

Quality Habitat - instructions

Purpose

This document sets out the structure and reasoning behind the Quality Habitat image activity. This activity asks the children to assess their own school grounds for quality for wildlife.

Equipment required – Clipboards, pencils, worksheets (5, split children into manageable groups)

Structure – discuss worksheet

At the top of the worksheet there are 4 animals, a pine marten, grey squirrel, red fox and rabbit. These are animals which can be seen in Cumbernauld. The worksheet then contains a table which is split into 3 columns for Habitat feature, Good and Bad.

Habitat feature:

This column gives a list of features which may be found within the ground of the school, the list is not exhaustive, and an empty box is at the bottom for the children to add their own ideas too

Good:

Remind the children that they are looking for features which are GOOD for WILDLIFE and not for people, the classic is finding “Jaggies” (nettles) and that they are not good in schools where as a small patch of these plants would actually be great for butterflies and other insects. Add a tick into the corresponding box. ONLY ONE TICK IS NECESSARY PER BOX.

Bad:

Again reinforce that the activity is to examine how the school grounds are bad for WILDLIFE, simply add a single cross into the corresponding box. ONLY ONE CROSS IS NECESSARY PER BOX.

Discussion

Where there any features which were good and bad for wildlife? – discuss.

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Tally up the count?

Add up all the ticks in the boxes for good and the crosses for bad and see how the school grounds are for wildlife.

Key points to look out for:

- Grass can be good and bad – discuss predator prey scenarios
- Drains can host loads of insects but can be bad for mice and frogs/toads if they cannot get back out
- **End**

Collect worksheets and thank participants. Move onto next activity Animal Estate Agents

Partners



Funders

