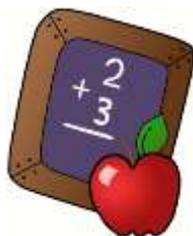




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EDUCATION FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT FORUM E-BULLETIN

In This Issue

News from the ESD Forum

1. ESD Forum Update

Environmental Education News

1. Spring Themed Outdoor Workshops
2. 'The River' – CatchmentCare's Online Education Programme
3. Blackwater Community Projects Update
4. Dreamachine Schools NI Briefing Pack
5. Poots Officially Launches School Pollinator Garden Scheme
6. Help Celebrate 25 Years Of European Heritage Open Days
7. Adventures At Share Discovery Village
8. Speak Up For Nature, Sign RSPB's E-Action!
9. Big Spring Clean
10. Update from Wee Critters
11. Growing for the Future
12. Adopt a Spot

Resources

1. Ulster Wildlife Resources
2. RSPB Resources
3. Magilligan Field Centre Resources
4. Eco-Schools Resources

Training & Events

1. Various Events

Funding

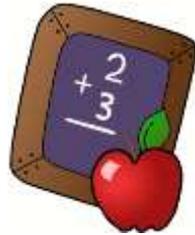
1. Big Lottery Awards for All Northern Ireland
2. Together for our Planet Fund

Opportunities

Some Opportunities Listed



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INTRODUCTION

Welcome to the latest **E-Bulletin** from the **Education for Sustainable Development Forum** that provides information on activities in the environmental education and education for sustainable development sectors in Northern Ireland. Below you will find a variety of useful information, including ESD Forum and member's news, resources, training events and seminars, publications, funding opportunities, and any job vacancies in the sector.

The Forum is the networking body for the Environmental Education and Education for Sustainable Development sector that promotes a coordinated approach to the delivery of environmental education and education for sustainable development in Northern Ireland. Forum Membership consists of organisations from the public, private and voluntary sectors.

The Forum attempts to raise awareness of environmental education and education for sustainable development issues in the formal and non-formal education sectors through the provision of services such as the production of resources, initial and in service teacher training, member meetings and training and organising member and public conferences.

Iona Meyer
ESD Forum Administrator

NEWS FROM THE ESD FORUM

1. ESD FORUM UPDATE

We now have a new website <https://www.esdforum.org.uk/> it has just recently gone live and I will be updating it over the next few weeks. If you have anything you want published on the site, please send it through to me.

Northern Ireland Environment Link have been working with Consultants to develop a New Strategy and Action Plan for Education for Sustainability the Strategy focuses on formal education and includes consideration of how environmental learning programmes support formal learning at all levels. Links to the Strategy and Action Plan are below.

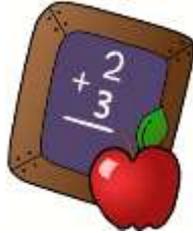
[**A New Strategy and Action Plan for Education for Sustainability \(Efs\) - Full Report**](#)

[**A New Strategy and Action Plan for Education for Sustainability \(Efs\) - Infographic**](#)

If you need to contact me please use my email iona@nienvironmentlink.org and I will get back to you as I am currently working from home. If you have any information you would like promoted through the E-bulletin please send it to me by the end of the month, and if you want anything (news, upcoming events, etc.) promoted on the website do feel free to contact me. It is a good opportunity to get your information out to a wide audience at no charge to you or your organisation.



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ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION NEWS

1. SPRING THEMED OUTDOOR WORKSHOPS



**Spring themed outdoor classrooms/
bubbles**

Foundation, KS1, & KS2 Teachers, book a socially distanced workshop to explore nature in your school grounds or a wild place near you.
£3.50 per child + travel
Bookings & enquiries, e-mail: liz.farnan@yahoo.co.uk
or Tel: 07807172893 or 028 30851595

Liz Farnan, Environmental Educator can deliver spring themed workshops to Foundation, KS1 and KS2 pupils to support 'outdoor classrooms' or 'bubbles' in your school grounds or a wild place near you. Themes can include Gruffalo Trails 'Minibeasts', 'Pond dipping', 'Bird Murder Mystery', 'Teddy Bears Picnics', exploring woodlands etc.

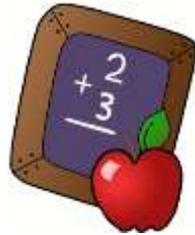
All workshops have been tried and tested and are risk assessed to include Covid-19 control measures.

