

Partnership Newsletter

No. 7 Winter 2011



High Weald Hero Actions *Find Out About *Explore *Take Care of *Be Proud of *Enjoy

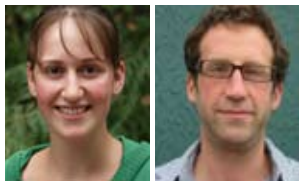
Happy new year! Welcome to another High Weald Hero Partnership newsletter. We hope that term has started well for you all. Autumn was very busy for the High Weald Heroes project with lots of you taking part in our drama workshops, sustainable energy events, historical assemblies, Welly Walks and outdoor learning opportunities.

It has been great working with so many enthusiastic pupils and teachers. For a pictorial flavour of what we've been up to - check out page 2 of this newsletter!

We would also like to welcome...

- Northiam CEP School
- The Meads School
- St Mark's School, Hadlow Down and
- Beckley CE School to the partnership.

For any ideas, advice or information on how to use the local landscape as a teaching tool, do get in touch with either Laura or Saul (contact details at end of this newsletter.)



Energy Resources for Hire

The following resources are available for FREE hire to schools - contact us to find out more.

Renewable Energy Kit

Model wind turbine, water turbine and solar panel demonstrating how renewable energy can be transformed into light, sound and movement. Suitable for Key Stages 1 and 2



Windy Day Decorations

Why not brighten up your outdoor area with flags, spinners and colourful wind catchers? Or use it to help children find the windiest part of the playground!

Solar Car Kits

Great fun to build and race - see how solar energy can be transformed into making these model cars move.

If you're planning a sustainable energy topic or thinking about renewables as a school, why not download our High Weald Energy lesson plan?



To see a full list of resources available check out www.highweald.org/learn/education/education-resources.html

MP Supports Energy Day

Constructing windmills, generating electricity through pedal power and learning about the journey of a wood chip were just some of the activities undertaken by children from four High Weald Hero schools as part of exploring local sustainable energy sources.

Almost 100 children from Sussex primary schools - Danehill, Nutley, Buxted and St Michael's Withyham - enthusiastically engaged in a free day of energy-themed activities at Ashdown Forest on 21 October 2010. The children learnt about many different types of energy and how they can be sourced from their unique local environment - the High Weald. They explored past energy sources such as fire-making techniques, present uses such as woodfuel and looked at future options such as solar thermal.



Greg Barker, Minister of State for Climate Change and Patron of the High Weald Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, stated his support for the event, "Events like the Ashdown Forest Energy Day are excellent opportunities for children to experience a more powerful learning experience; out of the classroom; engaging with their local landscape. If we are to create a vibrant,

sustainable rural economy in the High Weald AONB, it is vital the next generation grows up knowing that they have choices in how to produce and conserve their energy and that those choices may be driven by, and could sustain, the skills and resources specific to their local community."

Numerous teaching resources have been developed for primary school teachers about energy and its link to the High Weald landscape. Download at: www.highweald.org/learn/education/education-resources.html

The day was organised as part of the High Weald Heroes primary school education programme with help from The Skinners' School, Ashdown Forest Conservators, ESCC Rethink Rubbish Bus, ESAMP and the Sussex Wildlife Trust.

Another Energy Day is being planned for the Summer Term - if you are interested in attending, contact Laura.



This project was funded by the Weald Forest Ridge Landscape Partnership Scheme with support from the Heritage Lottery Fund and the High Weald Joint Advisory Committee's Sustainable Development Fund.

I-Spy a Hero

Seeing as so many of you were busy doing fantastic High Weald Hero actions last term we thought we'd share some picture highlights.

Get in touch with us if you'd like to find out more about how you can get involved in any of the free or subsidised opportunities featured below.



High Weald Drama Workshops



Learning Outside the Classroom



Welly Walks



Sustainable Energy Day



Meadow Plays



Map Workshops



Themed Assemblies



Staff Training



New Recruits



Give It Some Welly

The Woodland Trust are encouraging us to have lots of Welly-related fun on 4 March 2011. They are running a national fundraising campaign to plant more trees.



Why not join them in running a welly event of your own? For free resources, ideas and a fundraising pack see: www.naturedetectives.org.uk/welly.htm



25 High Weald Hero Schools have Welly Walks - a ready-made opportunity to don your wellies and go exploring! Why not use yours to help raise money for the Woodland Trust? This is also a great way of exploring your local area and discovering what makes the High Weald Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) so unique.

Don't have a Welly Walk? Contact Laura to get help in creating your own Welly Walk from the school gate:

l.sweeting@highweald.org



Alternatively, check out: www.highweald.org/learn/education/welly-walks.html to see if there is already an existing Welly Walk near you!

Find Out More

High Weald Heroes is a partnership of primary schools that have demonstrated their commitment to the local landscape by undertaking the High Weald Hero actions - Find Out About, Explore, Take Care of, Be Proud of and Enjoy.

Have you seen our website?

Numerous free resources are available online: www.highweald.org/learn/education.html



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News needed - If you have any news or stories you would like to be included in the next newsletter or to appear on our website please let us know



Check out the learning zone - www.highweald.org