



**Sustainable
Schools Toolkit**
Hackney Resource
Pack **2007**





Sustainable Schools Toolkit

Hackney Resource Pack

This pack will:

- Support you to become a Sustainable School
- Provide contact details for environmental groups that can help you
- Give you ideas for activities and school visits
- Show you where to find funding
- Provide links to teaching resources
- Offer 'top tips' for teachers, pupils and parents
- Help you towards achieving National Healthy School Status
- Show you how to get recognition for your school

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 Funded jointly by: **The Learning Trust**
 and **Hackney Council Recycling**

This toolkit is printed on 100% recycled paper



Contents

Some definitions	1	Inclusion and participation	22
Introduction/background	2	Involving parents and the school community	
Sustainable Schools			
The 8 'doorway' themes of Sustainable Schools	3	Local well-being	24
Current initiatives (award schemes)	4	Litter, school visits in Hackney (resources for extended schools), green events	
Other funding opportunities	6	Global citizenship	31
Useful environmental organisations	8	Fair trade, tackling climate change	
Hackney Environmental Education Network. Volunteers/training		Environmental study support	32
Getting into the 8 doorways	11	Setting up/running a club at your school	
Ideas, case studies , contacts and funding		Activity ideas/involving the whole school	
Food and drink	11	Case study: Baden Powell Primary School	
Grow your own food at school		Useful contacts	37
Energy and water	14	National environmental organisations	
Support/schemes for energy efficiency and renewable energy		Teaching resources and activities	38
Travel and traffic	16	Online resources and educational websites for children	
School Travel Plans		Top Tips for Sustainable Schools	40
Purchasing and waste	17	Top tips for children	
Recycling and composting schemes		Top tips for teachers	
Buildings and grounds	20	Top tips for parents	
School grounds as a learning resource for science			
Wildlife gardening: top features for attracting wildlife to your school grounds			

Some definitions

Sustainable Development

W: dfes.gov.uk/aboutus/sd

The goal of sustainable development is to enable all people throughout the world to satisfy their basic needs and enjoy a better quality of life, without compromising the quality of life of future generations.

Education for Sustainable Development

"Every school should also be an environmentally sustainable school, with a good plan for school transport that encourages walking and cycling, an active and effective recycling policy (moving from paper to electronic processes wherever possible) and a school garden or other opportunities for children to explore the natural world. Schools must teach our children by example as well as by instruction." – Tony Blair, 14 September 2004

Healthy Schools

Healthy Schools is a national programme. A healthy school promotes the health and well-being of school pupils and staff through a well-planned, taught curriculum in a physical and emotional environment that promotes learning and healthy lifestyle choices. The four core themes of Healthy Schools are Healthy Eating - Physical Activity - Emotional Health and Well-being – PSHE (including SRE/drug education/citizenship).

Extended Schools

(The Core Offer) – provide a range of services and activities, beyond traditional school hours and term dates, to help meet the needs of children, their families and the wider community, in partnership with local providers.

W: teachernet.gov.uk/wholeschool/extendedschools

- Extra activities beyond the traditional school day can generate higher levels of pupil achievement, increase pupil motivation, and improve behaviour
- Linked to DfES **Every Child Matters** agenda

Every Child Matters (the 5 outcomes)

1. Being healthy
2. Staying safe
3. Enjoying and achieving
4. Making a positive contribution
5. Achieving economic well-being



- ▲ *Wildlife gardening - minibeast village*
- ◀ *Wildflower meadow*

Introduction

The aim of this pack is to provide a resource to support Hackney schools in developing **environmental activities**, linked to the DfES **Sustainable Schools** framework, which further the aims of Extended Schools and Healthy Schools.

Background

Following the DfES consultation paper "Sustainable Schools: for pupils, communities and the environment" (September 2006)
W: teachernet.gov.uk/publications

Sustainable Schools

For pupils, communities and the environment - the current academic year is a 'year of action', providing schools and pupils with resources to help embed sustainable development into their schools and their community. A range of information and resources (including the Sustainable School self-evaluation tool) are available at:

W: teachernet.gov.uk/sustainableschools/
Government response to the Consultation on the Sustainable Schools strategy – includes the 8 'doorway' themes.
Sustainable Schools - an action plan for the DfES - now online under the publications section on Teachernet.

department for
education and skills

Learning Outside the Classroom Manifesto (LOtC)

Launched in November 2006, setting out a vision to enable every young person to experience the world beyond the classroom as an essential part of their learning and personal development. The Manifesto brings together a coalition of organisations to support schools and others in providing these valuable opportunities. To find out more about the Manifesto and how your local authority can support the Manifesto partnership, visit:

W: teachernet.gov.uk/learningoutsidetheclassroom

Year of Food and Farming

The 'Year of Food and Farming' is a new Government scheme announced for academic year 2007-08. It will aim to involve all schools in England, look into the way that food is produced and sourced, and its impact on our health and the environment.

The Year of Food and Farming will link with a whole range of initiatives such as the Healthy Schools Standard, Learning Outside the Classroom Manifesto and Strategy for Sustainable Food and Farming, to give a single focus to busy schools. A dedicated website will be developed to signpost opportunities and events, offer supporting resources and links to other initiatives. Links:

W: yearoffoodandfarming.org.uk
W: news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/education/6195370.stm
W: goeast.gov.uk/goeast/news/newsarchive/474240/
W: defra.gov.uk/schools/yff.htm

Sustainable School self-evaluation tool

The **Sustainable School self-evaluation tool (s3)** offers a whole-school approach to self-evaluation with opportunities to develop the skills and competencies required to become a sustainable school. The **s3** tool has been designed for everyone involved in education - teachers, school leaders, pupils, governors, local authorities and parents. Based on the 2005 Ofsted self-evaluation form (SEF), the interactive tool enables schools to record their evidence around the **eight sustainable development 'doorways'**, identify key priorities and report improvements and benefits to the school and community. The tool is available as a PDF and an online interactive version. Based on responses, the interactive version suggests action points and puts forward recommendations that schools can implement.

W: teachernet.gov.uk/sustainableschools/tools/tools_detail.cfm?id=2



- ◀ *Container gardening*

The 8 'doorway' themes of Sustainable Schools



Food and drink



Energy and water



Purchasing and waste



Buildings and grounds



Local well-being



Global citizenship



Travel and traffic



Inclusion and participation

Green schools funding for eco-schools

The first step towards a greener status is making the decision to embed sustainable development into whole-school management. Once this is jointly reached by headteachers, governing bodies and pupils alike, a range of eco-funding opportunities arise and schools can begin attracting potential partners for future joint funding applications, as well as applying for a wide range of green awards.

Where to start

Create an **Action Team** and develop a **School Environmental Review** by setting out a green strategy, and developing criteria for change. The school will demonstrate a commitment to reducing their ecological footprint, thus increasing the chance of success in their overall funding strategy.

Internal review

1. Does the school serve organic and/or locally-grown food for school lunches?
2. Does the school have a recycling programme, carpool incentives, or any other initiatives that show that school is taking action to be pro-environment?
3. Does the school have green power?
4. Does the school have a storm-water management system in place?
5. Is there an environmental curriculum?
6. Does the school have green spaces or gardens open to students to enjoy and develop, and does its landscaping include native plants (which also reduces the need for pesticides)?

Once completed, the eco schools bronze award is within reach, showing an element of accountability for potential future funding applications.

Funding and resources are available that can provide valuable services, equipment and support for free.

W: eco-schools.org.uk

Current environmental initiatives (award schemes)

This page introduces some of the main environmental initiatives and schemes currently available to schools, some of which include funding opportunities.

The support section on the **Sustainable Schools** area of **TeacherNet** contains information about funding grants, awards and competitions.

W: teachernet.gov.uk/sustainableschools/support/funding.cfm



The **Growing Schools** website has been designed to support teachers in using the 'outdoor classroom' as a resource across the curriculum for pupils of all ages, includes information on award schemes and grants which could help support your outdoor learning projects.

W: teachernet.gov.uk/growingschools/resources/funding/



Eco-schools is a great way to make sustainable development a part of the life and ethos of your school. Curriculum-linked award scheme that gets everyone in the school community involved in making a positive contribution to the environment. Once registered, schools can aim for the Bronze, Silver and Green Flag awards and will be part of an international group of schools working towards education for sustainable development and a better quality of life for local and global communities. Grants of £5,000 are available to allow positive change and development within a school.

W: eco-schools.org.uk

E: eco-schools@encams.org

T: 01942 612 621



London Schools Environment Award is open to all London's primary schools, and was set up in 2003 to develop children's sense of responsibility for their environment. The areas which the schools focused on were litter, waste and recycling, energy, transport and biodiversity. There are two cash prizes available each year to two schools in each borough, £2000 and £1000.

W: london.gov.uk/mayor/education/lsea/



Naturally Better Lives – **British Trust for Conservation Volunteers' Green Gym** scheme offers an opportunity for children to get some exercise in the outdoors by taking part in environmental activities, and is a proven way to improve health and well-being. Activities may include creating a wildlife garden in the school grounds, planting trees, or growing fruit and vegetables. Join BTCV and set up a Green Gym for your school. Scheme offers a regular programme of outdoor sessions of Green Gym activities, training and development of new skills, plus partnerships with local health services.

W: btcv.org.uk/greengym

T: 020 7278 4294

London regional office

E: london@btcv.org.uk



Forest Schools

An innovative educational approach to outdoor play and learning. The philosophy of Forest Schools is to encourage and inspire individuals of any age through positive experiences and participation in engaging and motivating achievable tasks and activities in a woodland environment, helping to develop personal, social and emotional skills.

W: forestschoools.com



Green Champions Scheme Hackney Council Recycling Department. If you feel strongly about recycling and would like to do more within the community, you may like to join their Green Champions scheme. Hackney Council Recycling also provide a free paper recycling service in which 90 schools in the borough are currently participating.
W: hackney.gov.uk/index.htm/ew-recycling-general-information-851/ew-recycling-green-champions.htm



London Outdoor Science Project (funded by the Field Studies Council) aims to develop the use of fieldwork in secondary science teaching in London schools by providing practical guidance, training and resources to support teaching in local green spaces, such as parks and commons.

W: field-studies-council.org/outdoorscience/



LMB Education offers two free recycling initiatives for schools, **The Clothes Collectors** and **Shoe Friends**. These easy to run initiatives aim to teach school children that unwanted clothes, textiles and shoes should be seen as a resource rather than as a waste. Schools are provided with an assembly, leaflets and recycling workshops, and are also paid for the collection of the clothing and shoes.

E: info@lmb-education.co.uk

T: 020 7474 2000

W: lmb.co.uk



Global Action Plan's Action on Waste helps secondary schools and colleges to save resources, save money and to create stimulating learning by involving pupils, teachers and all members of the school community. The aim is to reduce waste, increase recycling and raise awareness about environmental issues in London.

W: globalactionplan.org.uk



Learning through Landscapes national charity which works with schools to help them improve and develop their school grounds and environmental projects. Annual membership (£50) includes regular mailings with ideas on how to develop your school grounds. They have run several schemes with funding opportunities in recent years, including **Growing Schools** and **Fit for Fun**. Check the website for information on current programmes.

T: 01962 846258

W: ltl.org.uk

E: schoolgrounds-uk@ltl.org.uk

Supergrounds community investment programme that helps primary schools improve their school grounds into attractive and stimulating places where children can learn and play in safety. Awards of £4,000 plus specialist support and info pack. Schools cannot apply directly, they must be nominated by an RBS group employee who is actively involved with your school. The nomination period runs from January to March each year.

W: supergrounds.com



Young People's Trust for the Environment

is a charity which encourages young people's understanding of the environment and the need for sustainability. The free service for schools includes membership, termly bulletin for teachers, and talks on a wide range of environmental topics for example endangered animals and garden wildlife. Lots of online fact sheets and information about the **Green School Awards** competition for young people (aged 7-11).

W: yptenc.org.uk

E: ypteinfo@btconnect.com

T: 01460 249163



Healthy Schools

Speak to your school's Healthy Schools co-ordinator about accessing Healthy School bursaries for environmental activities that link to Healthy Eating, Physical Activity and Citizenship.



Extended Schools Continyou

'Extra Time 8 to 6' (funded by DfES) is an extensive online resource with great ideas and practical information for developing, running and sustaining study support as part of the extended '8 to 6' services you provide including where to access funding for out-of-school-hours and extended schools activities.

W: continyou.org.uk



▲ *Wildlife gardening - willow dome*

◀ *Butterfly garden - ten most nectar rich plants*

Other (ongoing) funding opportunities

Potential funding sources for environmental projects in schools, this page shows some grants and award schemes which may be of interest for your project.

