



The Safe and Sustainable Indoor Cleaning Project

SASI-stories

Clean Hands Clean Art at Yarraberg

Yarraberg Children’s Centre

has taken on the SASI Clean project with zeal. Lucy Evans, the Centre’s Pre-School teacher felt it was important to involve the children from the outset and has initiated a whole theme of art and experimentation about cleaning. The children captured the theme for themselves in their paintings.

Lucy got to try out a safe cleaning choice when one overzealous young artist scribbled crayon where she shouldn’t have. Staff were amazed to see how easily they removed the crayon using a home-made mix of pure liquid castille soap and bicarbonate of soda applied with a scourer made from recycled orange-net bags. (Find out how to make your own **creamy cleanser** by returning to sasiclean website).



Washing our hands in warm soapy water is one of the simplest and most effective way of reducing the risk of infection. We have all seen the familiar sign over public hand basins depicting a sudsy pair of hands being washed. The children did their own experiment after one of the parents had very kindly brought in some agar plates (used by scientists to grow bacteria).

The children wiped their dirty outdoor play hands on one set of plates, and after washing their hands, wiped them again across a different set of plates. They will soon get to see the difference in bacterial growth in the two plates.



Playing safe and trusting our nose

was another game the children played. A range of natural and synthetic cleaning agents were dabbed onto pieces of paper for the children to smell. They were asked to decide which they thought smelt good and which smelt bad. Mimicking nature, the children discovered that if it smelt bad it usually was, meaning they should trust their noses and keep well away.

A really valuable lesson for those who aren’t old enough to read warnings on the label.

In exploring various aspect of cleaning with the children, Lucy realised how little factual information most of us actually do know about it *and* how important it is to provide accurate answers. Yarraberg are looking forward to finding out more as the SASI Clean project progresses.