

Sydney primary students lend their support to Capertee's Regent Honeyeaters

Sophia Year 2



Students from Haberfield Public School dig deep to help the recovery efforts of Australia's critically endangered Regent Honeyeaters.
Photograph: Denis Fernandes

A bunch of hardworking Haberfield Public School students banded together with their families for a weekend of planting and camping in NSW's Capertee Region.

The students from years 2 to 6 worked alongside volunteers from BirdLife Australia and Taronga Zoo's Youth at the Zoo program to plant native trees on the Junjira property in the picturesque Capertee Valley.

Undeterred by the rain, the volunteers planted over 1,800 native saplings in the hope of helping in the long term recovery of Australia's critically endangered Regent Honeyeaters.

"Even though it was raining I kept on going because I knew I was helping the Regent Honeyeater to survive," Amayah from Haberfield Public School said.

The students were eager to make the 3hr trip and join in the conservation project which has seen 123,658 trees planted across 206 hectares within the valley.

This was the first time Haberfield Public School had participated in the Capertee Tree Planting weekend and the organisers were thrilled to have extra support.

"It's always good to see primary schools or any school groups come out," Iain Patterson the project manager and chair of the organising committee said.

With the event over the students are already planning their next conservation trip to the region and the organisers are always looking for more supporters.

"If you're not going to swing a mattock which is hard yakka anyway you can always collect the tubes and help with the watering," Dick Turner Volunteer forester with BirdLife Australia said.

"It was an amazing experience and I can't wait to get back to the Capertee Valley to do it again," Fergus from Haberfield Public School said.