The Conservation Foundation and O2

'It's Your Community' scheme helps people improve their local environment. Awards of up to £1,000 to local organisations and individuals (including schools) to support environmental projects that will benefit their local environment.

W: conservationfoundation.co.uk/ActLocalAwards.php

B&Q – Better Neighbour Grants Scheme

Support schools for **environmental community - based projects** and provide grants of £50 - 500 for materials, e.g. pond-liners, plants, peat-free composts, paint, etc. Contact the 'environment champion' at your local B&Q store to discuss the project.

W: diy.com

BIG Lottery Fund – Making a BIG Difference to Schools

Keen to support schools in their broader social aims, including securing **pride in the local environment**. A leaflet setting out details of the funds available to schools is available at:

W: biglotteryfund.org.uk

Awards for All

(**For extra-curricular activities**) supports small scale community-based projects that promote arts and education, encourage healthier living, and boost community activities. Awards between £300 – £10,000. Applications can be made at any time.

T: 0845 600 20 40

W: awardsforall.org.uk/england/index.html

Alan Titchmarsh's Gardens for Schools

Project allows primary schools to apply for a grant of up to £500 toward the purchase of plants, trees, shrubs, wildlife ponds, compost and tools. Keep checking the website for details of the next round of funding (early 2008).

W: alantitchmarsh.com/gardensforschools.asp

Family Learning Programme

Groups (including schools) can apply for awards of £10,000 - £500,000 for up to five years to help families bond whilst building life skills (e.g. **gardening**, cooking or **building a birdhouse** together). Statutory bodies and private sector organisations applying must involve a voluntary or community sector partner in planning and running the project. A key element of the fund is to attract learners that may face particular barriers in accessing learning opportunities. Applications can be submitted at any time until 29 Aug 2008.

W: biglotteryfund.org.uk/prog_family_learning

The Rose Foundation

Funding for building projects, £5,000-£30,000 towards self-contained projects. Martin Rose, The Rose Foundation, 28 Crawford Street, London W1H 1PL.

T: 020 7262 1155

F: 020 7724 2044

British Ecological Society: Education Grants

- 1. Innovation and Research Grants** – up to £750 to enable teachers to make the teaching of ecology more innovative, interesting and exciting in primary, secondary and tertiary schools. Grants are available for undertaking research into effectively communicating the teaching of ecology, professional development of teachers, field trips and equipment.
- 2. School ground developments** – grants of £200 - £1,000 to support initiatives to enhance school grounds as ideal places to teach practical ecology, e.g. to build a pond or develop a nature reserve.
- 3. Field equipment grant** – up to £500 for buying ecology fieldwork equipment. Three application deadlines per year: January 31st, April 30th and September 30th.

W: britishecologicalsociety.org/articles/grants/education/EEG/#School_Ground_Developments



◀ Mandeville
- new sensory
garden

Royal Society Partnership Grants

Up to £3,000 to support teachers, scientists and engineers help develop Science projects with the aim of making the teaching of science more interesting within primary and secondary schools. The aim of the scheme is to form **partnerships to allow teachers to increase their scientific knowledge** and giving scientists and engineers the chance to develop their communication skills and engage with enquiring young minds. Next deadline for applications 19 October 2007.

W: royalsoc.ac.uk/page.asp?id=1948

Other places to look for funding

DEFRA has a downloadable sustainable funding PDF providing listings of organisations willing to support and provide grant aid to schools and community groups for environmental projects. (divided into different areas of sustainability, including sustainable communities, protecting natural resources, and climate change).

W: defra.gov.uk

Government funding

W: governmentfunding.org.uk

For a complete listing of current funding opportunities go to

W: grantsonline.org.uk

You can find a list of other funders' websites at the **Association of Charitable Foundations** site (**W:** acf.org.uk/linkstrusts.htm) or on the funding database 'Funderfinder' which will probably be available at your local centre for voluntary services **W:** funderfinder.org.uk (resources for bid-writing, interactive and free downloadjargon-busters) and **W:** trustfunding.org.uk

Alternatively, there are a couple of useful directories:

A Guide to the Major Trusts published by the Directory of Social Change
W: dsc.org.uk/

Directory of Grant Making Trusts published by the Charities Aid Foundation (CAF) listed in alphabetical order, at
W: grantsonline.org.uk/Grant%20Making%20Trusts%20Directory.htm

Useful environmental organisations

Facilitators from local environmental organisations can bring in specialist skills, knowledge and enthusiasm and can help to engage the rest of the school in terms of staff training and projects that develop the outdoor curriculum, giving a project impetus and help it to develop to a point where it is sustainable and can be taken on by the school.

First ports of call

Hackney Environmental Education Network (HEEN) is a network of local environmental organisations and teachers committed to raising the profile of Education for Sustainable Development in Hackney schools. The group meets termly to share experiences of carrying out environmental projects in schools and develop closer partnership working. This page shows information about services provided and contact details for these organisations.

Contact **Anna Portch** (coordinator)

T: 020 8356 7956

E: anna.portch@hackney.gov.uk

General

The Learning Trust
Environmental Study Support
T: 020 8820 7302
E: Robert.Sambrooks@learningtrust.co.uk



The **Environmental Education** website includes useful contacts, funding opportunities, resources and information to support Hackney schools.
W: learninglive.co.uk
(click on 'Teachers' and then 'Environmental Education' link)

learning live

Waste and recycling

Hackney Council Recycling Department
Advice about Hackney recycling services.
T: 020 8356 7956
E: anna.portch@hackney.gov.uk
W: hackney.gov.uk/recycling



ecoACTIVE

Education for sustainability (young people, families and communities) – waste, recycling, composting, energy, and water conservation – in-school workshops/projects, after-school clubs, advice and INSET.

T: 020 7923 7899

E: ecoactive@tiscali.co.uk

W: ecoACTIVE.org.uk



East London Community Recycling Partnership

Composting workshops and wormeries for schools.

T: 0208 986 5608

E: jane@elcrp-recycling.com

W: elcrp-recycling.com/ELCRP

ELCRP

Global Action Plan

Action on waste programme for secondary schools – waste, recycling, citizenship (pupil participation, family learning, whole school/community involvement).

T: 020 7405 5633

E: Jennifer.wiggle@globalactionplan.org.uk

W: globalactionplan.org.uk



◀ Hackney Free
- action team

Groundwork East London

Waste and recycling, offer projects on estates and in schools.

T: 020 8985 1755
E: jocelyn.sekibo@ground-level.org
@ground-level.org
E: contact@ground-level.org
W: ground-level.org



LMB Education

Free textile recycling initiatives, workshops for schools.

T: 020 7474 2000
E: info@lmb-education.co.uk
W: lmb.co.uk/



Traid

Textile recycling charity (involves customising old clothes), education programme, offering assemblies/workshops to both primary and secondary schools.

T: 020 8733 2591
E: education@traid.org.uk
W: traid.org.uk/



Blue Monkey Arts

Visual and performing arts to promote environmental awareness - community arts projects, workshops, training and events.

T: 0208 9855351
E: info@bluemonkeyarts.co.uk
W: [bluemonkeyarts.co.uk/Wildlife/field studies](http://bluemonkeyarts.co.uk/Wildlife/field_studies)



Wildlife / field studies

Abney Park Cemetery Trust community green space/study resource for all ages fieldwork/cross-curricular activities, including education for sustainable development, conservation, wildlife, history.

W: abney-park.org.uk
T: 020 7275 7557
E: abney-park@geo2.poptel.org.uk



Hackney City Farm

Activities for visiting school groups.

T: 020 7729 6381
E: farm@hackneycityfarm.co.uk
W: hackneycityfarm.co.uk



London Wildlife Trust

Education Service for visiting schools at West Reservoir Centre (Green Lanes – see 'School Visits' section), 'out-of-school-hours-learning' wildlife clubs (available to all Hackney schools) and offer training/INSET.

T: 020 7803 4281
E: enquiries@wildlondon.org.uk
W: wildlondon.org.uk



London Outdoor Science

Project field studies for secondary schools.

T: 07738 018768,
E: outdoorscience@field-studies-council.org,
W: field-studies-council.org/outdoorscience



Gardening

Myra Heller offers gardening clubs for schools, works with a team of supporting experts.

T: 020 7249 5353
E: myra.heller@btinternet.com

For contact details of other individuals offering a wide range of workshops and support services for schools, please contact:

E: Robert.Sambrooks@learningtrust.co.uk
T: 020 8820 7302

Hackney Environment Forum

(HEF) network of groups and individuals committed to protecting and enhancing Hackney's built and natural environment.

W: <http://dubplan.org/CMS/page.asp?org=2673&name=Home>
E: michael.calderbank@tiscali.co.uk



Volunteers

British Trust for Conservation Volunteers

UK's largest practical conservation charity helps volunteers take hands-on action to improve the rural and urban environment. Schools can join BTCV community network free and receive support on school grounds related projects. Local BTCV offices may provide specialised support service for schools, although there could be a cost involved. For grounds improvements projects contact:

T: 020 7878 4294
W: btcv.org

Abney Park Trust work with horticultural trainees who may be able to help with school grounds projects.

Contact **Steve Mason**
T: 020 7275 7557

The Tree Musketeers

'All for trees and trees for all' Local group of volunteers who plant, protect and help preserve trees in Hackney. Activities include working with local people and organisations and raising awareness of the benefits of trees to the quality of life.

T: 020 8985 5008
E: TM@km551818.demon.co.uk

Hackney Voluntary Action

may be able to advertise for or provide volunteers from their database to assist with gardening projects, etc.

E: mv@hackneyvoluntaryaction.org.uk
W: hackneyvoluntaryaction.org/

Corporate volunteers, city banks and corporations such as Capital Cares, Barclays, UBS, and Deutches Bank have helped several Hackney schools improve their school grounds through team-building workdays. Support from **community providers** e.g. can you make

a link with a local allotment site, where children can help out and gardeners can provide training for staff and parents.

Training/development

INSET opportunities for Hackney teachers

Several Hackney-based environmental organisations offer staff training opportunities as part of their service, including ecoACTIVE education (contact details shown earlier in this section).

London Wildlife Trust have designed a new curriculum pack for staff training.

T: 020 7261 0447
W: wildlondon.org.uk

Epping Forest Centenary Trust

provide a range of field study courses.

T: 020 8502 8500
E: enquiries.ef@field-studies-council.org
W: field-studies-council.org

Thrive

National charity that changes the lives of disabled people through therapeutic gardening. Information service, training courses, links. **Cultivating Quality** is a quality assurance scheme to support gardening projects.

W: [thrive.org.uk/documents CultivatingQualityleaflet.pdf](http://thrive.org.uk/documents/CultivatingQualityleaflet.pdf)
T: 0118 988 5688
E: cq@thrive.org.uk

Learning Through Landscapes

offer training opportunities.
W: ltl.org.uk

Environmental Trainers Network

a range of professional courses available.
W: btcv.org/etn

Environmental Discovery Courses

Young People's Trust for the Environment. For queries:
E: ypteinfo@btconnect.com

The National College for School Leadership includes a module on sustainable development and environmental management in its school bursar qualification 'Certificate of School Business Management'. Its whole-school approach to making a school more sustainable covers legal compliance, energy and water and school grounds.
W: ncsl.org.uk/csbm

South Bank University Education for Sustainability masters degree (option of studying by distance learning, part time).



- ▲ *Wildlife pond*
- ◀ *Nightingale - new plants*

Getting into the 8 doorway themes of sustainable schools

The following pages give a breakdown of useful contacts and supporting initiatives relating to different areas of the Sustainable Schools scheme

Food and drink



Food for thought

The average fresh food item on our dinner table travels 1,500 miles to get there.

Eating locally grown food can help the fight against global warming by eliminating the need for fuel-guzzling transportation and benefits the local economy. Farmers only receive a small percentage of each food pound spent, with most of it going towards transportation, processing, packaging, refrigeration and marketing. Farmers who are able to sell food to local customers can receive the full retail value of their produce.

Some schools have linked up with farmers markets and sell the school produce there, opening children's eyes to the economics of food production. **William Patten Primary School** on Church Street, Stoke Newington host a weekly farmers market on Saturdays.

Grow your own

Starting a school allotment can offer great benefits by providing children with a connection to their food source. Although unlikely to generate enough food to feed the school year round, it is satisfying for children and teachers alike to grow and eat home grown produce and can become a great resource for introducing a greener curriculum and can feed into science, geography and healthy eating.

