

afflip

australian foundation
for fostering learning
in the philippines inc.



Students Prospering from Outdoor Learning in Talomo District, Philippines

The Outdoor Learning through the Environment Project (OLEP) is gaining local and national recognition in the Philippines. Mabini Elementary School's OLEP program was featured on ABS CBN television in February. The school had been a national winner in research, showcasing OLEP and agriculture projects, including learning materials. A teacher from Mabini Elementary School, Sheila Sison, has been posting to other teachers showing her work in using OLEP in Maths.



In October 2019 June Patalinghug, a teacher at Baliok Elementary School, won a regional research competition on the use of OLEP to support naturalistic learners. June, who has travelled to Australia as part of the Schools Network program, is now District Research Coordinator.



Another teacher, Nenita Caro, from Bonifacio Elementary School, won an award for best research paper at the Talomo District Research Congress in 2020. Nenita's paper was a case study of the positive effect of using OLEP as well as positive reinforcement in Maths. Her research demonstrated very positive outcomes in student motivation and results.

AFFLIP has supported the development of outdoor learning through the Outdoor Learning Environment Project (OLEP) since 2015. The project began from the expressed need of educators in Talomo to develop ideas for the use of outdoor areas, including the vegetable gardens and ponds, as places where learning can occur. With the support of donations from the Harris family, a pilot project was developed at Bonifacio Elementary School.

The pilot included bringing three staff from Bonifacio Elementary School to South Australia to see examples of the use of the outdoor environment in learning, as well as looking at the principles, processes and strategies used. The school was supported in developing outdoor equipment and infrastructure. Input was gained from students, parents, staff and community members. The University of Southern Philippines (USEP) supported the school with research. The changes and their benefits were shared with other schools in Talomo. Feedback from students, staff and parents attested to OLEP making schooling more enjoyable and fun, with advantages being exercise, use of imagination, chances to play more and the opportunity for learning.



Other schools in Talomo have taken on OLEP with enthusiasm. They have been supported in their initiatives with grants from AFFLIP and donations from the Chapman family and the Maitland Apex Club. Equipment has included outdoor music equipment, climbing pyramids, tunnels and overpasses, sandpits and painted structures. Staff from these schools have been sharing ways to use this equipment to teach in a range of areas within the Philippines' curriculum, including English, maths, health and science.

The Davao City Division of DepEd will shortly be running a conference on the OLEP Teachers Resource Package in English for the 2020-2021 school year. Teachers from Talomo worked with division supervisor in English, May Ann Jumaud, to produce this learning package. Three teachers, Cherryl Tagra, Bel Libradilla, and Marnie Estillore, have been selected as demonstration teachers to cascade their learning and ideas to other educators. AFFLIP heartily congratulates these three teachers on their achievement and we eagerly await news about further developments in other schools.

Fourteen new OLEP equipment proposals have now been developed by schools in Talomo. AFFLIP will try to support these proposals if we have sufficient funds or if we can find donors in Australia.

Anyone interested in donating or receiving further information on these proposals can contact any AFFLIP Board member.

Pat Maloney
OLEP Coordinator



Want to change how you receive these emails?
You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#).

