

2020 Progress Report

Environmental Peacebuilding

The Water Resources Action Project (WRAP) brings rainwater harvesting systems, environmental education, and cross-cultural exchange to K-12 students in Israel, Palestine, Jordan, and the U.S. Arab and Jewish students work on shared environmental issues and establish rapport as they share their stories in-person and online.

COVID-19 didn't stop us!

- WRAP's lead educators and Board members adapted to challenges of **COVID-19** by changing our emphasis from classroom-based activities to virtual projects involving a smaller cadre of motivated students.
- **WRAP educators** made ZOOM presentations to two groups in Albuquerque, NM, including the Albuquerque-Rehovot Sister City program.
- WRAP completed a **robust evaluation process**, with the support of an expert in environmental peacebuilding which assessed the impact of its work on environmental education and cross-cultural relationships.
- In June 2020, three Arabic speaking and three Hebrew speaking schools participated in the **WRAP 2020 Photo Contest**. A winner from each school was selected by students from a school with a different native language.

From one of our lead educators:

"The teachers' seminar in July 2019 was excellent! With more teachers involved, we had a chance to meet each other, and get to know each other better. It was not the usual one-way teaching from the Israeli teachers, instead it is two-way. We all taught each other, and everyone had a role in giving knowledge from their experience. It felt good."

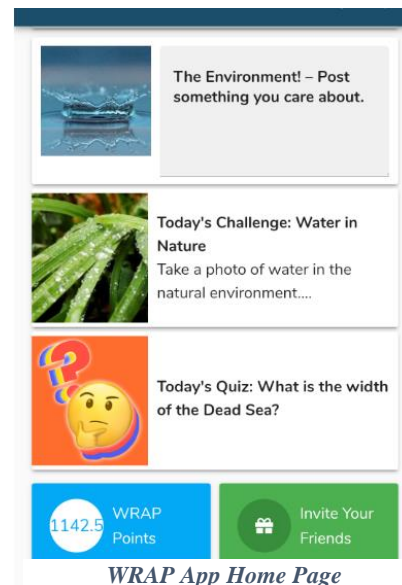


School photos: Clockwise from left - Kibbutz Gezer mid/high school; Eynot Yarden; Sur Baher; A Tur; Kibbutz Gezer Elementary; Mekif Tuba.

- WRAP partnered with another non-profit organization, **The Forgotten People**, to address some of the challenges of COVID-19 faced by Native Americans. We launched a GoFundMe drive, the Dine' (Navajo) Hopi Covid-19 Water Crisis that raised over \$11,000 to provide water tanks, trailers, and portable handwashing stations for isolated families on the Navajo and Hopi reservations in Arizona. We plan to pair schools on the Navajo and Hopi Reservations with schools in Israel and Albuquerque in 2021 for cross-cultural environmental activities.
- During the pandemic, WRAP continued to host routine, **virtual cross-cultural conference calls** to connect its lead educators implementing activities throughout the region.
- WRAP completed a grant from a new funding source, the **American Arbitration Association**.
- The **tri-lingual Environmental WRAPApp** is in final testing! The App will be accessible to schools around the world interested in cross-cultural, environmental education.

THE STUDENT ENVIRONMENTAL WRAPApp *Arabic, Hebrew, English*

- **Students earn points** for joining fun **environmental** quizzes, challenges, and contests, and posting photos and videos of environmental issues that are important to them.
- Students earn **bonus points** for **cross-cultural interactions**.
- Points are redeemed for **prizes** such as field trips, science equipment, and projects that support their schools and communities.
- All posts are vetted by teachers to assure **positive, cross-cultural interactions**.
- **Schools anywhere in the world** with a dedicated teacher liaison are invited to join the WRAPApp community.



Here's how you can help...

- **Volunteer** your skills in environmental education, marketing/social media, language translations, outreach to U.S. schools, grant making & fundraising, and serve on the WRAP Board. Contact us at info@wrapdc.org or go to www.wrapdc.org to fill out our volunteer form.
- **Request a ZOOM presentation** for your organization by our educators to describe the work they continue to do in bringing environmental peacebuilding through education to their students.
- **Donate** to continue our programming in Israel, Palestine, and the U.S.
 - At www.wrapdc.org or by check to WRAP, 1001 Pennsylvania Ave. NW, Suite 7115, Washington, DC 20004
 - Through the Environmental Peacebuilding Fund of the Jewish Community Foundation of New Mexico, at www.jcfnm.org or by check to JCFNM, 5520 Wyoming Blvd NE, Albuquerque, NM 87109

WHAT YOUR DONATION CAN DO

Any amount will support environmental, **cross-cultural exchange**, including the dreams of our local educators for a **WRAP environmental summer camp**, and **opportunities for Arabic and Hebrew speaking students to meet on a regular basis**. Your donations will purchase more rainwater harvesting and science equipment and help us bring our environmental WebApp to interested students everywhere.

- \$25 → One rain gauge
- \$150 → 1 digital tablet
- \$400 → 1-month stipend for a Lead Educator