Try the **Allotments Regeneration Web site** (an offshoot off of the National federation of farmers and allotment gardens) – they might have some ideas, as they had a series of fact sheets on allotments regeneration and allotment gardening.
W: ARI.org

Ten easy vegetables to grow in your school grounds for starters are:

potatoes, onions, beans, tomatoes, radish, rhubarb, lettuce, carrot, beetroot, peas. Old car tyres and steel/plastic drums make good smaller raised bed areas for schools with limited green spaces.

Grow your own grub

A step-by-step growing project for schools
W: growingrub.co.uk

Grow your own potatoes project is a simple, convenient and fun way to support primary teaching on how things grow, where food comes from and the importance of a balanced healthy diet
W: potatoesforschools.org.uk

The school garden company is a plant-growing programme for primary and nursery schools. Comprehensive package contains bulbs, seeds, pots, growing materials, tools, guidance and activity sheets. Materials are sent to schools in October (Autumn Pack) and March (Spring Pack). Prices: approx £110 for KS1 and £150 for KS2.
T: 0121 457 6653
E: info@theschoolgarden.com
W: theschoolgarden.com

WhyOrganic's website has plenty of tips and info on how to get started, including maintaining a garden once you begin, growing vegetables plus when to plant and when to harvest.
W: whyorganic.org
 Food Growing Starters: '**The Beanstalk project**' (the growing year at a glance)
W: thecei.org.uk/Beanstalk/year.htm

Suppliers:

Local garden centres

Some schools have managed to obtain free compost, plants, etc. from local gardening centres by just asking the manager for help.

Children's tools

Landscape Supply Company supply some pretty robust children's tools. They can be found at 115 Main Road, Sutton at Hone, Dartford, Kent DA4 9HQ.

T: 01322 868 646

F: 01322 420 291

They have some items in the catalogue but they are amazing at sourcing other needs at a good price.

BTCV

Junior tools (Bulldog brand)

W: <http://shop.btcv.org.uk/shop/level3/27/level>

Woolworths

Tool sets and small gloves, sold seasonally. A little pricey but often on sale.

Wilco

A range of pretty sturdy plastic hand tools which are great for children because they are light but not for tiny children as the grip is quite large. They're very cheap too at under £1 each.

Useful Links

HDRA Organic Network for Schools

Schools can join for free and receive information, newsletters, etc. Lots of useful online information for developing school gardens, both large and small.

T: 024 7630 8238

E: enquiry@schoolsorganic.net

W: hdra.org.uk/schools_organic_network/index.htm

The Soil Association

The UK's leading environmental charity promoting sustainable, organic farming and championing human health. Website includes many links to local organic farms, online farm visits and a wealth of curriculum resources as well as a list of growers and organic farmers willing to hold workshops on various green alternatives in schools.

W: soilassociation.org/

Garden Organic

Website for organic gardening including a good schools section.

W: gardenorganic.org.uk/



Thrive

Promoting therapeutic horticulture; helping people with disability to continue gardening.

W: thrive.org.uk/



Royal Horticultural Society

Excellent online resources for gardening help and advice. Free Schools Membership Scheme includes termly newsletters for teachers and pupils, school visits to RHS gardens, RHS' monthly magazine **The Garden**, and phone and email advice on school gardening issues.

T: 0845 062 1111

E: membership@rhs.org.uk

W: rhs.org.uk/education/schoolscheme.asp



Case studies

Hackney Free and Parochial Secondary School with Morningside Primary School

Year 7 and 8 students who are at risk of exclusion are taking part in an ambitious weekly after-school project to completely overhaul a neglected corner of the school grounds and create vegetable plots. In the first week alone, the boys involved put in a Herculean effort to remove several large buddleias. Led by Surjit and Turina from the school, pupils from nearby Morningside primary school have recently joined in to add a 'transition' element to the project. The group have been showing great teamwork and the Hackney Free students are proving to be able leaders.

Horizon Special School

Teaching Assistant Anita continues to lead the long-running and successful after-school gardening club, with green-fingered students honing their gardening skills and learning how to grow their own food in the school grounds. In November 2006, two of the students were awarded ACIS (Active Citizenship in Schools) certificates for completing 50 hours of voluntary service through the club.



▲ Hackney Free
- gardening project

◀ Horizon
- ACIS certificates

Food for Life Partnership (from September 07)

The Big Lottery Fund has just released a £16.9 million grant which could bring good food, cooking skills, farm visits and food growing to thousands of school children and their families, promoting **schools as beacons of good food culture**.

Getting school children and parents across the country cooking, reskilling dinner-ladies, and offering farmers secure markets for local, seasonal and sustainably-produced food. Led by the **Soil Association**, the Food for Life Partnership consists of the **Focus of Food Campaign**, **Garden Organic**, and the **Health Education Trust**, bringing together experiences of successful practical work in schools, revolutionising school meals and giving children the chance to grow and cook food, and visit organic farms. All schools will be able to work towards a new **Food for Life Mark**.

W: soilassociation.org/foodforlife

T: 0117 314 5180

W: healthyedtrust.com

School Food Trust: 'eat better, do better' aims to transform school food and food skills, promote the education and health of children and young people, and improve the quality of food in schools.

T: 0800 089 5001

E: info@sft.gsi.gov.uk

W: schoolfoodtrust.org.uk

'Cook For Success' events

T: 020 8747 4315 or

E: cookforsuccess@comshows.com

Active Kids Get Cooking Challenge 2007

A collaborative initiative from Sainsbury's, the Design and Technology Association and the British Nutrition Foundation. Get cooking with your pupils is open to all schools throughout the UK, with cash prizes and goodie bags for winning schools. The focus this year is school lunches; from looking at foods from around the world to using local produce, or perhaps creating a lunch based on the theme "Best of British with a twist."

W: activekidsgetcooking.org.uk

Cooking and food skills the latest addition to the 'Food, a fact of life' website. Detailed support and guidance for primary schools about establishing and promoting cooking activities with children. Worksheets, interactive activities and presentations, food skills videos and recipes are all available for download.

W: foodafactoflife.org.uk

Hackney Healthy Schools Team

'Healthy Eating' contacts:

Zahra Datoo (School Meal Diet and Menu Advisor)

E: Zahra.Datoo@learningtrust.co.uk

T: 020 8820 7333

Mirza Thomas (Happy in Hackney Dietician)

E: Thomina.Mirza@chpct.nhs.uk

Talitha Evers (Community Dietician)

E: Talitha.Evers@chpct.nhs.uk



◀ Learning where our food comes from

Energy and water



For every £3 spent at school on heating costs, £1 is lost through bad insulation

Energy Related

- Monitor energy bills on a regular basis.
- Install low energy measures in the school e.g. low energy light bulbs.
- Carry out an awareness raising campaign to reduce energy (e.g. switch off lights and computers when not in use). The children could design posters for this.
- Consider installing renewable energy measures (e.g. solar panel, wind turbine).

Contact Steve Mason or ecoACTIVE for more information about sustainable energy in Hackney

Steve Mason

T: 078 2125 8014

ecoACTIVE

T: 020 7923 7899

Hackney Homes Dept

Responsibilities include energy efficiency (London carbon building programs and the Carbon Trust). Knows web sites that may have funding for solar panels.

T: 0208 356 8836

E: angela.okoh@jhackney.gov.uk

Energy Savings Trust

Energy Certification for Schools Programme

aims to help schools to manage their energy more efficiently. Curriculum resources available on energy efficiency and the environment.

T: 0870 128 28 20

W: est.org.uk/schools/

CREATE

Online resource, primarily dealing with energy although there is some information available on transport. Downloadable factsheets and lesson plans for teachers.

W: create.org.uk/schools/default.asp

British Gas

Think Energy

4 specific programmes tailored for the following age groups: 7-11, 11-14, 14-16, 16-18. Free resources available for all schools. All the programmes aim to promote energy efficiency. Think Energy, 2nd floor, 3 The Square, Stockley Park, Uxbridge UB11 1BN
W: think-energy.com

Creative Environmental Networks

Can help schools with energy efficiency and renewable energy projects. They have supported schools to raise 100% funding for renewable energy installations.

Contact **Joseph Williams**
T: 020 8683 6805
E: joseph@cen.org.uk

PowerEd

Renewable Energy for Schools

This section of the National Energy Foundation website has useful factsheets on renewable energy, covering everything from how to build a wind turbine to planting for a shady area.

W: nef.org.uk/powered/index.htm

Renewable Energy Systems

Based in the Hemel Hempstead area, Renewable Energy Systems welcome school visits.

W: beaufortcourt.com/

Contact **Annie Heaton** at RES on

T: 01923 299 347

E: annie.heaton@res-ltd.com

PDF file with information about a school visit:

W: beaufortcourt.com/rec/School_Trips_to_Beaufort_Court.pdf

Green Energy Machine is owned by the National Energy Foundation and demonstrates exciting examples of wind and solar technologies. Available to visit schools (although quite expensive at about £450 per day). Perhaps neighbouring schools could share the costs?

Contact **Felicity Beaton**

T: 01908 665 555

E: felicity.beaton@nef.org.uk

W: nef.org.uk/services/gem.htm

London Hydrogen Schools Challenge 2007/08

This new project will launch in September 2007, a new challenge endorsed by the Mayor of London to engage 100 secondary schools across all 33 London Boroughs.

T: 020 7983 4621

E: Daniel.Pizzaro@london.gov.uk

ManagEnergy KidsCorner

An initiative of the European Commission Directorate-General for Energy and Transport. There are sections on the website for 7-11 year olds, 11-15 year olds and teachers.

W: managenergy.net/kidscorner/

Funding for the Installation of Green Power Generation Technologies DTI

Low Carbon Buildings Programme (Phase 2 now open for application)

Grants to help fund the installation of micropower technologies (such as solar panels, micro wind-turbines, and ground source heat pumps) in schools, not-for-profit and public sector buildings. £50 million in grants is available over the next 18 months (max £1million), organisations can apply for between 30% and 50% of installation costs. (In addition surplus energy generated will be able to be sold back to the National Grid).

W: lowcarbonbuildingsphase2.org.uk/index.jsp

Funding for Local Sustainable Energy Projects

Local community groups and not-for-profit organizations including schools that wish to implement sustainable energy projects in their buildings have the opportunity to apply for grants of up to £30,000 through the E.ON Source Fund. Application deadlines for 2007: 24th August and 21st December.

W: eon-uk.com/2060.aspx

Water Related

- Monitor water bills on a regular basis.
- Carry out an awareness raising campaign to reduce water consumption (ie. switching off taps when not in use). The children could design posters for this.
- Carry out regular water audits. Are any of the taps dripping or need fixing? Perhaps monitors could be appointed to carry out this job.
- Install water hippos in the school toilets to save water.
- Contact Three Valleys Water Environment Centre to help the school carry out a water audit (there is a charge).



Three Valleys Water have an Environment Centre that caters for school trips and offers assemblies in schools, water audits, inset days, etc.

Clay Lane Environment Centre, Clay Lane, Bushey, Hertfordshire, London WD23 3RE

T: 020 8420 5864

E: education@3valleys.co.uk

Thames Water

Free **Water Wise School Assembly Pack** – help your school to beat the drought! The pack is part of Thames Water's ongoing Education Programme designed to educate young people about all aspects of the water business, as well as encouraging pupils to recognise and understand ways they can contribute to saving water in their everyday lives. Details of poster competition including cash prizes for school can be found at:

W: thameswater.co.uk

Waterwise

W: waterwise.fortune-cookie.com/home/

Water in Schools

W: waterinschools.com/

The Water School website

W: waterintheschool.co.uk

Environment Agency

Water efficiency (free poster).

W: environment-agency.gov.uk/savewater

Travel and traffic



If you want information and ideas on activities for your school, the first thing to do is contact your local authority school travel adviser to see what they are planning.

Contact **Helen Griffin**

T: 020 8356 8469

E: Helen.Griffin@Hackney.gov.uk

- Carry out a survey to identify how children travel to school.
- Encourage walking, cycling and using public transport. Circulate the bus timetables.
- Start a Walking Bus scheme at the school. This scheme can be managed by parent volunteers.
- Develop a school travel plan.

Grants for School Travel Plans

As part of its strategy to reduce the number of car journeys and to increase safety when walking and cycling to school, the Government is providing grants to schools in England to implement School Travel Plans (a document produced by a school in conjunction with the Local Authority). Funding consists of one off Capital Grants of £3,750, and £5 per pupil for Primary / First Schools and £5,000, and £5 per pupil for Middle / Secondary Schools. Examples of funding use might be: cycle shelters and lockers, shower facilities or covered waiting areas for pupils and parents. Interested schools should contact their School Travel Adviser.

