

BALEGROW™ EARLY LEARNING PROGRAM



Mission:

To assist educators in implementing a straw bale garden into their centre, that is:

- Cost effective
- Low maintenance
- Educational

Meeting the framework requirements for sustainability and life cycle.

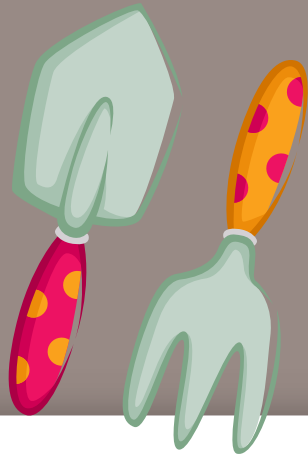
Why straw bale gardening and BaleGrow™

- Cost effective
- Ideal height for young children
- Can begin the process again the following year with a new group
- Can go on any surface
- Minimal space required
- Low maintenance
- Breaks down into compost for pots or garden beds
- Meets multiple framework criteria and intended outcomes
- Children can participate from the beginning to end

CONTACT US:

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PROGRAM: BALEGROW™ INCURSION PROGRAM

We would like to introduce BaleGrow™ as a resource for early childhood service providers. We have developed a 4-tired program. The centres can choose, according to their budget and centre's requirements.

Our intention is to assist educators by providing them with the tools, method and support to implement one of our programs to meet their intended outcomes.

Research shows that some teachers with the ever-increasing work load, find it difficult to maintain annual flower gardens or veggie patches. Some educators have expressed concerns about not having the experience to achieve the intended outcome successfully.

Our programs are designed to assist staff on all the above areas.

PROGRAM 1A

Product purchase only

This program is designed as a do-it-yourself centre option.

Additional product support is available to staff upon request via phone or email.

3 x straw bales
3 x BaleGrow™
treatment
Delivery
Cost: \$114.85

(Paid upon order placement)
Additional bales and treatment \$29.95



PROGRAM 1B

Pre-conditioned bales

Delivery of 3 or more BaleGrow™ bales; pre-prepared and ready for planting.

We will deliver and place your bales in the centre, ready for you to plant out with the children at a later date. For centres that are a little time poor and need a helping hand meeting sustainability framework requirements.

This will have the children engaged intently with bales that look different and can be used immediately for a maximum impact.

3 x BaleGrow™
Pre-conditioned bales
Delivery
Total = \$235

Additional travel charges may apply 30km outside of Somerville.

PROGRAM 2: INCURSION VISIT ONLY (45 MINS)

A 45-minute interactive presentation about sustainable gardening methods. This will highlight the advantages of straw bale gardening and gardening in small spaces. We will also touch on environmental awareness, at a level that can be understood for the demographic presented to.

This will be a fast-moving presentation that we have the children involved in the story about the origin of wheat. This will then lead into a conversation linking the wheat to straw and the straw to the garden. A growing straw bale garden that will be used as a presentation tool will be unveiled to the children.

Included in the session:

- ✿ Read Little Red Hen - Bring along an item for each child to hold and participate with during story time
- ✿ What is wheat
- ✿ What is straw and where it comes from
- ✿ Why its sustainable
- ✿ How to grow things without soil
- ✿ What an eco-system is (I will bring along worms to show)
- ✿ Why this garden does not last forever
- ✿ Why we should grow our own and keeping us healthy
- ✿ Don't be a wally with water



What I will bring

- ✿ Big book and items for participation
- ✿ Straw bales
- ✿ BaleGrow™ bale that is growing plants and is well established
- ✿ Wheat still on a stem for the children to take home
- ✿ Wheat grain for the children to touch and take home
- ✿ Worms



Note:

Straw bale garden can be purchased at additional charge if required.

BaleGrow™ treatment and straw \$29.95 each

Pre-conditioned \$70 each

Cost:

- 1 x group \$250
- 2 x groups \$450 (same day)

Additional travel charges may apply 30km outside of Somerville.

PROGRAM 3:

TWO VISITS including PRODUCT INCURSION PART 1



Visit 1: Delivery

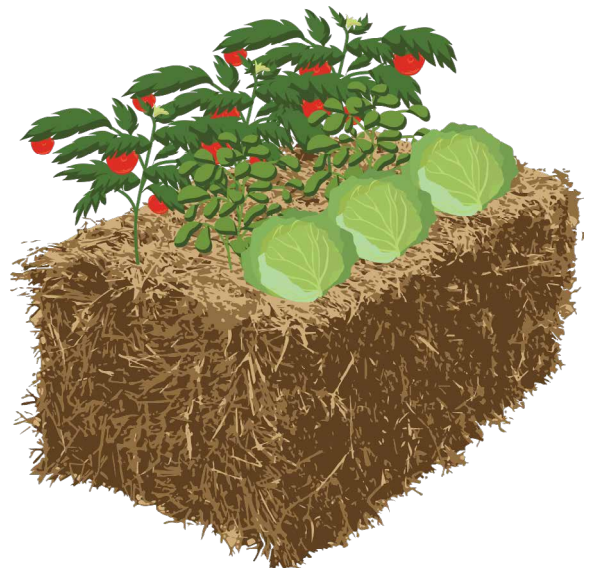
Delivery of 3 bales, BaleGrow™ treatment system; 4 weeks prior to incursion date for teachers and children to prepare.