To book, for more details on price, content and curriculum links or to discuss social distancing guidelines please contact liz.farnan@yahoo.co.uk or Tel. 028 3085 1595.

Find on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/Liz-Farnan-Environmental-Educator-1674793462617924>



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2. 'THE RIVER' – CATCHMENTCARE'S ONLINE EDUCATION PROGRAMME

In the previous issue of this E-Bulletin, we reported on how CatchmentCARE's education programme had gone online due to the educators not being able to access local schools or facilitate out of classroom visits due to the C19 Pandemic.

In response to this, we developed Series 1 of "*The River*" which allowed young people to still learn about and understand their local rivers during this time. After the great response from by local teachers, principals and pupils across the country, we have been out and about again and have created a brand new series of "*The River*". **Yes! We're back for series 2.**



Series 2 contains lots of new features, great interviews, and activities based on our local rivers and is a **continuation of the learning** from series 1 but we hope, a whole lot more fun. It also includes information for you to contact the individuals and organisations featured in each episode so that, in the future, you could use them and their educational resources at your school.

There are five episodes in the first series, each accompanied by a teacher's pack and teacher notes. The programmes are linked to the NI curriculum at KS2 (P5 – P7) and the ROI curriculum (Classes 3, 4 and 5). The five episodes are as follows are available on the CatchmentCARE you tube channel -

Episode one: "**Tangled**". Alyn and Stephen explore the river ecosystem and habitats, they discuss species adaptation and encourage birds to the garden to survey. <https://youtu.be/RPcCx4WOOqY>

Episode two: "**Wer RU**". Stephen and Alyn discuss how to use plans, maps and GIS to find our way around. <https://youtu.be/nIN0UdfES20>

Episode three: "**EIEIO**". Stephen and Alyn are down on the farm and see how eutrophication affects our rivers and lakes. <https://youtu.be/z34Fbq2qDWo>



Episode four: "School of Rocks". Alyn and Stephen explore the connection between rocks and rivers. <https://youtu.be/JgJS6BTuD8A>

Episode five: "Little Fishy". In this, the concluding episode of "The River", Alyn and Stephen switch their focus to freshwater biodiversity and explore the difference between freshwater and saltwater.

Interviews with the Loughs Agency and Inland Fisheries Ireland help provide valuable insight into fish species and local river biology. <https://youtu.be/JODMLdDu1KA>

3. BLACKWATER COMMUNITY PROJECTS UPDATE

The community incentive scheme (CIS) has been one of the success stories of the CatchmentCARE project. In the Blackwater Catchment alone 23 successful community projects have been supported and delivered over two phases of the scheme. In Phase 2 of the scheme, 12 projects were funded which included access works, community river trails, funding for volunteer training and supply of specialised equipment, bio-blitz events, citizen science projects and interpretation and signage.

Bioblitz Events build a picture of river wildlife

In Phase 2 of the CIS, six local community groups were interested in running Bioblitz type events to help upskill their members and local community as to the Biodiversity of their local river / watercourse.

What is a Bioblitz?

A bioblitz is a biological surveying method in an attempt to record all the living species within a designated area. Groups of scientists, naturalists and volunteers conduct an intensive field study over a continuous time period - this mixture of wildlife experts and the wider public is key to the BioBlitz concept.



It is an informal and fun way to create a snapshot of the variety of life that can be found in an area and provides an opportunity for participants to learn together and share their expertise and enthusiasm for nature. This is a great way of breaking down barriers to engagement with science and raising awareness of the role of biological recording. It also gives the public an opportunity to contribute to a genuine scientific survey.

In 2021, local environmental expert Karl Hamilton ran these events for the **Blackwater Community Barge, Emyvale Tidy Towns, Eskra Community Association, Mongahan Tidy Towns, Torrent River Enhancement Association and Castlecaulfield Horticultural Society.**



4. DREAMACHINE SCHOOLS NI BRIEFING PACK

W5 are supporting a UK-wide rollout of a very exciting new experience. It is a free set of STEAM resources and CPD/TPL for teachers that are linked to the Dreamachine experience that goes live for the public from 25th July in Carlisle Memorial Church (<https://dreamachine.world/>).

