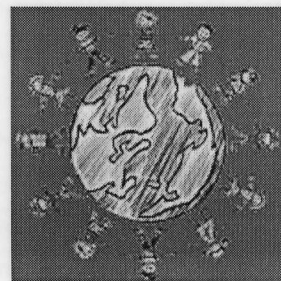


Purple Soup Anybody?



On the 11 of July the reference committee participated in a workshop at the RCH run by an organisation called purple soup. The workshop was all about bringing a group of strangers together and teaching us how to work together as a team to achieve an objective. The people from ISAP joined ChIPS people. ISAP is an organisation that brings American kids on their summer-break together with Aussie kids in conjunction with the YMCA for five weeks of fun. Tim, the founder of purple soup and Jy one of the leaders from the camp ran the night.

After the initial introductions, ISAP finding out what ChIPS was and ChIPS finding out what ISAP was; we got straight into it. First, we learnt a bit about each other, names and stuff. Then we were given a scenario of dodo eggs that had fallen out of their nest and needed to be put back in, without us touching the bucket. We had a time limit of 1 minute, it was really table tennis balls and a bucket hanging from some string, but we got involved and worked together. After two failed attempts, we got them into a bucket in 28 seconds, which we were quite pleased with, until we found out that grade six's did it in 8 seconds.

Then we got into teams and had our own version of 'the amazing race', we had to get over things without touching them, walk through areas flooded with minds without our eyes closed, whilst being directed by a team member, fake of course. The most entertaining part of the night was when we had to make up a team jingle, with actions and perform it to the rest of the group. My group name was 'rejects' so our jingle was 'I'm a little reject' to the turn of 'I'm a little tea pot'. The jingles brought out the best in all of us and definitely got rid of any nerves. We then did some theatre sports where we got up and made a scenario out of someone's stance. After that we called it a night and went home to our warm beds.

Unfortunately we won't be seeing the people from ISAP again since some of them have to go back to the US. It was a marvellous experience and I enjoyed meeting people from other walks of life. And I look forward to the next purple soup experience.

By Heather Trewin