

Rural Discovery Day



On Thursday 24th May, 31 students and 7 staff members from Central State School took a tilt train to Brisbane to visit the EKKA Grounds where the Rural Discovery Explorers Tour was held. It was an early start. We had to be at the train station by 4:45am! We even had to have our breakfast on the train! We



reached Roma Street Station, disembarked and went straight down to Platform 9 to catch the connecting train to Bowen Hills where we then walked to the EKKA grounds. It was a bit of a walk, but we were excited about the event we were about to see.



We divided into 2 groups before going to our selected areas. 1/2/3/4 set off with Mrs Spruce, Ms Sullivan, Mrs Russell, Mrs Winkler and Mrs Troiani. They explored 'Cotton Australia', then 'Street Science, which the students really enjoyed. Students used



Pipettes to squeeze the solution up into them, then squeezed it out into a small bowl which had another solution in it. This produced a long stringy gel-like substance which looked like long colourful worms. The students were able to take this home.

The group were also able to get really close with some sheep, while grooming them. Our students asked some fantastic questions and really enjoyed the day. It was over too soon. We had a quick play in the parklands before hopping back on

The Bag Ladies. Mrs Spruce and Mrs Hillyard had so many bags to carry, luckily they had a trolley each!

the train to Bundaberg where our parents were eagerly awaiting.



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Year 5-6 students set out with Mrs Hillyard and Mrs Bradford. They saw "Tackling Plastics Together" where they were given a talk and questions were raised on how we could tackle this problem. How does it affect the environment and our reef? - (Get set for Queensland's plastic bag



ban and join us for the battle of Reef versus Rubbish). The next station was "Canegrowers". Our students knew a lot about this as we live in a cane area, but it was great to see first hand the sequence of how to produce sugar and then see the end product—refined sugar that we use every day.

"Media Frenzy" Channel 7 followed us around. Teachers and students were interviewed for the news.

"Cotton Australia"- We were shown products that cotton was made from and had to guess which one was cotton! Street Science provided the students with hands-on exploring-

how natural products react when processed. What a great day!



Above: The Sheep dogs rounding up the sheep. These dogs are very clever, just knowing what their handler wants them to do. We witnessed a sheep being shorn. This shearer quickly removed the wool which stayed in one piece! The students were able to handle the wool as well.



Calvary Christian College showcased their sheep which they groom and look after at their school. The students presented a talk about food and also a fibre demonstration. Our students were able to get up close to these beautiful animals.