Naragebup
Naragebup, created in 1996 under the leadership of Bob Goodale, was the first purpose-built Environment Centre in Western Australia. Aiming to helping people gain a greater understanding of environmental issues and sustainable lifestyle choices, it soon established itself as a community education and resources hub. [The word Naragebup means the meeting place (or cup) of fresh water.]

Sustainable Building Materials
Naragebup is carefully designed to minimise the use of energy-intensive materials and reduce the need for active heating and cooling. It uses a Solar Passive Design to make the most of its northerly aspect and energy from the sun.

Renewable Energy
Solar panels generate electricity for use by the centre during the day and some is also exported to the grid. This reduces our reliance on energy created by burning fossil fuels and hence our impact on the environment from greenhouse gas emissions and other pollutants.

Water Tanks
Several, one of which holds sea water for our marine fish tanks.

Toilets
Waterless

Lake Richmond
Across the road from Naragebup is Lake Richmond, an important, heritage listed wetland. It is part of the wetland chain around Perth and contains significant plant and animal species. It also houses the rare and ancient Thrombolites. Thrombolites are only found in 2 places in Western Australia – Lake Clifton and Lake Richmond. Strombolites are found only in Shark Bay, Western Australia.

Reptile Realm
Reptiles are an important part of the food web in our ecosystems being both predators and prey. Some are useful in reducing rodent numbers, others may act as seed dispersers and even pollinators. Here at Naragebup we are lucky enough to have native reptiles from around Australia on display, including frogs, lizards and snakes.

Marine and Freshwater Tanks
Being in a coastal environment, and situated next door to a large wetland, means that marine and freshwater ecosystems are very important for us. We need to protect our oceans and the things living in them.

Macro-invertebrate/dipping pond
Macro-invertebrates are a diverse group of animals that do not have a backbone and are large enough to be seen with the naked eye. They include worms, snails, spiders, insects and crustaceans. The dipping pond provides an excellent habitat for their capture and they can be identified and studied in detail with the use of a microscope.

Touch Table
At the touch table you can look at, and touch, eggs, sea shells, skeletons and other specimens from Australian plants and animals.

Bush Tucker Trail
On this trail Noongyar elders of the Rockingham region shared with us some of their knowledge about which local native plants are important food sources and useful resources.

Nature Trail
The Nature Trail showcases natural bushland, home of local plant and animal species. Along the trail you can learn about the ecology of our bushland, and perhaps spot a bird or turtle from the viewing platform. You may even come across one of our resident bobtails!
Using local native plants in the garden helps to reduce water use and increases biodiversity.

Chickens
The newest addition to our family are 6 hyline brown chickens and they have settled in really well. The treadle feeder, drink station and automatic door are working perfectly. The entire coop is set. up to be as fully automated and as sustainable as possible, with the least amount of cleaning required.

Community Garden
A lot of energy is used to get food from farms all over the world to our houses for us to eat. Food is carried by boats, planes and trucks all of which use fossil fuels, produce greenhouse gasses and other pollutants. By growing some of our own food in our backyards we can reduce these “Food Miles” and the associated harmful pollution.

Composting
Piling garden waste up in bays that hold at least a cubic metre of material results in hot composting. This kills weed seeds and allows the material to break down into free nutrient-rich compost for use in the veggie gardens. It also reduces the amount of material going into landfill.

Worm Farm
Worm farms help to turn food scraps into organic fertiliser for the veggie gardens.

Recycling
At Naragebup we will take the following organic materials for recycling. Please contact us on (08) 9591 3077 for advice on where to drop them off before bringing them to the centre.

Fruit & Veg scraps – used in our compost, worm farm and/or for our animals
Used coffee grounds – used in our compost, worm farm and gardens
Grass clippings (need to be weed free) - used in our compost, worm farm and gardens
Shredded paper – used for our worm farms and animals

We participate in Containers for Change (Member number: C10305133) so you can drop off your bottles and cartons in our car park collection area next time you visit us.

We will also take the following items which can be placed in the car park collection station during open hours.

Printer ink cartridges – cartridges 4 planet ark
Electrical Cables – please cut off the plugs

Used pens, biros, markers, white board markers and correction tape (not pencils) can be recycled by placing them in the labelled white irrigation tube inside the main building.

Our local council has a lot of information about waste collection and recycling
https://rockingham.wa.gov.au/your-services/waste-and-recycling

We hope you enjoy your time at Naragebup!

Find us on Facebook and Instagram