W: teachernet.gov.uk/wholeschool/sd/managers/travel/STAtoolkit/stp/

Sustrans the UK's leading sustainable transport charity (**Bike It** initiative) which believes that getting children to start cycling is the key to the future of sustainable transport. Contact the STP adviser if you are interested in having a **Bike It** officer at school.

W: sustrans.org.uk

E: schools@sustrans.org.uk

T: 0117 915 0100

Safe Routes to School

Check out the case studies section to search a host of different school travel initiatives from all over the country.

W: saferoutestoschools.org.uk

Walk to School Campaign

Asks parents, pupils and teachers to think about their journey to and from school, and the many benefits of making it on foot. Over 50% of children don't walk to school regularly, and more and more pupils are being driven to school in a car. This trend is contributing to reduced physical activity and increased childhood obesity, urban congestion and air pollution. Each year, they organise two nationally recognised events: **National Walk to School Week** (21 to 25 May 2007), and **International Walk to School Month** (October 2007). We want people to see walking to school as an everyday activity, so we also run the WoW (Walk Once a Week) scheme.

W: walktoschool.org.uk

London Cycling Campaign in Hackney

W: hackney-cyclists.org.uk/

STA Bikes

Award-winning school cycle training programme. In 2006/7 STA Bikes is running the largest programme of cycle training Hackney has seen yet, for both children and adults. Based at Sir Thomas Abney Primary School.

W: stabikes.org.uk

Cycle Training UK

London's biggest independent provider of on-road cycle training and cycle maintenance training, including for schools.

W: cycletraining.co.uk/

Go-Ride Scheme courses in school from qualified instructors.

W: go-ride.org.uk

Young Transnet will soon have a resource pack available to promote sustainable travel.

W: youngtransnet.com

Bike to school Week

23-27 april

W: cyclingengland.co.uk

National Liftshare Day

14 June

W: liftshare.org/nlsd.asp

Green Transport Week

16-24 June

W: eta.co.uk/pages/Green-Transport-Week/40/default.htm

National Bike Week

16-24 June

W: bikeweek.org.uk

Purchasing and waste

Reduce. Reuse. Recycle.



Recycling tips

- Contact Hackney Council Recycling to find out about recycling services for paper, cans and glass.
- Set up an internal recycling system. Put cardboard boxes in classrooms to collect paper and work with the kitchen staff to recycle cans.
- Get each class to decorate their own recycling bin or ask students to design posters for the boxes.
- Appoint recycling monitors to empty the classroom recycling bins on a regular basis.
- Monitor rubbish bins to ensure all waste that can be recycled is being recycled.
- Weigh the rubbish being thrown away and that being recycled. Carry out a waste audit annually to monitor the school's performance.
- Minimise waste by photocopying using the double-sided option, using scrap paper for notes and rough working.
- Arrange a visit to a Civic Amenity and Recycling Centre. Over 35 materials can be recycled and schools may be able to obtain free paint, gardening tools and sports equipment from the centre.
- Use 'rubbish' such as yoghurt pots and egg boxes for arts and crafts projects.

- Arrange a visit from a recycling vehicle. Schools can arrange a visit from the recycling vehicles that collect the recycling from Hackney households and find out more about recycling from the driver.
- Hold a fashion show with clothes made from recycled materials.
W: traid.org.uk
- Join the Shoe Friends recycling initiative and receive £5 for every large bag of shoes that your school collects.
W: lmb.co.uk
- Recycle old printer cartridges and mobile phones to raise money for your environmental projects or a local charity.
- Make your own compost from vegetable scraps and garden cuttings. Set up a wormery at your school.
W: elcrp-recycling.com

London Community Recycling Network

is a support organisation working with a membership that provides community based recycling, reuse and composting services to Londoners as well as conducting various waste awareness and minimisation activities.

T: 020 7324 4690

W: lcrn.org.uk

Click on the interactive map and **Hackney** for local community recycling services, including education and awareness.

Hackney Council Recycling can order subsidised junior wormeries/compost bins for schools through Original Organics.

Contact **Anna Portch**

T: 020 8356 7956

F: 0208 356 3507

E: Anna.Portch@Hackney.gov.uk

W: hackney.gov.uk/recycling

W: recyclenow.com/

W: recyclenowpartners.org.uk/index.html

Recycle More is a good source of information, activities and materials about recycling and waste. They can also advise on projects and activities in the school to support the posters and leaflets.

W: recycle-more.co.uk/

Capital Waste Learning online learning resource for teachers and students living in Greater London and operating at Key Stages 3-4 in the National

Curriculum. The website is designed to educate Londoners about the issues surrounding the capital's mounting waste crisis and how important it is to develop sustainable markets for recycled materials.

E: info@londonremade.com

W: capitalwastelearning.co.uk

British Glass – Glass Works

Schools can order a free CD-ROM to help them educate pupils on why recycling is so important. This is an interactive resource for pupils at KS1 and 2.

T: 0114 268 6201

W: recyclingglass.co.uk

Waste Watch Recycle Zone website with a wealth of information for teachers and pupils. Download documents that describe how schools can increase their recycling and reduce their waste. There is also fun and games for pupils. You can book a visit to your school from 'Cycler' the rapping, recycling robot.

T: 020 7089 2107

W: recyclezone.org.uk/

Information packs for schools at

W: wastewatch.org.uk/education/infopacks.aspx

Sita UK deliver a wide variety of recycling and waste management services to businesses and residents throughout the UK. Free **education resources pack** contains a teacher's guide, informative poster and activity sheets. The website includes a look at the waste journey and an interactive game, all in line with key stages 2 and 3.

E: education@sita.co.uk

W: sita.co.uk/education/teachers

Confederation of Paper Industries

Primary and secondary teacher resource packs are available, covering many issues to do with paper e.g. recycling, making paper.

W: paper.org.uk/info/kids/schoolpack.htm

Little Rotters composting information site, designed specifically for primary schools to provide teachers with practical information and advice on composting in school. Free club – any school can join.

W: littlerotters.org.uk

Steel Can Recycling Information Bureau

Online education zone for both pupils and teachers. You can also request a copy of the **Kids in Charge** steel recycling film, suitable for primary schools and younger secondary school pupils.

W: scrib.org/education_zone/education_zone.asp

W: scrib.org/about_us/recycling_video.asp

Reusing

In addition to online resources, schools can benefit from the vast amount of free refurbished materials and equipment that social enterprises now offer to keep products out of landfills. Refurbit UK collects redundant IT equipment from organisations and the public and refurbishes it to a high standard for donation to schools, voluntary groups, charities and community groups.

W: refurbit-uk.com

Not free, but Tools for Schools also supplies full computer systems to schools from just £95.

W: tfs.org.uk

The Children's Scrap Project

Loads of scrap materials freely available for member schools

137 Homerton High St, London E9 6AS

T: 020 8985 6290

E: childrensscrap@btconnect.com

W: communityrepaint.org.uk

ReadItSwapIt online, member-driven book swap-shop for updating and rotating books between school libraries.

W: readitswapit.com

Community Waste Recycler

W: crn.org.uk

Think Cans

W: cashforcans.co.uk/schools



◀▶ Grazebrook - composting project



Case studies

Grazebrook Primary School

(LSEA composting project)

Led by parent volunteer and gardener Steve Mason, the after-school club have recently been busy growing vegetables in the schools' new raised beds. Last year, the school won £1000 through the London School Environment Award for a fantastic composting project. The after school gardening club has been developing a new fenced garden area in the reception class playground for digging, sowing and planting.

Grazebrook Pupils Treescape

The project began in March 1995 with a small development of planting tubs around existing roof supports. Wide school and community participation led to planning, fund raising and donated materials. The environmental development has grown over several years with a range of projects which include composting method experimentation, organic gardening, woodland management, and habitat experiments. An annual farmers' market, organised by Treescape, has brought in wide neighbourhood exchange.

Buildings and grounds



The school grounds may provide the only opportunity for students to observe living animals and plants in their natural habitat and promote a deeper understanding of the investigatory approaches that underpin the whole of science.

Nature and school grounds

- **Start a gardening club** – give the club responsibility for a plot of land or alternatively, give each year group a plot of land to look after.
- **Grow vegetables** in the grounds that the children can take home and eat. Alternatively, use them in the school canteen.
- **Join the HDRA Organic Network.**
- **Start a composter or wormery.** Collect all fruit scraps for the composter or wormery. This is especially useful if the school is part of the free fruit scheme.
- **Brighten the grounds with flowers in planters,** they are easy to maintain.
- **Paint a mural on a wall.**
- **Plant herbs,** the smells can help form a sensory garden.
- **Make 'recycled' flowers** out of old cans or plastic bottles. You'll have year-round 'flowers' for the garden.
- **Think carefully about what you plant** in the garden as during the dry summer months there will probably be no-one around to water the plants.
- **Sunflowers are always good to plant.** Have a competition to see which class grows the largest (see link below on sunflower growing).
T: 01449614614
W: greenfingersappeal.co.uk/home
W: littlerotters.org.uk

Woodland Trust

Tree For All is the most ambitious children's tree-planting project ever launched in the UK, with plans to help plant 12 million trees over the next five years. Schools can apply for free hedgerow and copse packs to plant in their grounds (usually two ordering deadlines per year). These packs come with educational resources.

T: 01476 581106

E: education@treeforall.org.uk

W: treeforall.org.uk/

Woodland Trust

Wild About Woods is the new website dedicated to teachers, including a range of resources available for both primary and secondary teachers.

W: wildaboutwoods.org.uk/

Hackney Trees & Parks Service

Advice and support on a range of tree-related issues, including finding a good tree surgeon from the approved list. Also liaise with the Tree Musketeers and Park User Groups for programming the planting and maintenance of trees.

Council Depot, Hackney Marshes,
Homerton Rd, London E9 5PF

T: 020 8525 0477

E: ian.graham@hackney.gov.uk

Source of free logs and wood-chippings.

Learning Through Landscapes

in London. Members of the Schoolgrounds-UK subscription service can access a range of information, including details of professionals in their area who have school grounds/educational setting experience.

E: schoolgrounds-uk@ltl.org.uk

E: London@ltl.org.uk

T: 020 8850 3112

W: ltl.org.uk

National School Grounds Week

Small steps to sustainability 2007 (11 – 15 June) Learning through Landscapes' annual celebration of outdoor play and learning in the school grounds is sponsored by DfES as part of their year of action for Sustainable Schools. Schools and early years settings will be able to register from March for free resources. Packs will be sent out in May.

Groundwork

Environmental charity works with schools to turn school grounds into spaces for learning and fun. It operates through a network of trusts throughout Britain and all of its school work is linked to the national curriculum.

W: groundwork.org.uk

The Federation of City Farms & Community Gardens has managed hundreds of projects ranging from tiny wildlife gardens to large city farms with the help of willing volunteers and partnerships with local authorities. Projects have provided food-growing activities, training courses, school visits and community allotments, as well as fun play and sports facilities, and after-school and holiday schemes.

- **Allotments Regeneration Initiative**
W: hackneyallotments.org.uk
T: 7485 5001
E: london@farmgarden.org.uk
W: farmgarden.org.uk

Other organisations keen to forward the allotment revolution are **BTCV** and **Groundwork Trust**, which both offer advice and assistance in setting up school allotments and are keen to explore joint funding applications to generate more local allotment sites, especially within school grounds.

W: btcv.org.uk
W: groundwork.org.uk

NPK Landscapes

E: landscapes@npk.u-net.com
W: npk.u-net.com/

Hackney Building Exploratory

Education and resource centre with a unique permanent exhibition, designed to help local communities understand and appreciate their area.

T: 020 7275 8555
E: mail@buildingexploratory.org.uk
W: buildingexploratory.org.uk

Building Schools for the Future

W: bsf.gov.uk

Case study

St Monica's RC Primary School

Teacher Emma Fowler leads a weekly after-school nature club in developing the garden as a learning resource for science, including food growing areas and varied habitats to attract local wildlife into the school grounds. Recently a team of volunteers from UBS bank got involved by creating a new path and relining the large pond. It was completed just in time as three weeks later, and after a good rainfall during half-term, the new pond is already full of frogspawn.



