

KIDS IN ACTION



PROJECTS FOR WLDLIFE WARRIORS

In Queensland, Strathpine State School is just as passionate about the environment and wildlife conservation. Since the school won the Australia Zoo Wildlife Warriors Khaki-it Challenge in 2010, the students and staff have kept up their green credentials.

Year 6/7 teacher Helen Hamill told *Crikey! Mag* her students are involved in different projects that enhance their knowledge of wildlife and the environment.

These include koala monitoring of their nearby koala corridor, undertaking

health checks of Four-Mile Creek, using recycled materials for art projects, and maintaining a worm farm at school.

The recent Olympic Games inspired Helen to run a 'Spelling Olympics' or spellathon. The money raised went to Australia Zoo Wildlife Warriors and other conservation projects within their school.

"We have a real affiliation with the Zoo," Helen said. "Environmental issues are close to our heart and Education Nick has reinforced this bond by coming to our school for our science expo."



ONE MORE GENERATION

On the international front, American siblings Carter and Olivia Ries (aged 10 and 9), with the help of their parents, have set up the non-profit One More Generation (OMG) to focus on saving endangered species. Since 2009, OMG has been involved in many conservation initiatives, including raising awareness of rattlesnake roundups, helping out in the Gulf of Mexico BP oil spill, delivering donations to Cheetah Rescue in South Africa, and creating a Plastic Awareness Curriculum for primary schools.

Olivia and Carter are now trying to get at least 1000 children from around the world to send them letters asking President Zuma of South Africa to be more involved in stopping the practice of poaching rhinos for their horn.

The siblings were distressed when they learned about the plight of rhinos, motivating them to act. "My brother and I are telling everyone we know and meet about what is happening until someone steps up and puts a stop to the killing," Olivia told *Crikey! Mag*.

"We have watched how hard Bindi and her brother work to try to save animals and educate people of what is going on in the world. They are truly heroes for all animals and I hope to meet them someday to say thanks for everything they do."

Carter added that his family had always been fans of the Irwins. "Sometimes I think we work hard but then we see everything the Irwin family is doing and it makes me want to work harder."



www.onemoregeneration.org/2012/07/20/dear-president-zuma