Short 15-minute informal chat with the children about what we are delivering and what they are going to do with the bales.

What I will bring:

- ⚙ Email reminders when to feed you garden and what to plant and when to plant it
- ⚙ Regular contact to see how things are progressing and assist if needed.

Program based on 22 children.



Payments made 2 weeks prior to visit.
Optional extra: Life cycle box \$85.

Visit 2 continued next page →

PROGRAM 3: continued

Visit 2: Mat time and planting

An interactive 1.5-hour incursion including mat time and planting out 3 pre-prepared BaleGrow™ gardens (from visit one – treated by teacher and or children)

1. The first 30 minutes will be full of props such as different methods of sustainable gardening and the unveiling of a well-established straw bale garden children will be touching wheat grain, loose and still on the stem.
2. The next 40 minutes' will be outside. The first 10 minutes will be with the whole group chatting about what plants we are planting and benefits of growing our own food. Groups will be then split into 5-6 children to plant out with myself. The remainder of the group can be playing outside or inside participating in another activity.
3. The last 20 minutes will be gathering children back on the mat, re-capping what we have achieved and what the group is going to have to do to help look after the garden. What the garden may produce over the year and touch on why should we eat healthy food.

Total program cost
\$639.85
Visit 1 Cost: \$114.85
Visit 2 Cost \$525.00

Additional travel charges may apply 30km outside of Somerville.

First 30 minutes (mat time)

- Presentation of a growing bale
- Alternative, sustainable garden methods demonstrating raised beds, pots etc...
- What is wheat (wheat still on stem to take home)
- What is straw and where it comes from
- What's happening inside the bale
- What is good bacteria



Planting out the bales. 40 min Outside

This will include:

- Group discussion about what we will be planting: What plant it is. Do we cook it or is it a salad etc..
- Question and answer time while planting out
- Small groups of children 5-6 for planting out
- 2 small watering cans to keep
- Plants x 22
- Plant food

Children will be divided up into groups of 5-6 and moved outside to the bales that have been put in place prior to session commencing. Each child will be given a small seedling to plant inside the bale.

Back on the Mat (20 min)

Group discussion:

- Garden maintenance (kid friendly version)
- Don't be a wally with water
- Straw compost
- Let's talk worms
- What do we need to eat every day to stay healthy?



PROGRAM 4:

THREE VISITS
including
PRODUCT
INCURSION PART 1
INCURSION PART 2



Visit 1: Delivery

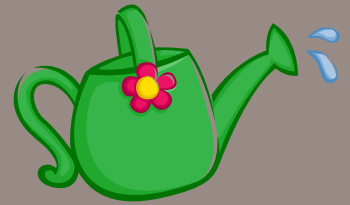
Delivery of 3 bales, BaleGrow™ treatment system; 4 weeks prior to incursion date for teachers and children to prepare.

Short 15-minute informal chat with the children about what we are delivering and what they are going to do with the bales.



Visit 2 continued next page →

PROGRAM 4 continued



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- What is wheat (wheat still on stem to take home)
- What straw is and where does it come from
- What's happening inside the bale
- What is good bacteria

Planting out the bales. Outside 40 min

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Visit 3 continued next page →

PROGRAM 4

continued



Visit 3: Straw compost and life cycle kit inc take home seeds

- ✿ 30 minute inside /outside visit, opening the bales to investigate what is inside. This will demonstrate; the life cycle of the bale, what and how we can use what we have created and finely what we can do with it.
- ✿ Reviewing the productivity of the past year.

Each child will take home a cup with composted bale inside and a seed to grow. This will also come with a small brown kraft carry bag for the child to place cup into.

This includes:

- ✿ 30 minute group discussion
- ✿ 22 biodegradable cups
- ✿ 22 brown carry bags
- ✿ 3 variety of seasonal seeds.
- ✿ If needed, the removal for the BaleGrow™ bales.
- ✿ Email reminders when to feed your garden
- ✿ Regular contact to see how things are progressing and assist if needed
- ✿ Plant food
- ✿ BaleGrow™ product support

This will include BaleGrow™ staff preparing bags for children to take home.

Also included is product support for 12 months including, email reminders, 12 months plant food and planting guides to best suit the Children and the program

Total program cost
\$989.85

- Visit 1 Cost: \$114.85
- Visit 2 Cost \$525
- Visit 3 Cost: \$350

Payments made 2 weeks prior to visit
Paid in 3 parts
Additional travel charges may apply
30km outside of Somerville.