



Young Rotary Environmentalist Competition

Cragside Primary School

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While we were in year 4, Carys had been hearing a lot in the news about Climate Change and thought that we should do something about it. So she came to school and suggested to our teacher, Mrs Lennox, that we start a Climate Change Club. She then told us (her friends) about it, who agreed it was a good idea and we made a plan to start the club.

The following week, the club started at lunchtime with 12 members. We all helped the club by doing jobs such as planning a schedule for the meetings with different topics, taking minutes and chaired the meetings. This club was led and run completely by us!

We met weekly and discussed topics such as: use of cars, pollution, bins, litter, animals, landfill and climate change in general. We planned a weeklong whole school project called 'Ditch the car, it's not far!' This took place from Monday 11th November to Friday 15th November 2019. For this we designed posters to advertise this around school and we went to assembly to tell the rest of the school. This was an incredibly successful event

with our
winning
class
ditching
the car
135 in
just one
week!



With the success of this project Climate Change Club moved on to their next project and to an after school club to ensure we had time to complete everything. With a change of name, now Eco-Club, and some new members from both Year 4 and 5 we were then invited by the Dene Ward to take part in a competition to receive a £150 grant to help with community projects. As a group we had lots of different ideas but had noticed a lot of rubbish in our local area and heard a lot on the news about beach litter picks and wondered if we could do our own. We voted and decided that we should focus on reducing litter at a local park and submitted our entry. We won!

Eco-Club then spent time sourcing litter pickers and eco-friendly waste bags. We also designed stickers to give as a reward. We spent a long time reviewing the items before deciding on the best way to spend the £150. Miss Wharton helped us order the equipment we needed.



Once the equipment arrived we tested it and then invited our friends along to our first litter picking event.





We planned a route taking into account where we thought the most rubbish would be, mainly outside Jesmond Park Academy School. We collected a lot



of litter and are looking forward to using our equipment again. We hope to contact Jesmond Park Academy in the new year to ask them if they would like us to help them or even borrow our equipment.



Judging Criteria	How we met it
Evidence and Research	Lots of people go to Paddy Freemans Park and we expected that alot of them dropped their litter.
Effectiveness	We collected plenty of plastic that would have taken roughly 1000 years to decay. In this time, many animals might have choaked on it.
Innovative	We are going to try and lend our equipment to Jesmond Park Academy because their field seems to have a lot of litter.
Adaptability	We went to the bit of grass near the Co-op as well because paddy Freemans was actually quite clean.
Beneficiaries	Our litter pick will stop animals eating and choking on the litter that we collected. This helps the environment.
Lessons Learnt	We discovered that Paddy Freemans is quite clean. The people who go there must be good at putting their litter in the bin.
Presentation	Climate change and Eco club were all our ideas. The adults only supervised and helped us to carry out our projects.
Evidence of Teamwork	Letting other classes join our group shows our teamwork. We all worked together to find our equipment on the internet.