

Ecological Adventure: Calasanz Movement "San Antonio de Barrancas" (CHILE)

With the beginning of the Calasanz Movement at the Institute of the Puerto de San Antonio (2017), the idea arises within the Pastoral department to link the Adventure stage with activities related to Ecology and the care of the environment.

For the call of young people, we raised the idea of working on this ecological line and it had a lot of acceptance.

The Calasanz Movement offers children and young people a personal process of following Jesus that will lead them to grow as individuals and Christians, from their own vocation and in a specific community, in the Church and in the world.

As specific objectives we had set ourselves:

1. Generate a culture of co-responsibility in the care of the environment within the school and in its environment, through teamwork.
2. Create spaces of listening and accompaniment of tweens in the questions and problems of their stage of development.
3. To help young people develop their person in an integral way, making their lives a continuous progress of human and Christian growth and maturation.



We believe that the success of this pastoral experience is due to the participatory methodology used with the members of the group. This methodology is implemented from the origins of it, when once we have gathered we ask young people: What can we do in school for the sake of the environment? What actions can they come up with?

Young people are inclined to recycle paper, tetra pack (individual boxes of milk and juices) and the creation of an orchard. We then designed the

containers to put in each room, we raised money with the sale of food at recess.

We went to repair the greenhouse of a neighboring "Divine Master" school that caters to children who require special education. Next, our school destination a space for the creation of an orchard and greenhouse.

Recycling and environmental care habits have been generated within the school through the following activities:

Recycling: paper, tetra pack and plastic bottles inside the school. Location of differentiated containers for each type of waste in classrooms and offices.

Clean spot. In each course a student is responsible for emptying the containers in their room at the clean point of the school. These wastes are removed by operating in the environmental department of the municipality of San Antonio every week.

Orchard and greenhouse: Cultivation of seeds of various vegetables and plants.

For two consecutive years the school has won the municipal school recycling award. The school has managed to obtain a public environmental certification given to educational establishments that successfully implement environmental education strategies in their school communities.

Students report that in their homes they have also started recycling and growing plants.

The group hold Weekly Encounters (today every 15 days per zoom due to the pandemic) where:

- We invite young people to share and name what happens to them in life, thus enriching the group and letting themselves be challenged by it, in its growth options.
- We invite you to share different opinions and to respect and accept the difference, always opting for mechanisms of positive coexistence.
- We educate in participation and co-responsibility in the tasks of the group, making the children and young people themselves protagonists of the group.
- We cultivate membership in the group, the educational process as a whole, and the Piarist Christian community. To do this our groups participate in campaigns, actions for peace, celebrations, meetings of reflection, retreats...

Recipients are students of 6th, 7th and 8th grades in Primary School.

