

3R GOOD PRACTICES IMPLEMENTED BY NGOs/CBOs



3R Good Practices in Philippines

NGO /CBO	Ara-al Elementary School
Activity	Environment - Friendly School
OUTLINE OF 3R GOOD PRACTICES	
Keywords	School, Recycling, Segregation, Composting
Country	Philippines
Area Implemented	La Carlota City, Negros Occidental, Philippines
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Waste Sector	Waste Recycling. Material Recovery Facility
3R Practice	Vermicomposting, Plastic and Paper Recycling
Website / Data Source	Not available

OVERVIEW OF PRACTICES

Introduction

Ara-al Elementary School is one of the remote schools in the Division of La Carlota City, 14 km. away from the city. Almost 95% of the total population is children from farm workers and those living below the poverty line. In spite of, the school being academically conscious, it is also engaged in environment friendly activities. The school not only aims to enhance learning through its environment-friendly school program but also, extends its environment-friendly project to the community. Its target beneficiaries are the 580 elementary students, 25 public school teachers and 3,247 other citizens in 19,361 hectares of land in Barangay Ara-al.

3R Good Practice

Since the school appreciated the value of environment in its curriculum, environment education was integrated in all learning areas to increase the students' awareness on solid waste management and environment protection. Moreover off-site campus activities such as seminars and forum were held at nearby communities. The school develops good practices through proper waste disposal, use of waste bins, segregation and recycling of waste materials, maintenance of compost pits, and other environmental practices by the students and teachers. Waste is segregated into biodegradable and non-biodegradable. Biodegradable waste is processed into vermicompost and is used as fertilizers to grow vegetables in the school garden. The harvested crops are then used to feed the malnourished students. Segregated papers and plastic fruit juice packets are recycled into usable decorative items displayed at the 3R center of the school.

Outcome of Practice

The fruit of this program acquired an award for the "Most Environment – Friendly School" in the province of Negros Occidental in 2007. The program of the school created awareness to its students and to the community. The waste generation in the school was reduced through segregation and recycling. Waste paper and plastics were recycled into decorative items. Some were displayed at the school and others were sold to nearby stores. The school sustained its feeding program using the yield from its garden fertilized by vermicompost. A 3-year solid waste management plan up to the year 2009 has been designed by the school to promote cleanliness, recycling, proper waste disposal and improved Material Recovery Facility (MRF) system.

BIODEGRADABLE



Students engaged in vermicomposting



School garden fertilized with the compost produced



Feeding session for students



Crop Harvesting

NON-BIODEGRADABLE



Recycled items in the display room