

ESD Day at Stranmillis University, Belfast

19 October 2011

Feedback Summary

Workshops provided by: RSPB, Belfast City Council Waste Division

Overall:

The students gave very positive feedback on the day with particular mention of the Interactive Quiz, the Migration game and the Story Mats. Many commented that they would have liked longer in each workshop, any maybe look at more student participation. Both workshop leaders had clear presentations were very informative and delivered lots of new information. One student summed the day up by saying '**Very enjoyable day! Definitely will use the information.**

What did you learn from the day?

- ❖ That it is important to take care of the environment we live in
- ❖ Different ways to teach children how to look after the environment
- ❖ That environmental groups are prepared to come into schools
- ❖ All about recycling and landfill
- ❖ How the relevant issues can be related to children's personal experience
- ❖ That we all need to care more for the environment
- ❖ All the resources available
- ❖ That teaching the children about the environment is of high importance
- ❖ How to link the environment into the various lessons

What were the good points of the day?

- ❖ Really good interesting good ideas
- ❖ The range of resources available
- ❖ The quiz was very interesting and motivating
- ❖ Good resources and the teaching strategies were very useful
- ❖ Lots of interactive activities
- ❖ The bird game
- ❖ Interactive quiz
- ❖ That we can actually borrow the resources
- ❖ Easily adapted for the classroom
- ❖ The story mats
- ❖ Speakers were well prepared, interesting and helpful information was provided
- ❖ Lots of practical hints, tips and advice

What could be improved upon?

- ❖ Would have liked more time
- ❖ Make it more interactive, e.g. students can participate in activities
- ❖ Nothing – was well presented and organised
- ❖ Some lesson plans
- ❖ Maybe notes on what to include in the story mats
- ❖ Include group work

Did you find the speakers useful/ interesting?

- ❖ Yes very enthusiastic and passionate about their subject
- ❖ They gave a lot of useful and interesting information in a short time
- ❖ Both very interesting to listen to and both very pleasant, and willing to answer questions
- ❖ Got a lot of good tips to use on teaching practice

What would you like future training sessions to include?

- ❖ Tea/coffee break
- ❖ More activities to participate in
- ❖ More ideas for lesson plans
- ❖ Information on the Eco-Schools project
- ❖ Longer workshops – felt it was rushed
- ❖ Rainforest materials
- ❖ Longer workshops
- ❖ How to bring it all into a scheme of work

Was getting to and from the workshops on time easy/ok/difficult?

- ❖ No problems was easy

RSPB:

Overall feedback from 75 students.

The students liked the migration tern game, many commenting that they didn't really fully understand migration themselves. The story mats were well received particularly taking it through the seasons, a really simple idea but had a huge impact, children in the classroom would love it. It was also useful to find out that RSPB will lend out resources to use in classrooms.

Overall score: 4

Belfast City Council Waste Division

Overall feedback from 75 students.

The students loved the interactive quiz, everyone had to stay alert and get involved. Lots of information on recycling and how to link the information into the different subject areas and lots of practical ways to engage the children in the class.

Overall score: 4