

Global DeforestACTION

The DeforestACTION project is a joint project between eight schools from across the South East Asian Region. The schools are being supported in this project by *Microsoft* and *Taking IT Global*. The project came about as part of a commitment made by participating students and teachers at the *6th Microsoft APAC Regional Innovative Education Forum* which was held in Singapore in March 2010.

The DeforestACTION project involves Dallas Primary School and Kindergarten students from Years 5 and 6, but the implications and actions from the project will be experienced by the entire Dallas community.

Students have used technology to become a member of an online collaboration, to become truly global citizens. Students have been exposed to problems in other parts of the world that they either directly or indirectly can play a role in. Through ongoing communications with teachers and students in other countries, our students have been able to recognise the important role they play in the future growth of our world.

The journey so far...

Students have participated in online discussion forums and international video conferencing to develop an ACTION plan and publish it for the online DeforestACTION community. Eight schools from countries including Sri Lanka and Singapore contributed ideas. Students from each school community then voted on which course of action to raise awareness about deforestation was the most suitable.



The proposals included a mass planting of trees and shrubs, designing a worldwide 'safe tree' logo, the production of movies to highlight the plight of old growth forests and a campaign to alert the wider public to the use of palm oil and the devastating effect it has on our environment. It was the palm oil project that was selected by students from around the world and now each school is working on a more specific course of action that they can follow.

Global DeforestACTION cont...

Where to now...

Students in Years 5 and 6 at Dallas Primary School and Kindergarten are currently brainstorming ideas and participating in online discussions to assist the creative process.

Students will continue to work on local and global levels to investigate deforestation with a particular view to the damage caused by clearing natural forests for palm oil plantations.

