

MEDIA RELEASE

IWMSA supports early waste learning

Immediate Release

06 April 2011

Education and training especially when it comes to teaching the youth about waste management solutions has always been close to the heart of what the Institute of Waste Management of Southern Africa (IWMSA) stands for.

Recently the IWMSA in conjunction with DNF Waste and Environmental Services visited Nobuntu Primary

School in Dimbaza in the Eastern Cape to teach Grade Five learners about effective waste management solutions.

Deidre Nxumalo–Freeman, Director of DNF Waste and Environmental Services and Vice President of the IWMSA said, "It is important for us to teach communities to understand the importance of a clean environment. We are targeting the youth so that we can empower them to gain life time lessons and also convey the message to their parents about waste management when they get home."



During the course of the morning learners were taught about the hierarchy of waste management which includes: Avoid, Reduce, Re-use, Recycle, Compost, Treatment and Dispose. Learners are encouraged to avoid purchasing products that have excess packaging, and to be mindful when printing documents - double sided copies should be made where possible. Things like newspapers can be re-used and used to wrap or store goods. Glass bottles and jars can be re-used as storage containers; and can also be returned to retailers to receive a deposit. Plastic bags should be re-used when shopping instead of buying

a new plastic bag each time. Organic waste (egg shells, vegetable peels, leftover food etc.) should be used to make a compost heap.

During the talk the presenters turned the tables on the learners by asking them questions about effective waste management and handed out spot prizes to those who answered correctly.

The IWMSA sponsored garden equipment that will be used by the learners to create their own vegetable garden.

For more information on projects that the IWMSA are involved with, visit <u>www.iwmsa.co.za</u> or call 043 721 0003