

Whimble Composting Project 2010

As part of our Eco School Work the children wanted to start composting food waste. We have joined an initiative through our Local Learning Community which gives us the support needed to start composting all our food waste!

The first thing we had to do was to carry out a 'waste audit' to measure all the waste we produced in one day.

The children in our Eco team worked with Beccy from East Devon District Council.



The Eco team had to sort the waste in to different categories. They had to wear special gloves to protect their hands from germs and sharp objects.

It took nearly the whole morning to sort the waste from just one day! They sorted waste from the classrooms, the toilets, the staffroom, the playgrounds and the dinner hall.



After the waste was sorted it had to be weighed. The data was recorded carefully. The school already recycles paper and this was also weighed and added to the total. We were amazed at how many paper towels we throw away!



The information was taken away by Beccy and used to help EDC decide what sort of composting equipment would be best for our school. The next job was to inform all the children of what we were trying to do.

We had a visit from 'Gordon Le Rottor' - he helped the children to understand why it was so important to find ways to reduce waste.



The children learned about how they could reduce the amount of waste they produced by encouraging their families to make shopping lists and only buy the food they need. He also gave advice on making sure that you do not make more food than you need and what to do with leftovers.



Gordon also advised the children on how to re-use and recycle.

Chloe from the Eco team has some tips for re-using things...

'A great thing to re-use is bags. When you go shopping, try to take a re-usable bag with you. You can also re-use ice-cream tubs for storing cakes or biscuits.



Lastly Gordon gave some advice on recycling and composting.

The day after the show Dawn from EDDC came to visit and help us choose a site for our composting equipment. The children will have to collect our food waste in compost caddies. The food waste will be put into the composter



which is called a Scotspin
composter. The compost then
goes into a Scotties Hotbox
composter. It will take a year to
turn our food waste into compost.

When we have made our compost it
will be used by the gardening club.



The Eco team hope that everyone will get involved in our
composting project and encourage their families to

Reduce, Re-use and Recycle!