▲ St Monica's - garden workday (corporate volunteers)

◀ St Monica's - new pond

Wildlife gardening

Top features for attracting wildlife to school grounds

1. **Log pile** – refuge for invertebrates (e.g. beetles, woodlice, centipedes and snails).
2. **Bird feeding station** and nesting boxes/table.
3. **Pond** – mix of aquatic plants, great for frogs and invertebrates. Must be well managed and have easy access.
4. **Mini-beast 'village'** – investigation area with mixed habitats for invertebrates.
5. **Sensory herbs** low maintenance flowering shrubs.
6. **Wildflower meadow** – attracts grasshoppers and bees. Let the grass grow long in one area.
7. **Hedge** – makes a natural barrier/fence. Also a source of food and refuge for animals.
8. **Compost pile** – recycles nutrients from weeds and garden cuttings and great for insects.
9. **Container garden** – creative use of containers for planting, ideal for grounds with limited 'green' areas.
10. **Raised beds** – grow vegetables, or make a butterfly show garden with the top ten nectar-rich plants.
11. **Cold frames** – cheap alternative to a greenhouse for propagating seeds.
12. **Climbing plants** – for walls and fences, helps add layers and vertical interest to your garden.
13. **Willow feature** (e.g. tunnel/dome) – a fun way of dividing areas and great for nesting birds.
14. **Fences and paths** – to define boundaries and highlight areas of interest.
15. **Explanatory signs** – inviting and educational.
16. **Wall murals** – adds colour and develops themes.
17. **Tree nursery** – collect seeds in autumn and grow trees for community sales.

Pond advice

Try **Lea Rivers Trust** (provides info pack about ponds)
T: 7515 3337
T: 01992 702200
W: LeaRiverTrust.co.uk

Froglife
W: froglife.org

Pond doctor
Personal advice for Londoners with ponds
0906 6801211 (9am-1pm weekdays, calls 25p per min).

Inclusion and participation



Ideas for whole-school environmental projects

- **Decide on a project** – perhaps ask the students what their key environmental concerns are?
- **Carry out a review/audit** of what is currently happening e.g. are energy bills currently monitored to review energy use.
- **Develop an action plan** in consultation with all key groups. Set some (achievable) targets e.g. put paper recycling bins in every classroom and appoint recycling monitors.
- **Monitor and evaluate the progress** of the project. Is the project having a positive effect on the school environment? Could the project be improved in any way?
- **Keep everyone informed** (students, staff, parents, governors, wider community, etc.) of progress. Start a notice board, put articles in school newsletters, report back to school council, take assemblies, etc. It may even be possible to invite the local press to a special project e.g. opening a new garden area.
- **Try and get everyone involved** in the projects. Everyone should be recycling their paper.
- **Ensure the project is sustainable.** If improving the grounds, who is going to maintain it? Successful projects will have a long-lasting effect rather than just a one-off impact.
- **Utilise school councils** and give young people a platform to express views outside the school.

General ideas

- Run poster competitions to help raise awareness. The winning posters could be displayed in local shops, GP's surgeries, libraries, etc.
- Focus on different environmental issues during special **Environment Weeks**. Perhaps hold one **Environment Week** every term.
- Invite guest speakers to assemblies.
- Link activities into the National Curriculum where possible e.g. literacy hour, numeracy hour, geography, science, music, drama and art.
- Involve parents as much as possible to ensure environmental actions being carried out at school are also being carried out at home.

Contact **Michael Connors**
Student Participation Officer for The Learning Trust
T: 020 8820 7677
E: Michael.Connors@learningtrust.co.uk



▲ Wentworth Nursery - family learning

◀ Nightingale - planting in the nursery garden



◀ Wentworth - parents in action gardening course

Case studies

Wentworth Nursery

In the summer of 2006 (with funding from the Family Learning Team), a four week long **Parents in Action Course** took place at the nursery in which parents, together with their children, learned useful gardening and growing techniques and found out more about culinary herbs and where our food comes from. At the end of the course, the parents prepared some healthy recipes using herbs found in the school grounds.

Nightingale Primary School

Together with Rob and Siobhan (Travellers' Service) from The Learning Trust, Learning Mentor Mandie led a weekly environmental club in 2006 in which children from the adjacent travellers' site helped improve the school nursery area with lots of new plants.

De Beauvoir Primary School

Since the school Inclusion Officer, Tanya Spain launched the after-school gardening club in partnership with ecoACTIVE education last year, the project has continued to go from strength to strength this year. Led by local experts Louise and Craig, the project has successfully involved a combination of motivated students, parents, and teachers. The group have created raised beds and window boxes from reclaimed wood, and a wealth of new plants to cheer up the school grounds and attract wildlife.

Local well-being



Litter and graffiti

- Carry out a litter pick in the school grounds every term or set up regular monitoring of the grounds.
- Carry out a litter pick in the surrounding streets; an annual clean-up day perhaps?
- Carry out a litter survey of the school grounds to find out where most of the litter is located. Could anything be done to reduce this litter like installing more bins?
- Decorate school bins (as mini-beasts?) to make them more colourful. This may encourage more people to put their litter in the bin.
- Come up with a memorable slogan like **Find a bin and put litter in.**
- Carry out a graffiti survey in the school grounds and the local area.
- It may be possible to arrange a visit to the school from Hackney Council's graffiti cleaning crew.

Naturenet (great for all green events)
W: naturenet.net/education/dates.html

▶ Harrington Hill trip to Springfield Park



Ideas for school visits in Hackney

(for Extended Schools)

School grounds, local nature reserves, cultural/heritage sites, zoos and museums

Extended Schools Clusters

See outline map of Hackney, below.

Hackney's Big Green Map

(included with this pack) shows a far more comprehensive range of sustainable development projects, resources, and initiatives in Hackney.

Field Studies Council

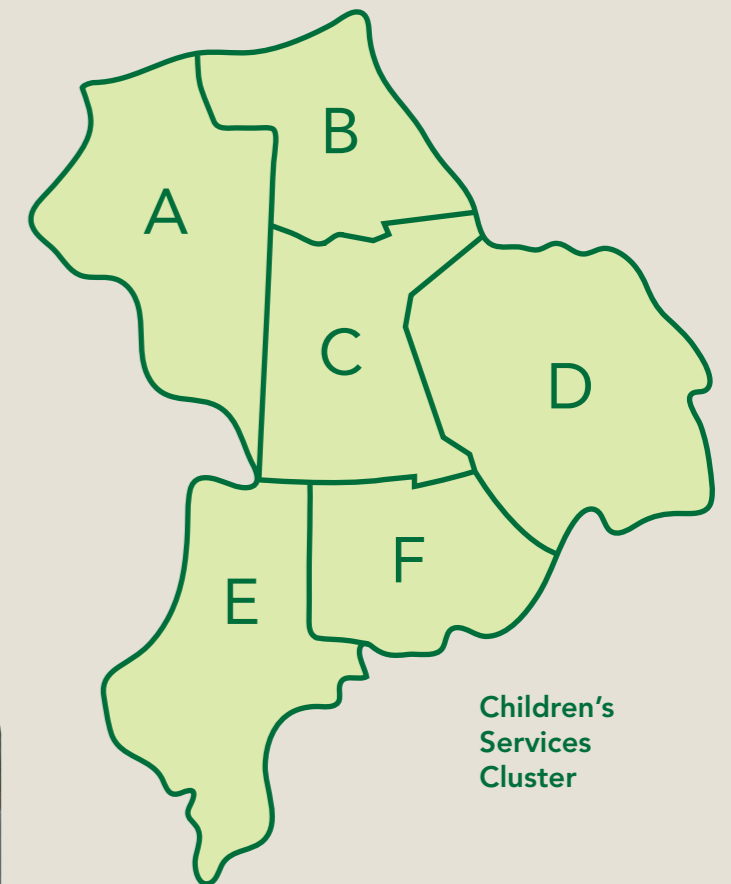
London Outdoor Science Project: encouraging Secondary schools to get out and develop skills through science field trips.

T: 07738 018768

E: M.Glackin@ioe.ac.uk

E: outdoorscience@field-studies-council.org

W: field-studies-council.org/outdoorscience/



Cluster A

(schools near Clissold Park)

Railway Fields

Off Green Lanes (N4), opposite Haringey Green Lanes Station

Contact **Catherine Price**, Haringey Project Officer

T: 020 8348 6005 (Wed – Fri)

T: 07739 447958

Abney Park Cemetery Trust

The South Lodge, Abney Park Cemetery, 221 Stoke Newington High Street, N16 0LH

Contact **Anna Smale / Kirsty Peterkin**

T: 020 7275 7557

E: abney-park@geo2.poptel.org.uk

W: abney-park.org.uk

West Reservoir Centre

(London Wildlife Trust) Environmental education programme for visiting schools.

Green Lanes, N4 2HA

Contact **Lucy Harrigan**

T: 020 8800 6161

E: wildlondon@btconnect.com

The Reservoirs Nature Society (TeRNS)

W: <http://mysite.wanadoo-members.co.uk/terns2/index.htm>

E: Ternsorg@hotmail.com

T: 020 7249 4098

The Gardens Community Garden

To book a visit:

Doncaster Gardens, Finsbury Park, N4 1HX

Andy Newman (schools pack)

T: 020 8374 7721 (7 days)

E: andyn.kaza@virgin.net

W: gardensresidents.blogspot.com

Butterfield Green

Off Palatine Road, Stoke Newington N16

New orchard (recently planted by Growing Communities / local residents)

Fin Futures

Neighbourhood / enviro-crimes wardens

FinSpace, 225-229 Seven Sisters Road, London, N4 2DA

Contact **Arlene Hale-Christofi**

E: arlene@streetscenemanagement.org.uk

E: info@streetscenemanagement.org.uk

T: 020 7527 5106

F: 020 7272 3578

W: finfuture.co.uk

Eastbank/ Westbank Nature Reserve

Contact **John Yeudall**

T: 020 8800 8209

Clissold Park User Group

W: clissoldpark.com/

Cluster B

(schools near Springfield Park)

Growing Communities

School visits to vegetable growing projects at sites in Springfield Park and Allens Gardens (Bethune Road)

The Old Fire Station, 61 Leswin Road, Stoke Newington, London N16 7NY

T: 020 7502 7588

E: grow.communities@btopenworld.com

W: growingcommunities.org

Springfield Park User Group

T: 020 8806 4588

T: 020 7502 2306

E: hackneyparks@onetel.com,

Spugcommittee@hotmail.co.uk

Springfield Conservation Group

T: 07968 221446

E: alisoncpooley@btopenworld.com

Contact **Annie Chipchase**

T: 0777 355 3623

Cluster C

(schools near Hackney Downs)

Grazebrook Pupils Treescape

Grazebrook School, Lordship Road, London N16 0QP

T: 020 8809 4054

Lee House Rehabilitation and Employment Centre

Plant sales (bedding plants, shrubs, climbers, herbs and trees at very reasonable prices) every Monday and Friday (except Bank Holidays), 10:00am – 4:30pm.

6 Rectory Road, Stoke Newington, London N16 7QS

T: 020 7275 9100

E: rachael.bailey@hackney.gov.uk

Cluster D

(schools near Hackney Marshes)

Hackney Marsh

User Group (HMUG) / Wick Woodland Tree Nursery, 5 Newick Road, E5 0RP

Contact **Anne Woollett**

T: 020 8985 1256

E: a.woollett@btinternet.com

Hackney Trees & Parks

Council Depot, Hackney Marshes, Homerton Rd, London E9

T: 020 8525 0477

Beauchamp Lodge

Explore London's canal network (often come down through Hackney to Limehouse). Floating classroom Schools programme. For info or to book a trip:

Contact **Simon Ryder**

T: 020 8960 4321

T: 020 8960 5588

E: simon.ryder@beauchamlodge.co.uk

W: beauchamlodge.org.uk/

Cluster E

(schools near Haggerston Park)

Morph

(furniture reuse shop)

19-23 Kingsland Rd, London E2 8AA

Laburnum Boat Club

Explore the Regent Canal

Laburnum St, London E2 8BA

T: 020 7729 2915

E: laburnumboatclub@tiscali.co.uk

W: laburnum.org.uk/

Geffrye Museum

Award-winning herb garden / period garden rooms.

Kingsland Road, London E2 8EA

T: 020 7739 9893

W: geffrye-museum.org.uk

Hackney City Farm

Activities for visiting schools.

1A Goldsmith Row, London E2 8QA

T: 020 7729 6381

Contact **Chris Pounds** (Manager)

E: farm@hackneycityfarm.co.uk

W: hackneycityfarm.co.uk/

Shoreditch Community Gardens Project

T: 020 7729 4675

Contact **Bryan**

E: shoreditchcommunitygardens@yahoo.co.uk

Hackney Tree Wardens

11a Penpoll Rd, London E8 1EX

W: haggerstonpool.com

St Mary's Secret Garden

W: stmaryssecretgarden.org.uk/

Contact (temporary) **Alexandra Parrish**

E: info@stmarysgarden.org.uk

T: 020 7739 2965

Hoxton Trust Community Garden

Host annual children's fun days and workshops and training in amenity horticulture.

