

GREEN THEMES



Everything we do on a day-to-day basis - regardless of our age - has an impact upon the environment in which we live.

The 'headline results' of our actions are well publicised but for many young people the impact of these 'headliners' is too large, too global or too abstract to comprehend.

Other than school-based litter picks or small scale nature garden projects, young people too often feel compelled to 'leave it to the adults' to make a difference. Yet by engaging with young people the 'protect the planet' message can be spread much faster. They have the potential to exert huge influence on their parents and carers - taking home their school experiences and encouraging changes in adult behaviour.

Green Themes seeks to make the decisions and targets agreed at the Earth Summit of 1991 'real' and 'relevant' to young people and to disseminate the importance of Local Agenda 21 into the classroom and beyond. It also seeks to give young people an early insight into the scope and diversity of the growing 'green' business sector and to practically demonstrate the level of enterprise and innovation which exists in that sector.

Green Themes offers a range of activities including:

- Workshops and topic-based work.
- Mini-enterprises.
- Special Green Theme weeks.
- The Big Green One - a large scale event for up to 120 pupils supported by 'green' businesses and organisations.

Environmental issues are touched upon in nearly every subject in the curriculum but schools themselves do not always have the staff with sufficient in depth knowledge of the topic to fully exploit it as a study area. EBC has both expert staff and access to businesses

working in the green and environmental sector who can bring to life textbook learning – across the curriculum as well as developing key skills of teamwork, task and time management, communications and problem solving.

Green Themes provides an integrated approach to activities, allowing pupils to fully explore some of the key issues around the 'green agenda' such as recycling, home composting, alternative energy sources, nature conservation and wildlife protection.

Activities supporting pupils' learning experiences could see them visiting wind farms, power stations, sewage plants and nature reserves.

As with all EBC's programmes, practical activities through involvement with Green Themes give the opportunity for pupils to benefit from both work related learning and enterprise education experiences. All activities integrate both key skills such as literacy, numeracy and the use of ICT whilst developing pupils' key employability skills including team work, task and time management, communication, problem solving and decision making.

Education Business Connection provides:

- One off class-based special activities.
- A package of workshop sessions.
- Large scale themed events – building upon the successful formula of EBC's events portfolio.
- Practical project work delivered over either half a term or a full term.
- Cross linkages across other EBC programmes.
- Full event organisation, including arrangement 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'