft beds…but it’s also a sure thing they’re having plenty of fun and learning something new about the environment every day.

Organiser, Rod Dann, says the group has melded well, and the students are enjoying the new challenges each day brings.

“Our canoeing skills have definitely improved. On day 7 some of the River Ambassadors even managed to negotiate a particularly tricky section of the river near Lowood without coming a cropper,” Rod said.

“Last week we had a great day with two Water Quality Scientists from Seqwater, Kate (pictured right) and Andrew. They explained why water needs to be tested and then showed the different testing processes they use, such as biological and probe tests.

“Thursday was an exciting day, as we had a Channel 10 news crew film us from the air, before landing in their helicopter and interviewing some of the students.”

“One very positive aspect of the journey in 2010 has been the quality of the river water, which the students have found ranges from excellent to good,” Rod said.

Family Day raises spirits and money for cancer research

Thanks to everyone who came along to Family Day on Sunday 5 September.

The rain did not dampen the delight of the River Ambassadors at being reunited with their families for a day, or the willingness of people to participate in the drumming workshop held after lunch.

Even better, the event raised around $250 for the Prostate Cancer Foundation of Australia.
Meet Out River Ambassadors

Introducing… Dylan Jansma
Dylan is working with Steele Hudson to document weeds by taking GPS points and photographs and then writing a report. Dylan thinks litter is a big problem but if everyone stopped littering and helped clean up we could have healthy waterways in the future.

and… Jenna Freeman
Jenna is concerned that littering is still a serious environmental issue, especially for our waterways. She will be photographing the rubbish she finds on her river journey to identify the biggest problem areas and find out what can be done about them.

The Journey In photos…

At journey’s end – the Port of Brisbane

With the end of the B2B experience approaching, students will soon be arriving at their destination - Moreton Bay where the Port of Brisbane is located at the mouth of the river.

Operating so close to an area of high ecological importance, the Port of Brisbane takes its environmental responsibilities very seriously.

As well as monitoring the environment in which it operates, the Port of Brisbane recently constructed its third 5 Star green building. Its new headquarters contains innovative design features to help reduce the building’s energy use and greenhouse gas emissions.

The port has also installed low wattage LED lights in a number of port-owned facilities. The new lights use about half of the electricity of traditional lights and last longer.

It has added to the biodiversity of the port’s buffer areas, installing nesting boxes for the native wildlife, including galahs, micro-bats, squirrel gliders and brushtail possums.

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