



NAME: Samantha Fielder

AGE: 14 yrs

Hi, I'm a proud Goldfields student born and bred here in Kalgoorlie. I am currently studying Year 10 at John Paul College and am looking forward to finishing high school and going on to university. I am passionate about the environment and have my own worm farm and composting bin at home. I have worked with my school over the past 18 months to introduce recycling and to get environmental issues recognised by teachers.

I became involved with Junior Landcare in early 2008 through one of the community open days at Karlkula Park. Since then I have helped out at the nursery on a regular basis as well as helping out at community group events. In 2008 I also attended the WA Youth Environment Conference in Perth with 4 other students from Kalgoorlie. This allowed me to see how other groups have enhanced their local natural parklands through community involvement.

I also joined Millennium Kids in 2008 and worked with a range of local groups including KBULG in developing a program called The Quest. This involved making links between our local environment and the Beijing Olympics with students from Kwinana, Kalgoorlie and Esperance because the resources for the medals at the Olympics came from these areas. I have also attended a leadership camp with 7 other Kalgoorlie youth and developed my skills to work with other youth to develop and design local projects.

I have also become a Youth Councillor for the City of Kalgoorlie-Boulder and actively lobby for environmental issues through the Youth Council. This year I have attended the Siemens Science Program at Curtin University through Rotary, the United Nations Youth Conference in Perth and I am about to present a climate change workshop to 50 local Kalgoorlie students called The Big Switch Experiment.

I have been invited to attend the Bright Green Youth Conference in Sonderborg, Denmark, and I intend to take local issues and concerns from the youth of Kalgoorlie to a world stage. There are only 4 youth from Western Australia attending the conference and I am the only regional representative. I will have the opportunity to participate in workshops and have the privilege to work with international scientists at the camp on realistic ideas that can be actively put in place and bring back perspectives of other youth from around the world.

In my spare time I like to read, play basket ball and volley ball, walk my dog, feed my worms and grow my own vegetables in our backyard.