

## **Session 4: Permaculture Principles**

**Context:** Introduction to Permaculture Design course

**Duration:** 45 minutes

**Aims:** To introduce students to David Holmgren's 12 Permaculture Design Principles

**Learning outcomes:** By the end of the session, student will:

- Be able to name and describe some principles
- Understand the value of the principles as a guide to designing

### **Method & timings:**

5 minutes: Introduction

5 minutes: Hand out the principles cards. Ask the participants to spend 5 minutes thinking about how they already use that principle in every day life, or an example or story that illustrates it.

35 minutes: Go round the room asking everyone to talk about the example(s) they came up with. Try to divide the time fairly equally between participants.

**Resources:** Principles handouts/cards

**Notes:** Prepare for the session by printing out the accompanying principles handout cards PDF; then cut each sheet into 4 strips, so that each principle is separate. You might want to fold them over so that the icon & proverb are on one side and the short text description is on the back. Laminating them will help with durability.

In large groups (i.e. not enough cards to go round) you may want to put people into pairs to come up with examples; in small groups (i.e. too many cards) you can give students 2 cards each, or maybe take a couple yourself. It helps to have some ready prepared examples in your mind in case you have to do some, or people struggle to come up with ideas.

There are some photo stories for each principle here:

<http://permacultureprinciples.com/principles.php>