

BVA AWF Animal Day Report

Event Animal Day
Date 7th June, 2007
Time 10am to 4pm
Location Waterloo Millennium Green, London, SE1



Funding from BVA AWF has enabled WGT to deliver Animal Day, which in turn, through the new contacts made, has helped us to deliver additional educational sessions and other events with local schools.

Animal Day

Eight classes from five local schools (150 children in total) were invited onto the green to participate in four animal themed activities. Through interactive sessions, they learnt about the characteristics, habitats and welfare of wild and domestic animals found in London. Specifically, the activities were:

Provider	Activity
Roots and Shoots	Mobile beehive display and interactive presentation. Locally produced honey tasting
Waterloo Green Trust	Identification of animals using model faeces and footprints. Investigation of Owl pellets and using extracted bones to identify the digested animals.
Eco- Active	Investigation of wild flora and fauna found in inner London, on the green.
Vauxhall City Farm	Brought farm animals (goats, ferrets, chickens and a duck) and delivered interactive presentations for each

The children involved live in inner London and many of them have little or no contact with animals and wildlife. The sessions complimented rather than replicated what the children learn at school. So without the restraints of the curriculum, providers had a lot of freedom



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to create sessions that give the children a different perspective and knowledge of their environment, with practical, hands on and fun activities.

We received the following feedback from those involved:

‘A wonderful variety of activities and an excellent opportunity to see at close quarters animals they otherwise would not’.

‘Most of the children never have an opportunity to come close to animals let alone touch them. They had a great day’.

‘The children have had very little previous experience of native flora and fauna – great exposure for them’.

‘The children benefited a lot, being hands on with animals and bones especially’.

‘Really enjoyable for the children – they were all really engaged’.

All of the providers felt that the event went well and were able to promote their group and its work. Also, they would all like to be involved in future events with WGT.

Other projects

Through the new contacts WGT made through Animal Day, we offered and delivered environmental sessions and events for extra schools that we otherwise would not have. The environmental sessions are held weekly on the Green over the summer and other events have included a Flower Festival and an upcoming Harvest Festival.

The Future

The schools said they would like:

‘Even more opportunities to see animals at close quarters!...’

‘More of the same thing’

For WGT to ‘Keep up the good work’

And one also said ‘Thanks very much for well-organised, fun, educational events.’



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There is a demand and a need for WGT events like Animal Day around Waterloo. WGT have had specific requests for this event to be repeated as well as other we have held and ideas for new ones.

Animal Day would have been extended to the evening if sufficient funds were available. This would have enabled us to adapt the activities to make them relevant for members of the public to then attend and benefit from the event.

WGT receives no local authority funding as the projects we deliver, the local authority has no statutory responsibility to provide, although, as described above, they are very valued locally. Instead we raise most money from trusts and corporate donations. It would be greatly appreciated if BVA AWF would consider funding Animal Day and or other related activities in 2008.