Dreamachine Schools is a UK-wide programme inviting children (ages 5-13) across the country to explore the extraordinary power of the human mind.

Part of UNBOXED: Creativity in the UK and developed by A New Direction in partnership with British Science Association and Unicef UK, explore 30 FREE accredited learning resources supporting creativity and STEAM learning in the classroom, CPD experiences for teachers on wellbeing and mental health, and opportunities to connect with schools across UK. Learn more and explore the free resources at schools.dreamachine.world/

5. POOTS OFFICIALLY LAUNCHES SCHOOL POLLINATOR GARDEN SCHEME

Minister for Agriculture Environment and Rural Affairs, Edwin Poots MLA has officially announced the opening of the School Pollinator Garden Scheme during a visit to Donemana primary school to open their new eco outdoor school classroom and pollinator garden.

The Minister said: **“I was pleased to visit Donemana Primary School to see a great example of what a small grant and a community effort can create in a rural area. This classroom and pollinator garden is a fantastic asset to add to the school and community alike and I’m sure once the weather improves the school will make great use of it along with the garden to educate or young pollinator champions.”**



The Minister was encouraged by the number of schools that applied to the Rural Community Pollinator Garden Scheme that he asked officials to explore setting up a specific scheme for schools.

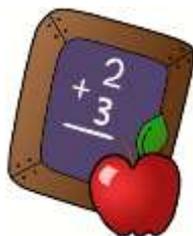
The Minister continued: **“I was struck by the number of schools who applied to the community pollinator scheme and requested my officials to explore a specific scheme for all schools in Northern Ireland, urban and rural. Therefore it is with great pleasure that I can announce the opening for applications of a school pollinator garden scheme on the 4th April 2022 and closing on the 3rd May 2022.**

“The scheme will be delivered on the ground by Keep Northern Ireland Beautiful and will offer grants of between £3,000 and £12,000 to successful applicants.”

Dr Ian Humphreys from KNIB said: “This scheme provided by the Department for Agriculture Environment and Rural Affairs will provide much needed help for the recovery of our important yet fragile insect populations. Additionally, the time spent outdoors, planting pollinator plants means young people will connect with and value nature now and into the future. I encourage every eligible school to apply.”



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6. HELP CELEBRATE 25 YEARS OF EUROPEAN HERITAGE OPEN DAYS

This year marks the 25th year of European Heritage Open Days (EHOD) in Northern Ireland. It's an annual celebration of local architecture, history and culture.

It's when hundreds of properties and locations open their doors and organise free events for the public each September.

- EHOD provides a unique opportunity for the public to see 'behind closed doors' at a variety of historic places, many of which are not normally open to the public.
- It's when the public can enjoy talks, tours, exhibitions, workshops, walks, traditional skills demonstrations.
- It's also a celebration of Northern Ireland's history and culture through art, literature, song, dance, drama, film, food and crafts.

Getting involved

Would you like to take part by putting on an event or by opening a historic property/building of interest to the public? Or are you interested in hosting an online event or contributing digital content? If so, you'll need to [register](#) by 2nd May.

- The physical events are on 10th & 11th September whilst the digital offerings run from 5th to 11th September.

[Help to promote your offer for FREE](#)

[EHOD](#) is co-ordinated by Department for Communities - Historic Environment Division. They'll help you promote your offer to the public for FREE on LoveHeritageNI social media channels, Dept. for Communities website, Discover NI website and in an e-brochure. There's also help to manage bookings if needed and you'll be given promotional material, all FREE.

The only requirement is that your place, space or story is provided free of charge to the public for EHOD and it has heritage at its core.

If you're interested, find out more on the [Communities NI website](#) or contact the EHOD team by email: ehod@communities-ni.gov.uk

You can also keep up to date on all things EHOD and the 2021 plans via social media:

- Facebook: @LoveHeritageNI
- Twitter: @loveheritageni
- Instagram: @love

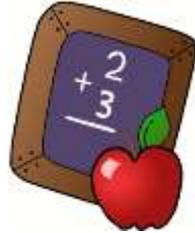
EUROPEAN
HERITAGE
OPEN DAYS
2022
SEPTEMBER 10 & 11



Register now to take part



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7. ADVENTURES AT SHARE DISCOVERY VILLAGE

Share Discovery Village have an endless array of adventures to get involved in. Whether it is a weekend away or a group visit, the possibilities are endless. Share Discovery Village is situated on the shores of Upper Lough Erne outside Lisnaskea in Co. Fermanagh, just over an hour from Belfast and only two hours from Dublin.

