

REGIONAL RECYCLED ART COMPETITION



Teacher Briefing Pack

Thank you for supporting your students in the Regional Recycled Art Competition.

This pack provides everything you need to participate successfully, including key dates, construction guidelines, and judging criteria.

About the Competition

The competition encourages students and wider community in the Townsville, Burdekin, and Hinchinbrook Local Government areas to explore recycling, resource recovery and environmental care through creative artmaking.

Winning artworks will be displayed at the regional Materials Recovery Facility (MRF) in Townsville, where all yellow-lid kerbside recycling from our communities is sorted.

Theme: Sky, Earth & Sea

Students can interpret the theme in any creative way.

Examples include:

- Animals that fly, live on land or swim in the sea
- Plants, trees, habitats or natural landscapes
- Reef environments or underwater worlds

Please encourage students to consider:

- Safe construction and structural integrity
- Choosing materials that genuinely reflect recycling and reuse
- The environmental message behind their artwork

Key Dates

- Competition Opens: Wednesday 15 April 2026
- Entries close: Monday 6 July 2026
- Winning artworks required by: Friday 31 July 2026



How to Enter:

Please submit entries online. You can enter individual student works or a class/group work.

Before you start, please prepare:

- Artwork title
- Theme category: Sky, Earth or Sea
- Materials description: 1 to 3 sentences describing recycled/repurposed items used
- 3 - 4 photos of the artwork (JPEG or PNG). Include at least one photo with a plain background
- Student first names and year levels
- School name and teacher contact details
- Artwork size: Length x width x height in cm
- Approximate artwork weight
- Preference for artwork to be floor mounted, wall hung, or ceiling hung.

Construction and Safety Guidance (for classrooms)

Please encourage students to consider:

- **Safety and structural integrity:** secure joins, smooth edges, stable base
- **True recycled content:** use repurposed materials rather than new craft items
- **Size and weight:** Suitable for ceiling hang, wall hang or floor mounted. Nothing over 1m in length, width or height. Maximum weight for ceiling or wall hung 2kg.
- **Labelling:** attach a discreet label on the base with school name, student first names, year level, and artwork title

Suggested materials: clean cardboard, paper, plastic containers, tins, bottle caps, scrap fabric, broken toys, string, wire offcuts, found objects, fishing line.

Avoid: food contaminated items, sharp metal, liquid-filled items, hazardous materials, or batteries.

Judging Criteria

Entries will be judged on:

- Creativity and originality
- Effective use of recycled and repurposed materials
- Relevance to the theme (Sky, Earth & Sea)
- Craftsmanship and construction quality
- Environmental messaging or interpretation

Delivery of winning artworks

Selected winning entrants will be contacted to deliver their artwork to their council by 4 pm Friday 31 July 2026.

What is the MRF?

The Materials Recovery Facility (MRF) in Townsville is where yellow-lid kerbside recycling from our region is sorted before being sent to re-processors. The upgraded education space will display selected winning artworks as part of the upgrades, and will be unveiled at a special Materials Recycling Facility Open Day later this year.



What if your students do not win?

Only a limited number of artworks can be displayed at the regional exhibition due to space capacity. If your school's entries are not successful, here are positive ways to celebrate learning and creativity at your school:

1. Host a mini exhibition at school

- Display artworks in the library, hall, office foyer or an arts corridor.
- Add simple labels with student first name, year level, title and materials used.
- Create a short artist statement wall featuring student quotes about their ideas or materials.

2. Invite your school community

- Share a short update and a photo collage in the school newsletter.
- Invite families to visit the display before or after assembly.
- Ask the student council or Eco Club to help host.

3. Celebrate participation

- Hand out certificates of participation for entrants (template can be provided by Townsville City Council if requested).
- Create special mentions such as Best Use of Recycled Materials, Most Creative Idea, Best Teamwork, Strong Environmental Message.

4. Link to curriculum and reflection

- Hold a quick class reflection: What materials were reused? What worked well? What would you try next time?
- Extend learning by connecting with your local council for a waste & recycling talk in your school.

Questions or queries regarding your entry

Contact: resourcerecovery@townsville.qld.gov.au

