



the **ARCHIBULL** PRIZE

CAREER SNAPSHOT

Laura Perkins always believed she would like to be a teacher, but on leaving high school she realised university study was not something she could afford and the dream was put on hold.

Instead her career began where her childhood left off – with a love of animals and in particular horses. From the age of 13 Laura had been riding and working at a trail-riding centre and once she finished school she found herself part of the Aussie Muster Farm Show in conjunction with The Kooralbyn Resort south-east of Brisbane.

In the following 15 years Laura worked with the show horse-riding, whip-cracking, bush dancing and wool-classing, often travelling to Singapore to represent Queensland Tourism. Then her career took another turn when she gained a position with the Beaudesert Veterinary Clinic and began to study a Bachelor of Applied Science in Veterinary Technology as a distance education student.

Next door to the veterinary clinic was the Beaudesert State High School and Laura found her thoughts drifting back to her old fantasy of being a teacher. A job became available in the school office and she took it. Then she took the opportunity to be a teacher's aid and added a Graduate Diploma in Education to her science degree.

Eventually she was encouraged to apply for the position of an agricultural teacher and the dream became reality.

Today Laura enjoys teaching and inspiring students about agricultural science and animal husbandry, and in 2017 the school participated in The Archibull Prize, the acclaimed program connecting students, farmers and the community through the use of a fibre-glass cow. Watch the video [HERE](#).

"I love my job. I would have liked to have left high school and gone straight into teaching but the experiences I have had have helped shape me and given me knowledge I would not have had other-wise. I have worked hard for a long time to get here and I would not swap being an agriculture teacher for the world. It is awesome fun."

This is Laura's career in agriculture. What will yours be?



LAURA PERKINS

LAURA PERKINS IS AN AGRICULTURE TEACHER AT BEAUDESERT STATE HIGH SCHOOL, WHICH PROVES THE POWER OF BELIEVING IN YOUR DREAMS.