To find out more go to <https://www.sharevillage.org/>

8. SPEAK UP FOR NATURE, SIGN RSPB'S E-ACTION!

Over 300 people have so far contacted their local Northern Ireland Assembly candidates, sending over 2000 individual emails, sharing [RSPB NI's Manifesto for Nature](#)! By taking part they are showing that they want their vote to count for nature and climate this election. Have your say and take part in RSPB's super quick e-action today!

<http://bit.ly/RSPBNIManifestoActionT>



Image via RSPB

9. BIG SPRING CLEAN

The **BIG Spring Clean** is Northern Ireland's biggest volunteer clean up and each year we need your help to make it happen!

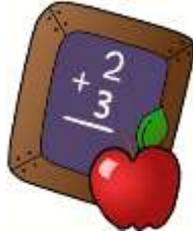


The BIG Spring Clean, taking place each year between **1st March and 31st May**, is Northern Ireland's largest community clean-up campaign. Since its inception, **553,571 volunteers** have participated in clean-up activities during the Spring months, removing over 800 tonnes of waste!

It is open to individuals, schools, community groups and businesses from all communities wishing to rid their streets of litter and discarded rubbish.



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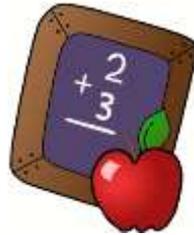
You can help in any one of **THREE** ways:

1. [Add your signature](#) to show your support and keep updated through our monthly newsletter
2. [Take part in a clean-up](#)—check out what's on near you.
3. [Organise your own cleanup](#) and receive a free kit - this includes a high visibility vest, a pair of gloves and bin bags. Your local council may also be able to provide litter pickers and additional equipment (for details check out our [Council Contacts](#) page). Please ensure you have [read the hints and tips booklet](#) before organising your clean up.

For more information go to [Here](#)



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10 UPDATE FROM WEE CRITTERS



WEE CRITTERS IS A FULLY MOBILE AND PROFESSIONAL INTERACTIVE ANIMAL EDUCATION SERVICE WHICH OPERATES THROUGHOUT NORTHERN IRELAND.



WE UNFORTUNATELY LIVE IN A WORLD WHERE MANY SPECIES OF BOTH ANIMALS AND PLANTS ARE ON THE BRINK OF EXTINCTION. DEVELOPING AN APPRECIATION OF WILDLIFE IN OUR CHILDREN IS A FUNDAMENTAL ELEMENT IN SAFEGUARDING THE SAFETY AND FUTURE OF OUR WILDLIFE AND ENVIRONMENT.

Our mission is to bring the wonder of wildlife straight to your school with the aim of providing a unique, fun, memorable and educational experience which will inspire a lifelong appreciation for wildlife and a commitment to playing an active role in the protection and conservation of animals and the natural environment.

SCHOOL PROGRAMMES

LET OUR INTREPID EXPLORER TAKE YOUR CLASS ON AN INTERACTIVE ADVENTURE. ALONG WITH HIS TEAM OF 'WEE CRITTERS', ALLAN, WILL BRING THE NATURAL WORLD STRAIGHT TO YOUR CLASSROOM.

With curriculum-based topics to suit all age groups, our sessions will give you the chance to meet some of our specially selected animal ambassadors and will support work being carried out in your class.

ALL OF OUR SESSIONS ARE COVERED BY A FULL RISK ASSESSMENT AND COMPREHENSIVE PUBLIC LIABILITY INSURANCE. CHECK LISTENING, WITH INSET AND ALL AVAILABLE WORKSHOPS, PLEASE SEE OUR WEBSITE



WE ARE PROUD MEMBERS OF...



DOWNLOAD OUR SCHOOL BOOKLET

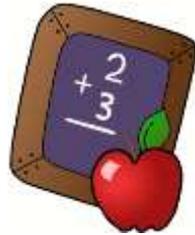


WEE CRITTERS IS FULLY LICENSED BY DAERA.





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APRIL 2022



CELEBRATING SCIENCE

WITH THE NI SCIENCE FESTIVAL AND ARMAGH ROBINSON LIBRARY!

