

Biochemical Society Scientific Outreach grants
Stanhope's Weardale's Global Goals - How can we help care
for our planet?
Evaluation

The activity met most of the aims originally set out in our application. Our event 'Weardale's Global Goals - How can we help care for our planet?' gave the children in our local area a chance to learn about and tackle problems threatening our planet. This included climate change, recycling, species and nature, adaption and camouflage, natural selection and biological diversity. Our school and others invited to join in the project, are situated in a very rural area and many of our children rarely leave Weardale at all which is why we believe that it is extremely important to educate them as best as we can in the ongoing climate crisis.

The schools involved were also in an Area of Outstanding Beauty (AONB) which is of international importance in its blanket bog habitat and in a recent survey over 80% of our children weren't even aware of what a blanket bog is. We visited the local blanket bogs, got involved in the work they do and looked at the technology they use. We also invited these professionals and other conservationists in the area to come into the school and talk about the jobs they do and how they make a huge impact to our planet.

We would not have been able to run this incredible event if it wasn't for your generous grant. It makes me so grateful especially since the children and staff had a fantastic day that we will remember for a long time. We have had so much amazing feedback from both parents and children saying what a huge impact it has made.

We met all of the criteria for the grant as we engaged the wider community in our parental engagement. In the future, we have plans to develop this into our Hands On Science Biodiversity day, where we will look at recycling so that we can improve recycling in our school and understand the impact this can make on the planet. We will also look at how animals adapt and camouflage in their habitats to survive. Finally, our older children will get to explore the threats cheetahs are facing, the pressures on many of our habitats and the importance of maintaining diversity in the health of individual species as well as our planet.

In terms of the legacy of the project, we hope this activity has instilled accountability into the children in Weardale to look after their planet and inspire them to do this in many different ways. This will include regular visits to the blanket bogs, litter picking in our area and a whole-school improved approach to recycling. We would also like to be involved in charities such as the WWF to raise the profile of endangered species in our children and their families.

Thank you once again Biochemical Society!