



The children drew their favourite landmarks in their neighbourhood

We made the model train together, visited the underpass and had fun!

Jayden Chua, 6

posters and created models of the HDB flats found in their community and the train checkpoint. These works chronicling the project were displayed, mini gallery-style, at the centre and shared with parents and guests at an open house.

Connecting The Past To The Future

“Exploring the past helps children appreciate the work of earlier generations. It creates a shared sense of history, which is important part of their development. They also learnt that by having a strong community spirit and caring for the environment, one can contribute back to society,” says Regina. ♥

ROOTED IN TRADITION
CHILDREN AT PCS WOODLANDS CENTRE DISCOVER MORE ABOUT THEIR NEIGHBOURHOOD’S PAST.

Do you prefer the old Marsiling or the new Marsiling? Which is your favourite place in Marsiling? These were some questions that children at Presbyterian Community Services (PCS) Woodlands Centre at Marsiling Drive posed to senior citizens and long-time Marsiling residents.

“As seniors shared memories of their neighbourhood from the 1970s onwards, the children travelled back to a time when Singapore was just starting to develop. It sparked their interest and curiosity,” says teacher Regina Angeli Andal.

Making History Come Alive

This history project, dubbed “Tracing Our Roots”, was conducted from October 2017 to March 2018. It helped children learn more about their neighbourhood, its past, as well as appreciate the area’s significant landmarks.

Funded by ECDA’s Innovation Grant (IG), preschools under the Mentor-Initiated IG are mentored by experienced centres that demonstrate quality in their project implementation. In this case, PCF Sparkletots Preschool at Whampoa Blk 112, which won the ECDA Innovation Award 2016, took on the mentorship, sharing its

Learning about family history as they make a family tree out of recycled materials



experiences with a similar history project it had initiated.

Learning Beyond The Classroom

Aside from conducting interviews with the senior citizens, the children also took a neighbourhood walk to explore places of significance. It was a journey of discovery. On learning that the oldest underpass in Singapore is right in front of their school, the children brainstormed for ways to protect the underpass and maintain the cleanliness of the area.

Another significant Marsiling landmark was the Woodlands Train Checkpoint. It gave Regina the opportunity to discuss with the children the idea of having a shared history and culture with Malaysia.

To document their enriching learning experiences, the children together with their teachers made

PCS Woodlands Centre receives funding support from the Early Childhood Development Agency (ECDA) under the Partner Operator (POP) Scheme. The POP scheme helps operators keep fees affordable, build capabilities to raise quality and improve career prospects for early childhood professionals. Visit bit.ly/POP-Scheme for more information on the initiative.



Parents had a chance to view the exhibits chronicling the history project at an open house

ECDA INNOVATION AWARDS
View innovation projects that have won the 2017 ECDA Innovation Awards at bit.ly/ECDA-Awards-2017-Innovation-Awards