WE WERE DELIGHTED TO TAKE PART IN THE 2022 NORTHERN IRELAND SCIENCE FESTIVAL PROGRAMME!

Our 'Amazing Animals' sessions allowed classes from across Northern Ireland to take part in online and in-person interactive animal education sessions to investigate some of the animals that are depicted in the Armagh Robinson Library collections and to learn more about nature and biodiversity. After hearing the story of 'The Lion and the Mouse' we introduced and discussed some of our wee critters and discussed the 'wee ways we can all change the world'!

Thank you to the participating schools, the NI Science Festival, the Armagh Robinson Library and the Northern Ireland Museums Council and Art Fund whose 'Museums Connect' funding made the sessions possible.



A WILD TIME AWAITS YOUR CLASS...

THERE'S STILL TIME TO BOOK YOUR CURRICULUM-BASED INTERACTIVE ANIMAL EDUCATION SESSION!

<p>WORLD AROUND US EXPLORE THE WORLD AROUND US AND THE WILDLIFE THAT CALLS IT HOME! Learn about the world around us and the wildlife that calls it home. We'll explore the world around us and the wildlife that calls it home.</p> 	<p>JUNGLE VIPs MEET THE GREAT PEOPLE AND THE LEAF LITTER LOVERS OF THE JUNGLE! Learn all about the amazing animals that live in the jungle. We'll explore the world around us and the wildlife that calls it home.</p> 	<p>GOOGLE OF LIFE WE'LL HELP YOU TO USE YOUR CLASS'S MONEY AND TAKE HOME SOME SPROGLET! Learn about the world around us and the wildlife that calls it home. We'll explore the world around us and the wildlife that calls it home.</p> 	<p>HOME SWEET HOME TAKE A TRIP AROUND THE WORLD TO MEET THE ANIMALS THAT CALL FORESTS, MOUNTAINS, AND SEASIDES HOME! Learn about different habitats. These animals are adapted to these environments. We'll explore the world around us and the wildlife that calls it home.</p> 
<p>WEE BEASTIES LET YOUR LITTLE ONES MEET OUR LITTLEST CREATURES! Learn about the world around us and the wildlife that calls it home. We'll explore the world around us and the wildlife that calls it home.</p> 	<p>WE ARE FAMILY I'M THE GRANDPARENT OF ONE OF YOU AND YOU'VE GOT ANOTHER GRANDPARENT! Learn about the world around us and the wildlife that calls it home. We'll explore the world around us and the wildlife that calls it home.</p> 	<p>WINTER IS COMING FIND OUT HOW ANIMALS ARE ADAPTED TO LIVE IN DIFFERENT CLIMATES AND SEASONS! Learn about the world around us and the wildlife that calls it home. We'll explore the world around us and the wildlife that calls it home.</p> 	<p>WHAT'S ON THE MENU? WE'LL HELP YOU TO USE YOUR CLASS'S MONEY AND TAKE HOME SOME SPROGLET! Learn about the world around us and the wildlife that calls it home. We'll explore the world around us and the wildlife that calls it home.</p> 
<p>EDGE OF EXTINCTION FROM DINOSAURS TO BIRD SPECIES THROUGHOUT HISTORY HAVE WE COME TO EXTINCTION? Learn about the world around us and the wildlife that calls it home. We'll explore the world around us and the wildlife that calls it home.</p> 	<p>AFRICA ALIVE LET US TAKE YOU TO AFRICA WITHOUT EVER LEAVING YOUR CLASSROOM! Learn about the world around us and the wildlife that calls it home. We'll explore the world around us and the wildlife that calls it home.</p> 	<p>WINTER WARRIORS: BIRD SPECIES WE'LL HELP YOU TO USE YOUR CLASS'S MONEY AND TAKE HOME SOME SPROGLET! Learn about the world around us and the wildlife that calls it home. We'll explore the world around us and the wildlife that calls it home.</p> 	<p>CUSTOM TOPICS WE CAN CREATE CUSTOM SESSIONS TO SUIT YOUR CLASS'S INTERESTS! Learn about the world around us and the wildlife that calls it home. We'll explore the world around us and the wildlife that calls it home.</p> 
<p>MIDNIGHT MAYHEM LET OUR WEE CRITTERS INTRODUCE YOUR CLASS TO THE THINGS THAT GO BUMP IN THE NIGHT! Learn about the world around us and the wildlife that calls it home. We'll explore the world around us and the wildlife that calls it home.</p> 	<p>SHAKE, RATTLE AND ROLL IN A BALL WHETHER THEY'VE GOT A SPINE, A SHEEP OR FUR AND THE MAMMALS, ANIMALS HAVE GREAT WAYS TO PROTECT THEMSELVES! Learn about the world around us and the wildlife that calls it home. We'll explore the world around us and the wildlife that calls it home.</p> 	<p>LOVE YOUR LOCALS ANIMALS ON OUR OWN DOORSTEP ARE IN DANGER! Learn about the world around us and the wildlife that calls it home. We'll explore the world around us and the wildlife that calls it home.</p> 	<p>I WOULD LOVE TO MOVE! WHETHER THEY'VE GOT A SPINE, A SHEEP OR FUR, OUR CRITTERS CAN HELP YOUR PUPILS HAVE A BALL! Learn about the world around us and the wildlife that calls it home. We'll explore the world around us and the wildlife that calls it home.</p> 

