

ESD Day at Queen's University Belfast

12 October 2012

Feedback Summary

Workshops provided by: Developing Media, Eco Schools, Red Cross, RSPB

Overall: - The feedback for the day was very encouraging. Many students commented on how the leaders drew attention to issues that they weren't previously aware of. Some of the students said it was a much more interesting day than they expected. One big noticeable difference, students are now clearly seeing the link between ESD and the classroom. Many students asked that their thanks be passed on to the workshop leaders for giving up their time to do the workshops. No doubt from going through the evaluation forms it was a very successful day. Well done to all!

What did you learn from the day?

- ❖ About people with disabilities their suffering and acceptance into society
- ❖ How to incorporate disability into the classroom
- ❖ Exciting ways to teach children about the environment
- ❖ Different (and politically correct) ways to talks about disabilities
- ❖ The knock on effect of deforestation
- ❖ Some very shocking statistics about the % of the earth's surface that is covered in rainforest and how quickly it is being destroyed
- ❖ How global issues affect us on a local scale
- ❖ Ideas for data collection
- ❖ How to involve humanitarian issues into environmental projects
- ❖ Good ideas for incorporating what was learnt into teaching in placement and in schools
- ❖ Range of organisations willing to help with ESD
- ❖ Links to the curriculum
- ❖ RSPB was more than just birds
- ❖ The work of the Red Cross
- ❖ Didn't know organisations would come into schools
- ❖ Didn't really so many schools were actually Eco-Schools already

What were the good points of the day?

- ❖ The videos put into context what was being talked about
- ❖ Doing and designing the court yard
- ❖ Informative and fun
- ❖ Good to hear from different organisations that would normally never get the chance to talk to
- ❖ Leaders all worked hard to make ESD relevant, all very enthusiastic
- ❖ Eco garden and protest cards
- ❖ Made you think about issues across the world and how we can help
- ❖ Knowing that these resources are available and can be incorporated into our lessons
- ❖ Writing and performing a rap
- ❖ The disability seminar, very interactive and though provoking
- ❖ Given relevant ideas about applying social/environmental issues to the curriculum/classroom
- ❖ Enjoyed the Eco-schools litter exercise
- ❖ Enjoyed the Red Cross set up 'camp' activity
- ❖ Raised environmental awareness to waste etc.
- ❖ Everything, speakers were good, workshops were useful and thoroughly enjoyable

What could be improved upon?

- ❖ More subject related
- ❖ More time for practical planning
- ❖ More interactive work
- ❖ Opportunity to attend all workshops
- ❖ Maybe have scenarios set up, and discuss and explain what you would do
- ❖ Being able to choose which workshops you could attend rather than be allocated
- ❖ 2 hours was too long for each workshop, maybe a break in between
- ❖ Less lecturing, more discussion
- ❖ Rooms too cramped and got too warm

- ❖ Not a Friday
- ❖ More resources to take into school
- ❖ Better communication beforehand, more detail about what the sessions will involve
- ❖ A chance to attend all the workshops

Did you find the speakers useful / interesting?

- ❖ Yes, they looked at local and global
- ❖ Were very helpful and willing to answer questions
- ❖ Speakers were very knowledgeable, informative, enthusiastic and passionate about their own work areas
- ❖ Was really great how the speakers were able to connect the sessions to the curriculum

What would you like future training sessions to include?

- ❖ Other 'green' issues
- ❖ How to approach more difficult issues with younger pupils
- ❖ More information on how consumers can aid the fight against deforestation
- ❖ Include more drama and more interaction
- ❖ Actual ideas for lessons which could be carried out
- ❖ More take home material
- ❖ Lunch
- ❖ Workshop from a council
- ❖ Shorter workshops and be able to attend them all

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

- ❖ Lanyon room hard to find
- ❖ Would be better in one building – less moving around
- ❖ Room 116 too small and became too warm

Development Media

Overall feedback from 54 students

The students really enjoyed the DVD's; it was interesting to learn about real life stories, it really made you think how lucky we are and to consider the needs of others. The workshop really challenged the perception of disability and how to deal with it. The lesson plans and resources were great. Thought provoking well received workshop.

Overall score 4

Eco-Schools

Overall feedback from 51 students

The students enjoyed the litter walk and how the results could be incorporated into maths and English so easily. Also the litter survey could be used to talk about environmental issues and the damage we are doing by dropping litter. Some of the students would really love to be involved with a school that already is an Eco-School but if the school they were in wasn't they would encourage them to become an Eco-School. Overall students felt they had plenty of ideas that would be easily transferred into the classroom, well done Julia.

Overall score 4

Red Cross

Overall feedback from 52 students

The students commented on learning the different methodologies to get pupils involved with building and designing camps. This workshop really got the students thinking about worldwide disasters and how to deal with the aftermath. This workshop really included some great lesson ideas which would be easily adapted to the various subject areas, overall the students thoroughly enjoyed the workshop.

Overall Score 4

RSPB

Overall feedback from 58 students

The students really enjoyed the 'rap' and it would be a great activity to use in the classroom to encourage the children to think about an eco-garden. They also enjoyed the debating exercise after the forest DVD; it was really challenging to think about all the stakeholders involved and also thought provoking about the impact of deforestation. Many of the students had no idea about the extent of damage being done to rainforests. Another well received workshop.

Overall Score 4