



## Helping our local communities; people and wildlife

During Covid-19 restrictions, the staff and pupils at Crowton Christ Church CofE Primary School in Cheshire wanted to get involved in their community and support their local people and wildlife. They found the Circle of Life resources online which guided thirty pupils from a Key Stage 2 bubble as they took on a variety of projects in small groups, finding a number of ways to best support their community during this time.

### The Projects

This was a true example of how diversely a school can embrace The Circle of Life project. Pupils from Year groups 3, 4, 5 and 6 were inspired to take on a social action project that would have a direct impact on their local residents, flora and fauna. To start generating some ideas, the pupils began working in small groups and discussing how and what they would need to accomplish this. They made sure to focus on what would have the best impact either in their school, village or other community and had to make sure that their idea was both feasible, as it had to be completed in at a low cost within 6 weeks.



The pupils were split into six teams based on the similarity of their ideas and how effectively they could be carried out together. One team wanted to create a care package for a local homeless shelter, Chester Aid to the Homeless, so they researched what to include in the package and thought about what would be most helpful for them and how they would be delivered. There was another team that wanted to get involved with their local residential/care home and create a card of cards for them to uplift their moods with meaningful messages.

Three teams got involved in creating seed packets of local wildflowers to help encourage the bee population in their area. A lot of thought went into picking the flowers that would be most attractive for the bees, and where would be the best location for the flowers to grow undisturbed. The seeds were put into envelopes and then taken home by the pupils to allow them to create bee and butterfly friendly areas in their own gardens. Between the three teams they created over 50 seed packets!





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**Chester Aid to the Homeless**

22 July at 13:23 · 🌐



Would like to say a massive thank you to the children and teachers at Crowton Primary School who created some wonderful care packages for the homeless! Although we are still taking COVID-19 serious and limiting our donations how could we say no to these wonderful gifts.

*"This project allowed us to work together as a Key Stage to serve our school, church and local community." – Miss Porter, Class Teacher.*

Another team wanted to create bird feeders for their local British bird species, the pupils had to look into what would be the best design and most suitable materials for the task. They also had to find out where to best place the feeders for the birds so they got the most use! After researching online and discussing amongst the team, they decided on a design that used wooden lollipop sticks and a glue gun to make their bird feeder, which was perfect for saving on materials and costs as they luckily had lollipop sticks in abundance!

### The Result

All of the teams needed to be flexible with their planning and rollout as they would be relying on staff who very kindly offered to help them source their resources. The pupils learned to collaborate with each other effectively by listening to others' ideas and offering advice and a chance to discuss any issues that arose.

When the team creating the bird feeders for local species saw that, depending on where the feeder was placed and how sheltered the area was, the birds may not feel secure with the feeder design that didn't include a roof. To overcome this obstacle the pupils came up with an innovative idea to modify the feeder by creating a roof for it themselves! This was the bird would feel sheltered and safe no matter where it was placed.

The team of pupils creating care packages for homeless shelters found that the original boxes they had sourced weren't big enough to fit all of the items they had sourced. The pupils had to go back to the drawing board and think of a cost-effective way around how they were going to deliver all the items together. After some deliberation the pupils found the perfect solution by sourcing some clear cellophane and creating wonderful gift hamper care packages that made them look extra special!

*"As staff members it was fantastic to see our pupils work together in mixed year groups to support and help each other towards a common goal. The pupils enjoyed seeing the end results of their projects and felt a strong sense of achievement." – Miss Porter, Class Teacher.*

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