

THE BIG GREEN ONE



The Big Green One offers young people the opportunity to work with a wide range of businesses from the green/environmental sector and to gain an understanding of the range of careers available, and various entry routes, in that sector.

This sector offers an increasing range of careers for young people and opportunities for budding entrepreneurs who can respond to the growing demands of society as a whole to consider the implications of their individual actions on both their local environment, and the whole planet.

The Big Green One gives young people the opportunity to work with current experts in the green/environmental sector on a range of practical tasks designed to:

- Consider the impact of their actions on the environment, the world's dwindling resources and the future of the planet.
- Raise awareness of an employment sector which is growing rapidly and which offers the opportunity of sustainable and diverse career paths.

Businesses and organisations are recruited from across the green/environmental sector. They are tasked with providing an insight into their work through the designing of practical activities to support pupils' learning whilst embedding both the key skills of literacy, numeracy and ICT and the 12 employability skills valued by employers. These include:

- Teamwork.
- Communication.
- Meeting deadlines.
- Task and time management.
- Listening to, and acting upon, instructions.
- Creativity.
- Innovation.
- Problem solving.

Supported by major businesses and organisations in the sector, EBC's The Big Green One can be delivered to both primary and secondary school pupils. The programme embeds an understanding of the issues on the 'Green Agenda' into pupils' early work related learning and experience of enterprise through:

- Bringing together local businesses and pupils to work through a series of practical activities that reinforce the relevance of key skills in the workplace.
- Challenging pupils to work as a team to solve problems and to come up with creative solutions to various challenges.
- Offering pupils an 'informal' setting in which to talk with local businesses and organisations in the green environmental sector about career and training opportunities.
- Encouraging pupils to develop the skill of self-reflection.

The events are set up as carousels, with pupils working in teams of around 10 to experience each activity. Each event attracts up to 120 pupils and activities are tailored to match the ages of pupils. They can be delivered to pupils from Year 5 to Year 11. There is also the option of a pre-event visit by The Big Green One character to schools and preparatory workshops - particularly motivating for primary pupils.

Education Business Connections provides:

- Recruitment of businesses to deliver activities.
- Optional pre-event classroom sessions 'starring' The Big Green One character.
- Practical advice and guidance to companies on the development of their proposed activities.
- Recruitment of schools to take part in the event.
- Full event organisation, including arrangements for venues, transport, and all related housekeeping aspects.
- Full post-event evaluation.

'BUILDING CONFIDENCE IN YOUNG PEOPLE THROUGH A CREATIVE APPROACH TO CURRICULUM NEEDS AND BUSINESS PARTNERSHIPS'