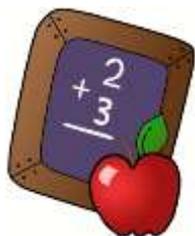


FIND OUT MORE AT
WWW.WEECRITTERS.ORG/SCHOOLS

MEET SPROUT AND SPROGLET!
As you may remember, from the last newsletter, we introduced Holly the long-eared hedgehog's 'tiny but spiny' new arrivals (born on Christmas Day). The pair are doing really well and have now been named Sprout and Sproglet.



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11. GROWING FOR THE FUTURE - APRIL

Visit the Growing for the Future resource on www.ccea.org.uk/growing and get ideas to manage your garden. April should bring some better weather and see the last of the frosts. At last you can really get going with planting and sowing. This is the month to get on with the planting follow the link above to get all the details of what to plant in April.

CCEA has developed a web resource, in partnership with Tourism NI, to encourage children to grow fruit and vegetables, explore where food comes from and to promote healthy eating.

Teachers can access curriculum-linked resource sheets for Key Stages 1 and 2 divided into the calendar year, with monthly overviews and guidance to growing the fruits and vegetables that are in season. These resources can support many of the Ten Topics of the Eco-Schools Green Flag journey, such as Biodiversity, Energy and Healthy Living.

Let us know how you get on with any of these activities by sharing on CCEA's social media or email Melanie Mulligan, Education Manager on mmulligan@ccea.org.uk.

12. ADOPT A SPOT

Adopt A Spot can help!

With thanks to DAERA we have 500 FREE Adopt A Spot kits to help individuals and communities make a difference in their local areas.

The Adopt A Spot programme has grown to include four types of kits to help create cleaner, greener outdoor spaces. You can apply for one of four free kits:

Food for Thought - A starter food growing kit to help you grow food at home or in a community setting. Enjoy fresh organic vegetables and reduce the miles your food travels from field to plate. The kit contains pots, peat free compost, seeds, watering can, gloves and hand tools.

Wildlife (rewilding) - Increase habitats in small spaces. Kit contains a build it yourself timber bird box, bat box and bug box and some native Irish wildflower seed.

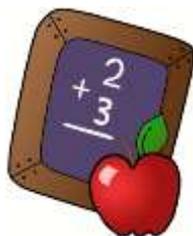
Coastal Health - Help tackle the tide of marine litter on our beautiful beaches. Kit contains litter pickers, handy hoops (to hold bags open), bags, gloves and sieves for monitoring micro plastics. beaches.

Litter picking - A handy kit for picking litter as you enjoy a walk in your favourite spot. Kit contains litter pickers, gloves, first aid kit, sharps box, bags and bucket.

APRIL 2022



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Apply to Adopt A Spot through the The Live Here Love Here OApp. Download on the play and app stores for iOS and Android devices by searching Live Here Love Here.

You can also access it online by going to <https://livehereandlovehere.app> or by clicking the button below.

[Apply to Adopt A Spot here](#)

PLEASE NOTE you will need to create a new profile on the App, even if you have an existing Live Here Love Here Profile.

What's happens Next?

When you register for Adopt A Spot, we will approve your application. We'll then be in touch for you to book an appointment to collect the equipment from a local collection point. This can take up to a month, depending on demand and where your local collection point is.