156 Hoxton Street, London N1 6SH

T: 020 7729 1480

W: hoxtontrust.com (open Mon-Fri)

North One Garden Centre

25A Englefield Road, London N1 4EU

T: 020 7923 3553

Cluster F

(schools near London Fields)

Freeform Art/Recycling

Glass recycling project

Contact **Jane**

E: janeb@freeform.org.uk

E: contact@freeform.org.uk

274 Richmond Road, London Fields, London E8 3QW

T: 020 7249 3394

F: 020 7249 8499

W: freeform.org.uk

London Fields

Hackney Parks' ranger service

T: 020 7923 4801

Hackney Parks Service

T: 020 8356 7605

T: 020 8356 5000

T: 020 8986 9674

Further afield:

Kench Hill Centre offers residential field study trips for Hackney schools, including weekend 'Extended School' activities. The weekends are designed to promote parental involvement and family learning within extended school clusters. Set in beautiful, tranquil surroundings, participants have the opportunity to enjoy a wide range of activities with a family focus that will help them to discover new interests and develop independence and confidence.

Themes: (examples) Dads and lads /all girls family learning weekends (parental involvement), gifted and talented (bring together pupils from schools in a cluster), low achievers or excluded pupils, science weekends, peer mentoring, INSET teacher training/NQT's. Contact **Sandi Bain** (Head of Centre) **T: 01580 762073**
E: Sandi.Bain@learningtrust.co.uk

Camley Street Natural Park

Beautiful nature reserve with mixed habitats, full time education programme.
12 Camley St, London NW1 0PW (Kings Cross)
T: 020 7833 2311
E: camleyst@wildlondon.org.uk
W: wildlondon.org.uk/reserve.php?reserve_id=70

Field Studies Council

Outdoor classroom and courses at Epping Forest Field Centre
High Beach Loughton, Essex IG10 4AF
T: 020 8502 8500
E: enquiries.ef@field-studies-council.org
W: field-studies-council.org

London Zoo

Free admission for London state schools. There is both a primary school and secondary school programme.
T: 020 7449 6552 or 6273
W: zsl.org/discovery-and-learning/schools/

Epping Forest Field Centre

Forest awareness and eco-activities for families and children throughout the year, including guided walks, weekend and holiday activities, environmental games, camping and shelter building.
The Warren Lodge, Loughton, IG10 4RN
T: 0208 508 9061
E: enquiry@efct.info
W: efct.info

Lee Valley Park

(Accessible by Silverlink trains from Hackney). Youth and Schools Service.
Abbey Farmhouse, Waltham Abbey, Essex EN9 1XQ
T: 01992 702227
E: youthandschools@leevalleypark.org.uk
W: leevalleypark.org.uk/en/fe/page.asp?n1=3&n2=11

London Wetland Centre

Educational visits are welcomed.
London Wetland Centre, The Wildfowl and Wetlands Trust, Queen Elizabeth's Walk, Barnes, London SW13 9WT.
T: 020 8409 4400
E: info.london@wwt.org.uk
W: wwt.org.uk/visit/wetlandcentre/

Centre for Wildlife Gardening

Fantastic mixed-habitats nature reserve with lots of ideas for making your garden more attractive to local wildlife. Award-winning visitors' centre provides a base for school parties.
28 Marsden Rd, London SE15 4EE (Southwark).
E: lwtwildgarden@cix.co.uk
T: 020 7252 9186
W: wildlondon.org.uk/reserve.php?reserve_id=73

Sunnyside Community Garden

Oasis for urban wildlife, opportunities for learning basic ecology and garden management (organic and permaculture principles). Schools can gain practical experience in garden maintenance and development, collecting and growing from seed, wildlife habitat management.
Hazellville Road, London N19 3LX
T: 020 7272 3522
E: andy@sunnysidegarden.org.uk
W: sunnysidegarden.org.uk

Hampstead Heath

North London's biggest park (Gospel Oak) are keen to reach more schools, and offer educational activities from the park Information Centre.
T: 020 7482 7083

Islington Ecology Centre

Gillespie Park Nature Reserve, 191 Drayton Park, London N5 1PH
T: 020 7354 5162
E: islingtonecologycentre@dsl.pipex.com

Science Museum has great explanations about energy and good ideas for activities.
Exhibition Road, South Kensington, London SW7 2DD
W: sciencemuseum.org.uk
T: 0870 870 4868

Growing Schools garden

(Learning Through Landscapes)
Environmental Curriculum Centre, 77 Bexley Road, London SE9 2PE
T/F: 020 8294 5864
E: growingschoolsgarden@widehorizons.org.uk
Starter packs for school garden approx. £700 per year. Including 2 packs sent with lesson plans and resources (seeds, bird boxes, etc).

Rainham Marshes

(RSPB nature reserve)
Unit 9 Juliette Commercial Centre, South Ockendon, RM15 4YD
T: 01708 892900
W: rspb.org.uk

Wildweb the new interactive guide to exploring nature in London. Explore the wildest spots in town
W: london.gov.uk/wildweb
Visit **www.leef.org.uk** for database of Ecology Centres and other Environmental Education outlets.

London Green Map

(interactive online map)
W: http://greenmap.london21.org/

10 vital questions to ask before an off-site trip

If you are involved – in any way – with an educational visit, you'll want to know the most important questions to ask. The following 10 questions cover the main arrangements that should be in place for a visit. These questions are important whether you're a parent, child, helper, leader, headteacher or governor.

1. What are the main objectives of the visit?
2. What is "Plan B" if the main objectives can't be achieved?
3. What could go wrong?
Does the risk assessment cover:
 - The main activity
 - "Plan B"
 - Travel arrangements
 - Emergency procedures
 - Staff numbers, gender and skill mixes
 - Generic and site-specific hazards and risks (including for Plan B)
 - Variable hazards (including environmental and participants' personal abilities and the 'cut off' points).
4. What information will be provided for parents?
5. What consents will be sought?
6. What opportunities will parents have to ask questions (including any arrangements for a parents' meeting)?
7. What assurances are there of the leader(s) competencies?
8. What are the communication arrangements?
9. What are the arrangements for supervision, both during activities and 'free time' – is there a Code of Conduct?
10. What are the arrangements for monitoring and reviewing the visit?

This is just a summary of the main points to be considered.

The Learning Trust

Health and Safety Manager
Contact **Mark Gater**
T: 020 8820 7338
E: Mark.Gater@learningtrust.co.uk

Events - what's on?

Get your school involved throughout the year

Naturenet

Great for all **green events** – a comprehensive guide to the national and international days and dates in the wildlife and living environment calendar.

W: naturenet.net/education/dates.html

'Count me in' calendars

Another comprehensive events guide.

W: countmeincalendar.info (click on 'Environment')

London Environmental Education Forum

Look under events and links.

W: leef.org.uk



▲ Outdoor learning
- Epping Forest

▶ Sir Thomas Abney
- new kitchen
garden



Last weekend in January

Big Garden Bird Watch

Learn more about UK birdlife.

W: rspb.org.uk/birdwatch

14-21 February

National Nest Box Week

Encouraging people to put up nest boxes to help our breeding birds and other wildlife.

W: bto.org/

March

National Science Week

An opportunity for people of all ages to take part in science, engineering and technology activities.

W: the-ba.net

22 March

World Day for Water

Coping with water scarcity.

W: unesco.org/water/water_celebrations/

22 April

Earth Day

A call to action on climate change.

W: earthday.net

23-27 April

Bike to School Week

Don't be a taxi-driver, let your kids cycle to school.

W: cyclingengland.co.uk

6-12 May

Compost Awareness Week

The Composting Association.

W: compost.org.uk/

21-25 May

National Walk to School Week

Reduce air pollution by walking to school.

W: walktoschool.org.uk/

1-7 June

Volunteers Week

The UK's annual celebration of the work volunteers do.

W: volunteersweek.org.uk

5 June

World Environment Day (UN)

To stimulate worldwide awareness of the environment and enhance political attention and action.

W: unep.org/wed/

3-17 June

London Sustainability Weeks

Your chance to get involved in a number of events all over London.

W: <http://lovelondon.london21.org/page/64>

11-15 June

National School Grounds Week

Small steps to sustainability 2007.

Annual celebration of outdoor play and learning in the school grounds by Learning through Landscapes.

W: ltl.org.uk

14 June

National Liftshare Day

Share the empty seats in a car to save money and reduce your carbon footprint.

W: liftshare.org/nlsd.asp

16-24 June

Green Transport Week

Highlighting real alternatives to the car for everyday journeys.

W: eta.co.uk/

16-24 June

National Bike Week

Getting more people cycling more often.

W: bikeweek.org.uk

June

National Insect Week

W: nationalinsectweek.co.uk

13-19 August

National Allotments Week

National Allotment Gardens Trust promotes awareness and availability of allotments both locally and nationally.

W: nagtrust.org/page5.html

October

International Walk to School Month

Global event to celebrate the many benefits of walking.

W: iwalktoschool.org/

23 September - 23 October

Seed Gathering Season (The Tree Council). Autumn festival to make the most of trees for their seeds, nuts, fruits, and autumn colours.

W: treecouncil.org.uk/

21 October

Apple Day (Common Ground)

Celebrating local apple varieties.

W: commonground.org.uk/appleday/a-events.html

27 October

Feed the Birds Day (RSPB)

Step up your feeding to help garden birds through the cold months ahead.

W: rspb.org.uk/feedthebirds/

27 October

Make a Difference Day (CSV)

UK's largest day of volunteer action.

W: csv.org.uk/difference

21 November-2 December

National Tree Week (The Tree Council)

Annual winter tree planting festival and celebration of trees and woods.

W: treecouncil.org.uk

First weekend in December

Tree Dressing Day (Common Ground)

Celebration of trees, highlighting our responsibility for looking after them and reminding us of their cultural and environmental importance.

W: commonground.org.uk/

5 December

International Volunteer Day

Annual celebration of the contributions of volunteers to various causes and communities around the world.

W: plan-uk.org

Global citizenship



Reduce your carbon footprint

Global Ecological Footprint Calculator

(online quiz)

W: ecologicalfootprint.org/

Global Dimension website

Bringing the world to the classroom: an essential tool for teachers – guide to books, videos, posters and websites with a global dimension. From climate change to poverty, water to fair trade, you can find resources for all age groups and subjects.

W: globaldimension.org.uk/

Climate Care

Helping you help the climate (Green Awards winner for creativity in sustainability).

W: carboncalculator.org/

The **GLOBE** programme enables pupils to input environmental data on the internet and link with schools around the world. Register for free.

W: globe.org.uk

Jane Goodall Institute's Roots and Shoots

programme is an international environmental education programme which encourages and inspires young people to take positive action in their own communities.

W: janegoodall.org.uk/education/

Global Express

Global news stories produced in an understandable format for pupils.

W: dep.org.uk/globalexpress/

Tide – global learning

A network of teachers and educators coming together to respond to the educational challenges of global dimensions, development perspectives and human rights principles. The site offers a range of creative opportunities for teachers, including introductory courses, curriculum projects, study visits and resources.

W: tidec.org/

Co-op Fairtrade schools

The Co-op has produced a guide for primary schools describing how to make your school fair trade friendly. These can be downloaded from the Co-op website.

W: co-opfairtrade.co.uk/schools_pack/

Fairtrade teaching resources

Finchley Catholic High School has produced some fair trade teaching resources. These can be downloaded from the school's website.

W: finchleycatholic.org.uk/fairtrade-teaching_material.asp

Peace Child International

Empowers young people to take responsibility for peace, human rights and the environment through education, leadership development and direct participation in the events that shape our world community. **Be the Change! Challenge** is a 3 stage learning programme where Peace Child International work with schools to explore effective ways for young people to develop more sustainable consumption patterns. A small fee is charged.

T: 01763 274459

E: contact@peacechild.org

W: peacechild.org/

Friends of the Earth

Shout about Climate Change offers good resources for free.

W: foe.org.uk

Hackney + Tower Hamlets FoE

W: hackneyfoe.gn.apc.org/v1/index.htm

London Sustainability Weeks 2007

(3 – 17 June) Your chance to get involved in a number of events all over London this June.

W: lsw2007.org/

Climate Change Pack for all secondary schools

Includes Al Gore's film **An Inconvenient Truth**, a Defra multimedia CD containing two short climate change films, and guidance on how the resources can be used in Key Stage 3 teaching. To be delivered: May 2007.

W: defra.gov.uk/news/latest/2007/climate-0202a.htm

The Friends of Finsbury Park

Community group, runs Climate Change environmental programme.

