



ECO CLUB - APRIL 2014

The outcomes of Eco Club were:

- To educate and encourage recycling within the youth room
- To encourage the children to be confident enough to bring in recyclable objects from home
- To create something that was incorporated with a recyclable object

The aim of Eco club was to encourage the children to bring objects from home that we could recycle and to start thinking about their ability to recycle within the youth room. This was a 6 week club, and it was a fantastic group. To begin with we had a group discussion about what it means to recycle, why we should do it, and the kinds of things that are able to be recycled, the children were very interactive, and had a variety of good opinions and attitudes that they openly expressed. The following week we set up recycling boxes in the youth room, as previous to this there was no other opportunity to recycle within the Skatepark, the children were very positive about the boxes and even suggested that at the end of the evenings we check the juice table to see if there is anything that could go into. Although for three of the weeks we

were visited by Nikki from the Dichty Connect, we were still able to go with our plan to design something through that symbolised our recycling, as a group we decided that we were going to make a mosaic piece of artwork out of bottle caps. The children each designed a piece and as a group we all voted for the winning one, this has since been created and is proudly on display within the youth room.

Overall, there were no major issues within this group, the children got on very well together, they had a positive involvement when it came to interacting with each other and participating in the activities that we had arranged, it was very encouraging and a great influence on the prospect for doing this club again. The young people attending all had great fun with the various activities we did. These ranged from setting up recycle boxes for them to put their paper, plastic and cardboard waste in and various arts and crafts things we did. The recycling boxes were very well received. The young people have been regularly bringing plastic bottles and paper waste not only when they were coming to this club but any time they have come to the Skatepark. This is something which can have a long term positive impact on the Skatepark and allows the young people to do their bit for the environment in a place they feel they belong. As a whole the group have become efficient recyclers and this is a big plus.

One aspect of this recycling has been that we had a lot of plastic bottle caps. They cannot be easily recycled so instead the young people painted the caps with shiny paint pens and they made a mosaic. The mosaic reads 'COOL THE WORLD' and in the centre is a painting of the earth with flames.

