St. Peter's Primary School Eco News No 28 Winter 2016



Animals in Winter

Hibernation is like a very deep sleep. Animals hide away in a den or burrow. Their body temperature and heart rate slow down. This helps them to save their energy. Hibernating animals wake up in spring when the weather is nicer and there is more food around.

Would you like to go somewhere hot for the winter? That's what migrating animals do. When the weather starts to get cold migrating animals fly or swim to a warmer place where they can find food.

Animals that adapt to the cold weather often change their appearance. They grow warmer fur or feathers and sometimes change colour. Some animals change colour to camouflage themselves against the snow. These animals can find food in winter, even though there isn't much food around.

Keira Drewry, Year 6.

Recycling

Recycling is important because it means we can save energy and it stops putting things in holes in the ground. Usually, these can be used again or made into something else. We have to put the right things in the right bin. We can recycle cardboard boxes, paper, bottles, cans, plastic packets and drink cartons.

We can take other things to the dump to be recycled. This is things like light bulbs, batteries, fridges, old furniture and old toys. I like helping to sort out the recycling.

Rozi Stewart-Maunder Year 1.

Allotment News

Last year on our family allotment I grew two pumpkins. One we used at Halloween with a scary face and a candle inside, and the second we made into pumpkin soup. Last year we grew some strawberries and raspberries which were delicious.

We also grew cabbages but we couldn't eat them because a caterpillar family were already eating the cabbage leaves! We had to put the eaten cabbage plants into the compost bin once the caterpillars had turned into butterflies

We make compost out of banana skins and vegetable peels, satsuma peels and apple cores. When the compost is ready we spread it on our allotment to help our vegetables grow big.

A tractor comes with a big trailer which tips horse manure on allotments on request. This helps the vegetables grow well. We like compost better because horse manure is too smelly!

Sam O'Sullivan, Year 1.

Saving Hedgehogs

Hedgehogs like to hide in leaves and compost, and their homes can get destroyed so can you please help us to save some hedgehogs?

You can make a house for hedgehogs by building a rectangular box and putting inside some old grass and leaves as a bed, as well as a blanket. You can put some branches over the top to keep all it warm and dry. You can also make a hedgehog house from a pile of leaves and sticks, with compost spread around it.



Look for any animals before you light a bonfire because there may be some hedgehogs, or other animals, nearby or inside it hiding from the cold.

If you see a hedgehog please do not harm or hurt it, because there are not many hedgehogs left and we want to keep them for a long time to come. In the UK Hedgehog numbers have been reduced from 30 million to 2 million. Be nice to hedgehogs and please make some homes for them to help keep them alive. Thank you.

Libby Nesom, Year 2

Get Creative with Wellies

Instead of throwing away your old welly boots, transform them into Funky plant pots.

1. Give your boots a wash inside and out, then ask a grown-up to carefully make some holes in the bottom of them.

2. Put a couple of handfuls of stones inside your wellies. These will weigh your boots down so that they don't topple over and will help with drainage.

3. Fill your boots with peat-free compost to just below the top. Now add your plants and fill any gaps with extra compost. Some wildlife-friendly plants you might like to try include Lavender, Thyme and Alyssum.



4. Finish by giving the plants a good drink of water, and there you have it - a funky welly plant pot.

Ciaran Donohue, Year 6

2016 Fairtrade Fortnight will be 29 Feb-13 March.