T: 8809 0039

E: shiri@riseup.net

W: thefriendsoffinsburypark.org.uk

GreenPeace

W: greenpeace.org.uk/

Environmental study support

Study Support (out-of-school-hours-learning) environmental activities can improve achievement in all areas of the curriculum – especially science, citizenship and sustainable development – and can help pupils to develop personal and social skills.

As part of the Extended Schools' Core Offer to schools, exciting **Study Support** environmental activities have been springing up in lots of Hackney's schools, offering opportunities for pupils and the wider school community to get involved in cross-curricular learning using the natural environment as a focus. Activities can include gardening, development of school green areas or habitat creation, and learning about local wildlife.

As well as being educational and a lot of fun, projects like this are helping schools in Hackney towards achieving National Healthy School Status, with close links to healthy eating, physical activity and emotional health and well-being.

Collated feedback from children attending OSHL wildlife clubs in Hackney, 2002-2004:

What do you think of the club?

Excellent	Good	OK	Not that good	A waste of time
144	20	5	1	1

- "By teaching us in a fun way it makes us determined to listen and learn" – pupil
- "I like it because we get to design the garden and do lots of activities" – pupil
- "We talk about animals and we play games, and sometimes we clean up the field and we hold frogs in our hand" – pupil
- "They enjoy the club immensely. Their knowledge and confidence has grown hugely. The children are talking and teaching others about what they are learning." – teacher
- "They come back to class excited, enthusiastic, and with fired up imaginations" – teacher

- "Students in this club are very keen to share what they've learned. It is obviously having a positive impact on their lives and experience" – teacher
- "Boys X and Y in particular have felt empowered by the club and it has built self-esteem" – headteacher



▲ Daubeney - tree planting trip to Wick woodland

► Horizon - growing vegetables



Setting up an environment club

(guidelines):

- 1. Decide what you want to do.** See activity themes on the next page for ideas. Try to involve pupils in the planning stage.
- 2. Identify a leader.** They can be different in each school depending on capacity. For example, select any of the following: Teaching Assistant, Class Teacher, Learning Mentor, Parent Volunteer, local environmental worker, or Parent Governor.
- 3. Arrange day and time** to run the club – find out term dates and INSET days to be aware of in the school calendar.
- 4. Recruit.** Send out letters/parental consent forms (if required) with details of times, what to bring and what to expect. Explain that children are expected to attend each week if selected.
- 5. Keep an attendance register** for monitoring and periodically complete feedback surveys with children and staff for evaluation.
- 6. Feedback.** Ensure that work done in club is fed back into the school (staff meetings, assemblies, noticeboards, etc) and is supported (i.e. not reliant on one person). This will increase the chances of sustainability.
- 7. Develop a whole school approach.** Involve members of the school community and encourage people to take ownership of the project. Use your strengths, e.g. is there a horticulturalist, environmental artist or landscaper in your school community who is keen to get involved? Arrange workdays for parents and staff.
- 8. Consult pupils and involve the school council** – make a school **Environment policy**.
- 9. Build your plans into the School Development Plan** to ensure they are followed through. Establish roles (including time scales for actions where appropriate), set up maintenance contracts for green spaces if necessary.
- 10. Find funding.** You can draw on different school funds to meet part of costs, e.g. budget for study support, science and bursaries from Healthy Schools and Extended Schools.
- 11. Work with partner organisations.** This pack is full of details of environmental organisations working in Hackney to support schools in delivering environmental activities. Find out what staff training is on offer.

12. Get help from community and voluntary sectors – see earlier section.

13. Publicise your good work as a way to foster a sense of achievement and to inspire others.

If you would like any support or advice on setting up an environmental club, or accessing resources, funding, and useful contacts please contact:

Rob Sambrooks (Environmental Study Support Officer, The Learning Trust)
T: 020 8820 7302
E: Robert.Sambrooks@learningtrust.co.uk



▲ *Sir Thomas Abney*
- eco-schools group

◀ *Parkwood*
- digging a pond

Environmental activity topics

template for one year

This page shows a suggested schedule/ 'topic-timings' for an environmental club that may be useful in helping you to cover a variety of different themes during a school year, as you move through the seasons.

A variety of fun activities are available to help you deliver these topics including games, practical investigations, arts and crafts, design, drama and story-telling. Rob Sambrooks or any of the other Hackney based environmental organisations will be happy to help you with activity ideas. Lots of the websites in this pack also include teaching resources.

September

- (x) (First week, children settling back in. Set up and recruit for clubs)
- 1 Introduction/team games**, hopes and expectations
 - 2 Bug hunting**
 - 3 Pond-dipping**
Harvesting/cooking of school-grown vegetables

October

- 4 Wildlife diversity** – animals in London (introduction to the local environment)
 - 5 Seeds/dispersal**
 - 6 Squirrels** (adapting to winter)
- (x) (Half term)

November

- 7 Hibernation – hedgehogs**
- 8 Autumn scavenger hunt**
- 9 Trees/leaves**
- 10 Spiders**

December

- 11 Garden maintenance composting** (fallen leaves)
 - 12 Bulb planting**
 - 13 Recycling** – make Christmas decorations from scrap materials
- (x) (Break for Christmas)

January

- (x) (First week back, children settling back in)
- 14 Birds – migration**
 - 15 Birds – feeding**
 - 16 Renewable energy**

Environmental issues, pollution, litter
global footprint (ICT)

February

- 17 Waste and recycling/reusing**
(plastic models)
- 18 Making bird boxes**
(x) (Half term)
- 19 Mammals** (babies)
Garden maintenance/habitat creation
Winter wildlife walk

March

- 20 Birds – nesting**
- 21 Tree-life cycles / buds**
- 22 Life cycles – frogs or caterpillars**
- 23 Eggs** (Easter theme)

April

- (x) (Easter break)
- (x) (Easter break)
- 24 Planting – seed trays**
 - 25 Garden maintenance** – using tools

May

- 26 Soils and worms/molluscs**
- 27 Plants** – parts, 'build a tree', oxygen cycle, leaf identification
- 28 Habitats – mini-beasts**
- 29 Food chains** – web of life, predator and prey

June

- (x) (Half term)
- 30 Bat and Moth game** (food chains)
 - 31 Flowers – structure**
 - 32 Pollination – bee relay**

July

- 33 Minibeast passports** – adaptation
- 34 Dragonflies/insects**
- 35 Grasshoppers and crickets**
Make certificates

Case study

Baden Powell Primary School

The after-school club, led by parent volunteer Vassoula, is celebrating the completion of their new wildlife pond following months of digging and hard labour. The budding archaeologists enjoyed finding many treasures (and worms) in the soil during the digging, and are now watching with interest as the newly-arrived tadpoles start to grow. The group have also been conscientiously feeding the birds throughout the winter months.

Action Team:

Vassoula

Parent volunteer

Club leader and parents weekend activities

Rob

The Learning Trust

Supports club, offers advice and helps with planning

Mr Smith

After-school club co-ordinator

Ensures club runs smoothly

Ms Wilson

Teacher

Supports club and links work to lessons

Ms Henry

Extended Schools Co-ordinator

Budget admin and link person (school with outside agencies)

Ms Chin and Ms Waite

Head and Deputy Head

Keep school community informed via assemblies/newsletter

Mr Dederio

Supports club with woodwork skills

A **Traffic light** plan has been drawn up to encourage the whole school to get involved in the project to develop a nature garden (wildlife and quiet area). All members of the action team have a copy of the plan so everyone knows what tasks need to be done and when so they can action the tasks accordingly, e.g. a class can take on a task during a science lesson.



▲ Baden Powell - filling pond

◀▶ Baden Powell - new wildlife garden



What	When	How	Resources	Who
Path	Sept - Dec	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dig out weeds and roots, add edging boards (use stakes), secure weed-proof liner in place, fill with wood chippings (depth 6' approx) 	Tools, weed-proof liner, stakes, wood for path-edging, bark chippings	Work days (parents)
Pond £3-500	Oct Mar/Apr	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dig hole, measure up, buy flexible liner and old carpet, slabs, install liner, fill or leave to fill with rainwater Add variety of aquatic plants (oxygenators, submerged and floating) 	Pond liner, old carpet slabs for edges Plants	Club/RS
Wildflower Area (by pond)	Mar	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Remove top-soil, sow from seed and mow periodically and add established plants 	Plants/seed mix	
Bird station	Oct / Nov	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Buy hook stand, table, variety-feeders, sacks of bird-seed, bird bath, set up station Build nesting-boxes for trees 	Bird feeders/food, etc Pre-cut wood and tools (hammers/nails)	Club/classes to top up through winter
Mini-beast village	Feb/ Mar	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Create different adjoining habitat areas for investigating bugs (e.g. spiders, woodlice/beetles, worms) 	Logs, bricks, clay pots, mats, wood	
Signs	(Jan) Apr - Jun	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Make signs to explain features Children investigate and record wildlife present, make signs to illustrate 	Wood/plastic stake posts	
Events and issues to consider		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Staff meeting: introduce plans and timescales, assign roles for action team Plan workdays (labour for big tasks, e.g. path) – identify work-groups/volunteers Garden-opening party? (School community event) Staffing – for club/Saturday parents activities 	Time labour (parent volunteers?) planning, refreshments	

Useful contacts

For advice on nature conservation and biodiversity

Government agencies

The Countryside Agency

T: 01242 533 222

W: countryside.gov.uk

Countryside Council for Wales

T: 0845 130 6229

W: ccw.gov.uk

English Nature

T: 01733 455 101

W: www.english-nature.org.uk

Environment and Heritage

Service Northern Ireland

T: 028 9025 1477

W: ehsni.gov.uk

W: english-nature.org.uk

Forestry Commission

T: 0845 367 3787

W: www.forestry.gov.uk

Scottish Natural Heritage

T: 01738 444 177

W: snh.org.uk

Charitable organisations

BTO (British Trust for Ornithology)

T: 01842 750 050

W: bto.org

Buglife

T: 01733 201 210

W: buglife.org.uk

Butterfly Conservation

T: 0870 774 4309

W: butterfly-conservation.org

The National Trust

T: 0870 458 4000

W: nationaltrust.org.uk

National Wildflower Centre

T: 0151 738 1913

W: nwc.org.uk

Plantlife

T: 01722 342 730

W: plantlife.org.uk

RSPB

T: 01767 680 551

W: rspb.org.uk

The Waterways Trust

T: 0845 070 0710

W: thewaterwaystrust.org.uk

The Wildfowl and Wetlands Trust

T: 01453 891 900

W: wwt.org.uk

The Wildlife Trusts

T: 0870 036 7711

W: wildlifetrusts.org

The Woodland Trust

T: 01476 581 111

W: woodland-trust.org.uk

For advice about organising events, working with volunteers and setting up your own group

BTCV (British Trust for Conservation Volunteers)

T: 01302 572 200

W: btcv.org.uk

CSV (Community Service Volunteers)

T: 020 7278 6601

W: csv.org.uk

ENCAMS (Environmental Campaign)

T: 01942 612 621

W: encams.org

Federation of City Farms and Community Gardens

T: 0117 923 1800

W: farmgarden.org.uk

Groundwork

T: 0121 236 8565

W: groundwork.org.uk

For educational projects and work with children in school grounds

Learning Through Landscapes

T: 01962 845 811

W: ltl.org.uk

Also look out for Breathing Places initiatives and resources for schools and young people available later this year – keep checking bbc.co.uk/breathingplaces for details.

For help with projects in public parks and open spaces

GreenSpace

T: 0118 946 9060

W: green-space.org.uk



▲ Mandeville
- planting

Teaching resources and activities

The **Sustainable Schools** area of TeacherNet is designed to support schools on their journey to sustainability, introducing the principles of sustainable development and offering guidance on how to embed these principles into the heart of school life. Cross-curricular teaching resources for Sustainable Development now available online, plus a pupil 'detective kit', guidance for bursars and governors and a new teaching award.

W: teachernet.gov.uk/sustainableschools

The **Growing Schools** website provides access to a wide variety of teaching and learning materials related to outdoor learning, including the **Growing Schools Garden Teacher's Resource Pack** (22 illustrated activity fact sheets).
W: teachernet.gov.uk/growingschools

Berks, Bucks and Oxon Wildlife Trust website has excellent downloadable packs.

W: bbowt.org.uk

Go Wild in your School

Grounds, designed to help you develop your grounds for wildlife and for people.

Go Wild Curriculum Pack, shows how wildlife friendly school grounds can be used for every area of the national curriculum.

Northumberland Wildlife Trust

has produced its own pack to help you turn your garden into a wildlife haven. The individual factsheets can be downloaded in pdf format.