Collection points will include:

Belfast, Bangor, Comber, Armagh, Newry, Dungannon, Fintona, Enniskillen, Omagh, Derry/Londonderry, Magherafelt, Antrim, Coleraine, Ballymena, Larne.

NEW IN NOVEMBER - AMBASSADOR PROGRAMME.

Can you help make an impact in your local area by helping others to take action? The Adopt A Spot Ambassador Scheme is recruiting 10 individuals who want to step-up to make a difference. We are looking for volunteers who are passionate about reducing their impact on the planet and are enthusiastic about encouraging others to make a difference too.

The scheme provides training and resources to give the confidence and skills to represent Live Here Love Here at events and to equip you lead your own events.

The offer:

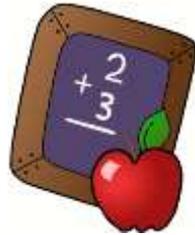
- Become part of the Live Here Love Here team in a voluntary capacity.
- Represent Live Here Love Here at activities in your local area.
- Host litter picking events during key campaigns.
- Share your enthusiasm for taking action by engaging with local communities, programme partners and the media - if you're brave enough!

How we can help you:

- Training package - online and in person. Health and Safety, Safeguarding, Media, Carbon Literacy, Event Management.OB
- Resources to lead events - litter picking kits, branded clothing and Live Here Love Here promotional resources.
- Volunteer expenses



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- Networking opportunities with like-minded folk.
- Attendance at key Live Here Love Here events.

We are looking for a geographical spread of volunteers across council areas to help our outreach programme reach local communities.

Interested? Contact us at adoptaspot@keepnorthernirelandbeautiful.org for more details and to organise a chat with the team. A volunteer application form and Access NI will need to be completed

More about the Adopt A Spot Scheme

Is there an area near you that could use a bit of TLC? Could you commit to carrying out just four clean ups a year? Then get involved in our Adopt A Spot programme!

Adopt a Spot is a scheme that enables volunteers across Northern Ireland to adopt an area and look after it.

Adopters can be anyone, from families, community or youth groups, schools and sporting associations. Live Here Love Here will provide groups with an adoption pack containing all the equipment you need, including a hints and tips booklet on how to run a successful clean up.

The guys at Mid Ulster Walking Club take their litter pickers out with them on all of their walks across Northern Ireland - mostly the Mourne Mountains! Your spot can be as big or as small as you want it to be, it can even be the street you live on! It could be a mile of beach that always seems to be full of litter, an urban park, your local forest.... anywhere is possible!

The Adopt A Spot programme is funded through DAERA.

RESOURCES

1. ULSTER WILDLIFE RESOURCES

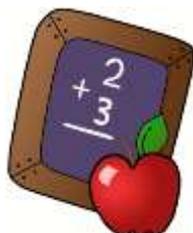
Ulster Wildlife have an excellent range of resources for teachers and students available on their website, to check these out go to the following link. [Here](#)

2. RSPB RESOURCES

RSPB have an excellent range of resources for teachers and students available on their website, to check these out go to the following link. [Here](#)



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3. MAGILLIGAN FIELD CENTRE RESOURCES

Magilligan Field Centre presents a new set of *free* outdoor learning activity resources for primary schools. What better time to plan for a term filled with outdoor learning opportunities, fresh air and adventures in your school grounds!

Follow the link below to find all the details and resource links.

[Here](#)



4. ECO SCHOOLS RESOURCES

Eco-Schools have an excellent range of resources for teachers and students available on their website, to check these out go to the following link: [Here](#)

TRAINING & EVENTS

1. VARIOUS EVENTS

Some organisations are beginning to hold events now; those I know of are listed below. If you have, any events coming up in your own groups let me know and I can publicise them on the website.

www.eefni.org.uk/events/index

Check out Belfast Hills Partnership events on <https://belfasthills.org/events/>

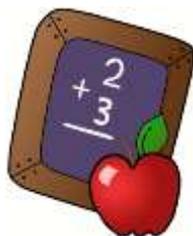
National Trust NI Events which have to be pre booked on <https://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/location/1431734304954/whats-on>

Check out Ulster Wildlife events on <https://www.ulsterwildlife.org/events>

Check out Woodland Trust events on <https://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/visiting-woods/things-to-do/woods-through-the-seasons/spring/>



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FUNDING

1. BIG LOTTERY AWARDS FOR ALL NORTHERN IRELAND

What funding is available?

