



# Why celebrate our Great Grains at Yaapeet?

## What are the Great Grains?

When you eat food products made from cereals (like wheat, or oats), or pulses (like lentils or chick peas) or oilseeds (like canola), you are eating a 'Great Grain'.

Our toasting glasses are full of different types and varieties of 'great grains'.

## Why did we think we should celebrate them for National Science Week 2014?

We had a wonderful celebration of our great grains hosted by Yaapeet PS with representatives of every age except teenagers. With a grain farming family, an ex-dairy farm child, and a Landcare facilitator, we also brought mixed farming experiences to the celebration.

We focussed on getting to know the great grains:

- noticing how to describe their size, shape and colour,
- setting up an experiment to see what happens when they are soaked in water,
- testing ourselves to see if we could match seed samples to the three grain groups: cereal/grains; legume/pulses and oilseeds..... and some of us were delighted to find we could identify them all correctly.

We had many reasons for celebrating science for our great grains, with the most common reasons being its contribution to our food for us to live, especially in the breads.

Plant breeding and other sciences have helped our farming.

- We grow grains,
- - many different grains
- - that are good food for the world.
- They are part of the way we farm sustainably
- - and look after the environment
- - and have Landcare to help us in that.
- Grains are the base of our community.
- - they provide work for our farmers
- - and grain growing friends for us non-farmers!

"It was a fun learning environment with old(er) and young together," said one of the adults. The 10 year old replied "It's great to learn more about grain and it makes really good art! Awesome!"



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with grain donations by: **Wimpak** (Minyip), **Viterra** (Dooen), **Graincorp** (Murtoa), **Wilkins** (Warracknabeal), **Clarkspark** (Warracknabeal) and **Ravanna** (Areegra) and **the Australian Grains Genebank** (Horsham) and **Burrum Biodynamics** (Burrum).