W: wildlifetrusts.org/index.php?section=environment:people:gardening

teachernet



The publications section on the **Scottish Natural Heritage** website has a mass of downloadable education materials on biodiversity and wildlife.

W: snh.org.uk/



'It's Only Natural'

These are energy education programmes for schools with downloadable teaching resources from DTI.

W: dti.gov.uk/energy/sources/renewables/renewables-schools/index.html



Government Climate Challenge

The website includes a free downloadable two minute film about global warming.

W: climatechallenge.gov.uk/multimedia.html



Nature Detectives

Online Environmental Science project designed for teachers and pupils to explore the timing of natural seasonal events, such as budburst, flowering and fruiting of trees or plants. Record data on the website with your class, improve ID skills, and access free downloadable educational resources.

W: naturedetectives.org.uk



(E4S) Environmental Teaching Resources

Lesson planning materials on the sustainable use of water, textiles and timber resources, and issues surrounding waste management. Free online teaching resources and ideas will help you generate classroom activities. Printable worksheets available for use in Curriculum Science, Geography and Environmental Studies.

W: e4s.org.uk



WWF's site for those working to put Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) at the heart of school life.

W: wwflearning.org.uk



ARKive

Library of films and photographs of UK and the world's endangered species and habitats. Free multimedia resources for science teachers/educators.

The main ARKive website is designed for a variety of users (11 years +), and is relevant to a wide range of science and geography subjects in primary or secondary schools and up to university standard.

W: arkive.org



- **Planet ARKive** (for ages 7-11), designed to make life, science, learning and environmental education a widely enjoyable experience. It fits in especially well with learning about living things in their environment, the habitats and ecosystems of the world.

W: planetarkive.org

- **ARKive Education** is for teachers and other educators, and offers downloadable briefings, lesson plans and project ideas to support curriculum learning targets.

W: arkiveeducation.org

Educational sites for children

Young People's Trust for the Environment

A charity which aims to encourage young people's understanding of the environment and the need for sustainability, loads of fact sheets written specially for young people.

W: yptenc.org.uk



Nature Explorers

Fantastic interactive and colourful site helps children learn about wildlife and habitats.

W: naturegrid.org.uk/children.html



Waste Watch

The leading national organisation promoting and encouraging action on the 3Rs – waste reduction, reuse and recycling. 'Recycle zone' for kids and teachers.

W: wastewatch.org.uk/education



EcoKids

Play and learn, interactive website.

W: ecokids.ca/pub/index.cfm



Kids Planet

Explore wildlife and endangered species.

W: kidsplanet.org



Clean Air Kids

Information sheets, games and puzzles for Key Stage 1 and 2.

W: clean-air-kids.org.uk



Riokids

Web project in which young people born in the year of the Rio Earth Summit offer personal, creative responses to the sustainable development of our planet. Includes information about sustainable development and links.

W: riokids.net/



Climate Change

Find out more about Climate Change
W: http://tiki.oneworld.net/global_warming/climate_home.html



Encourage them to visit the **Global Footprints** website and make their own lifestyle change.

W: globalfootprints.org



Top tips for getting into the 8 doorways of Sustainable Schools

Tips for Sustainable Schools

- The following **Top tips** sheets compiled by **Rob Sambrooks**, Environmental Study Support Officer, The Learning Trust.
E: Robert.Sambrooks@learningtrust.co.uk
T: 020 8820 7302.
W: learninglive.co.uk (click on Teachers then Environmental Education)
- **DfES 'Top 10 Tips' for Sustainable Schools**
Ten simple measures that existing schools can adopt to reduce running costs. The proposed actions focus on energy and water use and will help to improve sustainability.
W: teachernet.gov.uk/docbank/index.cfm?id=10529



▲ Hackney Free - garden project

◀ Hackney Free with Morningside - garden project

Top tips for children

Easy ways to start making a difference

Food and drink

Learn how to cook. Cut out fast food and **limit the amount of meat you eat**. A plant-based diet generally requires less land, energy, and other resources. Try **growing your own** vegetables and fruit at school or at home and learn about where your food comes from.

Energy and water

Turn it off. Save energy by switching off lights, computers, TVs and other electrical equipment when not in use (don't leave them on standby). **Shut windows and doors** when you leave the room to keep the heat in. If you're cold, put on a jumper before asking for the heating to be turned up.

Be water-wise. Turn off the tap when you brush your teeth and take shorter showers (not baths). Think before you flush; you can also save water by getting your parents to put a brick in the toilet cistern. Reuse 'grey' water (e.g. after washing up) to water plants.

Travel and traffic

Think about how you get around. **Walk or ride your bike to school if you live nearby**. If not, take the bus or train instead of a car – convince your parents to change their driving habits. Does your school have a travel plan? If not you can find out about them from the Travel Plan Adviser. Also, if possible **don't fly when you go on holiday**. The train or coach is the most environmentally-friendly way to travel.

Purchasing and waste

Cut down the waste. Try to **reduce** the amount of packaging you bring with your packed lunch – only take what you need. **Reuse** plastic bottles and bags; don't get a new bag every time you go to the shop. **Recycle** paper, metal cans and glass (think before you bin it).

Don't drop litter. Put it in the bin or, if you can, recycle it.

Use both sides of the paper, and use recycled paper if possible. **Think before you print**.

Buildings and grounds

Help your local wildlife. Plant trees and plants in your school garden and feed the birds in winter.

Find out more about your environment and the animals that live there.

Inclusion and participation

Spread the news. Tell your friends and family how they can help too. Talk to your school council, teachers, and parents. Write to your local MP (your teacher will help you) and encourage your school to sign up to the Eco-Schools programme.

Inspire your friends. Triple the positive impact you are making by convincing two friends to join you in your effort. Encourage them to visit www.myfootprint.org and make their own lifestyle changes.

You could also sign up to a campaign that's important to you, e.g. with 'Friends Of the Earth'.

Local well-being

Find out what's going on in your area. Visit your local green spaces and get involved.

Global citizenship

Find out what's happening in the world. Become an expert and know what you are talking about by finding out more.

W: http://tiki.oneworld.net/global_warming/climate_home.html

W: ecokids.ca/pub/eco_info/browse_topics/environmental_issues.cfm

W: clean-air-kids.org.uk/doingyourbit.html



◀ *Teamwork
- getting involved
at Baden Powell*

Top tips for teachers

Easy ways to start making a difference

Food and drink

Grow plants in your classroom and school grounds. Teach children about where their food comes from.

Energy and water

Save energy. Check that your school has proper insulation and doesn't waste energy. Employ classroom monitors to make sure lights are switched off and that doors and windows are closed at the end of the day. Turn on PCs and printers only when needed and turn them off when not in use (don't leave monitors on standby). Buy toner cartridges (for printers and photocopiers) that are recyclable and never throw those away. Make sure that water isn't wasted by installing water butts in your school grounds.

Travel and traffic

Set a good example and cycle to school if you can. Do you drive? Car pool with colleagues if possible. Does your school have a travel plan? If not, speak to the Travel Plan Adviser about setting one up.

Purchasing and waste

Waste - refuse to rubbish. Work to **reduce** the amount of rubbish that gets put in the school bins, set class challenges. **Reuse** envelopes and file folders. Don't use disposable cups, bring reusable mugs. Save and reuse whatever packaging material you can, eg. from school deliveries. Make sure everything that can be **recycled** at school, is recycled.

Paper – print and photocopy only when necessary. Do only the number you need and use both sides (you can use recycled paper too). Use scrap paper for informal notes to yourself/others and use notice boards to communicate rather than making multiple copies. Set strict limits for children when using printers, encourage them to think before they print and to use both sides in class.

Compost - get a wormery. Compost kitchen waste and learn about decomposition at the same time.

Buildings and grounds

Plant trees and shrubs that will attract wildlife to your school grounds. Put a bird feeder outside your class window and encourage children to explore the school grounds to learn about habitats, food chains, plants, food growing, etc.

See what **funding** you can apply for to help you improve your school grounds by planting trees and creating habitats to investigate during science lessons.

Inclusion and participation

Be active in your school. Encourage your students to think about environmental issues and to take their own steps to help (see 'Top tips for children'). Find out what training you can go on.

Ask the children what they would like to change or improve about their school and its grounds. Get the school council involved and form an 'Environment Action Team' (teachers, pupils, parents and governors) and get everyone pulling in the same direction. Draw up an eco-policy.

Local well-being

Go on field trips to local green spaces. Teach children to respect nature and the environment. Help them plant a tree or build a bird house or buy them a nature book or a subscription to a wildlife magazine. Set-up or run an after-school gardening/environmental club.

Become an expert yourself. Research so you can teach your pupils with authority. Get a local environmental organisation to come in to deliver a workshop on a topic to help get the message across.

Global citizenship

Register your school with the **Eco-Schools** programme. Work towards gaining an award for your school.

W: eco-schools.org.uk

Check out the resources available on the 'Environmental Education' web-page at:

W: learninglive.co.uk

Top tips for parents

Easy ways to start making a difference

Food and drink

Limit the amount of meat you eat: Meat production is extremely resource-intensive, it takes a lot of energy and land to produce. Livestock currently consume 70 percent of America's grain production!

Be a conscientious consumer. Cut down food miles by buying locally-produced and seasonal food, learn about sustainability-friendly products (e.g. fair trade). Be less of a consumer; try to limit the amount of new stuff you buy. Be a minimalist.

Energy and water

Insulate hot water tanks, walls, lofts, floors, and pipes to bring your gas bill down. This is the most effective energy saving step you could take. Turning down the central heating thermostat by just 1 degree can save you up to £30 a year on your heating bill. Don't leave the heating on when you're airing your home. There's no point in heating the street! Think about buying "green electricity" (e.g. Ecotricity, Good Energy). Switching your electricity supplier is free and easy to do, visit www.uswitch.com, or ask your electricity supplier about switching to renewable energy.

Switch to energy efficient heating and lighting systems. Replace the light bulbs you use most in your home with **low energy bulbs** (compact fluorescents). Energy saving light bulbs use 80% less energy and last 10 times longer than a normal light bulb. Switch off lights when you don't need them, and don't leave the TV, computer or stereo on standby - switch them off. This will also reduce your energy bills. (Unplug mobile phone chargers too).

If you are buying a new washing machine, refrigerator, dish-washer or oven buy the most **energy efficient model** you can afford. They will pay for themselves through lower energy bills. Look for the energy efficiency 'A' label of the EU. Use the washing machine only when you have a full load, use eco-friendly washing powder that's suitable for low temperature washes, always fill the dishwasher and air-dry your clothes. For more tips:

W: energysavingtrust.org.uk

W: wwf.org.uk/climatechangecampaign/tips.asp

Cut down your water usage at home.

Reduce flushing, put a hippo/ brick in your cistern, reuse 'grey' water to water plants or wash your car.

When you're heating water for tea or coffee, don't use more than you actually need. Install an efficient/ low-flow showerhead (not a 'power shower').

Travel and traffic

Cars. If you do need to drive, drive a fuel-efficient vehicle and limit the amount you drive. Could you walk, cycle, take the bus/train or car-pool for a couple of days a week instead? When you go on holiday, **try to avoid flying.** The train or coach is the most environmentally-friendly way to travel.

Purchasing and waste

Shopping. Avoid buying items with lots of packaging – buy in bulk for everyday items. Think about how much waste your home produces.

Reduce, reuse, recycle. Reuse when possible, take carrier bags with you to the supermarket and always **recycle items that are recyclable**, eg. paper (including junk mail), glass, metal and plastic. Take old clothes and shoes to a clothes bank – also buy second hand!

Use recycled paper in your printer.

Buildings and grounds

Compost (rotting food creates greenhouse gases in landfill sites) – get a wormery.

W: wigglywiggles.co.uk

Grow your own food but remember not to use pesticides as they can kill birds and other wildlife and pollute precious water resources.

Plant trees. Plant native and drought-tolerant plants in dry regions to reduce water use.

Inclusion and participation

Get involved at your children's school. Volunteer to run an environmental club. Arrange gardening workdays with teachers to help improve the school grounds or become a parent governor so you can start influencing changes at the school.

Local well-being

Encourage your children to **visit local green spaces** and get involved with community projects and local groups where possible.

Global citizenship

Don't buy exotic pets or products from endangered animals.

Your next seaside holiday?

The responsibility is yours and mine to ensure this does not happen to our planet. **Reduce. Reuse. Recycle.**



**We do not inherit
the earth from our
ancestors –
we borrow it from
our children.**

(Ancient Native American proverb)



the learning trust
the future for education in Hackney

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