National Lottery Awards for All Northern Ireland

£300–£10,000

- Projects bringing local people together to make positive changes in their community.
- No deadline, so groups can apply any time.
- Applying is quick and simple.
- Applications welcome from constituted voluntary or community organisations, schools, and statutory bodies.
- If we funded you within the last two years, we may have to give priority to other groups that have not recently been funded through this programme.
- less
- For more information, click on the link below

<https://www.tnlcommunityfund.org.uk/funding/northern-ireland>

2. TOGETHER FOR OUR PLANET FUND

COP26: New community climate action fund – Together for Our Planet – open thanks to National Lottery players (via Community Fund)

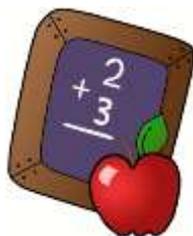


A new £2.5m National Lottery–funded programme to support communities across the UK take action on climate change has opened for applications – ahead of the 26th UN Climate Change Conference (COP26), in Glasgow in November.

Building on interest and excitement for COP26, the 'Together for Our Planet' funding programme is being launched by The National Lottery Community Fund, the largest funder of community activity in the UK. It is offering grants of between £1,000 and £10,000 to support local community projects, covering areas such as food, transport, energy, waste and consumption and the natural environment. It aims to create a legacy of ongoing climate action in hundreds of communities, beyond COP26, supporting the UK to reduce its emissions on its part to Net Zero by 2050.



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The new programme opens as The National Lottery Community Fund launches a new online '[Climate Hub](#)' – a dedicated space to find latest funding news, insights, learnings and stories on climate change and the environment.

Nick Gardner, Head of Climate Action at The National Lottery Community Fund, said: *“COP26 looks set to be a pivotal point in the global response to the climate emergency. Our new funding programme, Together for Our Planet, made possible thanks to National Lottery players, hopes to harness the interest and excitement around this event and support community organisations across the UK to take ongoing action on climate change.”*

“With this programme we are keen to reach those who are not sure how to take climate action or haven't before, helping ensure that climate action moves further into the mainstream, and is accessible and relevant to all communities.”

Together for Our Planet is looking to fund proposals for community-led climate action projects, with applications needing to meet at least two of the following five criteria:

1. It supports the development of longer-term climate action within communities (that is, taking place after the COP26).
2. It encourages communities to plan for the climate emergency – to consider what climate action could mean to them and why it matters.
3. It celebrates the importance of community-led climate action and encourages more people to get involved.
4. It builds resilience in communities that are hardest hit by climate change.
5. It provides jobs, skills or training opportunities for communities, which support climate action.

[Read more via Community Fund...](#)

OPPORTUNITIES

See opportunities listed below

[The Conservation Volunteers Assistant Operations Director](#)

[RSPB NI Charity Fundraiser \(Belfast Area\)](#)

[Northern Ireland Environment Link Operations Manager](#)

Closing 2nd May 2022

Closing 5th May 2022

Closing 9th May 2022

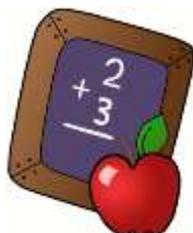
MEMBERSHIP OF ESD FORUM

JOIN US

The Education for Sustainable Development aswForum is the networking body for the sector that promotes a coordinated approach to the delivery of environmental education in Northern Ireland. Forum Membership consists of organisations from the public, private and voluntary sectors. Most members are actively involved in environmental education and bring a wide range of expertise and enthusiasm to the forum. Membership to the ESD Forum is open to all individuals and organisations from the public, private and voluntary sectors.



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Benefits of membership include:

- Access to an established networking and information organization
- One conference per year organised on a range of related environmental education topics
- ESD Days run at all of Northern Ireland's University establishments
- E-mail updates on the Forums activities plus information, publications and events via the E-Bulletin
- Access to ESD Forum website
- Support and publicity for your work
- Sharing of ideas, expertise and experience

	Voluntary Organisation		Statutory Body
Any Organisation, either voluntary or statutory	£48		£48

As part of your subscription, you will have free place at an ESD Forum conference each year. The E-Bulletin goes into many of the schools and is a good way to promote your work. If you would like to promote your events, publications and training through this E-Bulletin please contact.

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