

PLAYSCHEMES

During the year we facilitated the following Playschemes:-

- City of York – Mobile Playschemes – Summer only
- Ryedale Rangers – Easter and Summer
- Ryedale Summer Fun – Summer only

MOBILE PLAYSCHEMES



A mobile playscheme team consists of 3 Playworkers, who travel to different rural villages and a few inner-city sites, in a van full of sports equipment, arts and crafts and play equipment. They have a large tent which provides shelter from either the sun or the rain. The Playworkers often endure high winds, torrential rain, and if they are lucky lovely hot sunny days. Regardless of the weather they still pitch their tent and interact with the Children that attend.

Each session is for 2 hours and we run 2 sessions per day; the morning or AM session is from 10.30am – 12.30pm and the afternoon or PM session is from 1.30 – 3.30pm. Each session is aimed at Children aged 5 years to 13 years. As the sessions are held in open public spaces, we do not exclude any Children or Young People from the sessions that are younger or older; parents/carers are also welcome and are expected to stay where children are under 5 years old.

During each session we provide the Children and Young People with supervised activities, including many arts, crafts and sports activities. The Children and Young are also given a drink of juice and a biscuit, and this is all for FREE.

This year the mobile Playschemes have been funded by City of York Council Play Grant which enabled us to deliver 96 x 2 hour Play session over a 5 week period in and around York. We were also commissioned by the following City of York Council Ward Committees

to deliver 95 x 2 hours sessions over 5 weeks from 21st July to 21st August 2009 inclusive. This enabled us to have 2 teams running for 5 weeks:-

The Wards we received funding for were:

- **Acomb** - 10 sessions
- **Bishophthorpe & Wheldrake** -10 sessions
- **Derwent** - 3 sessions
- **Heworth without** - 10 sessions
- **Heworth** - 10 sessions
- **Holgate** - 10 sessions
- **Huntington & Earswick** - 10 sessions
- **Hull Road** - 6 sessions
- **Micklegate** - 10 sessions
- **Strensall** - 10 sessions
- **Westfield's** - 6 sessions

In total we attended an extra 30 different sites; on at least 2 separate visits, some got 4. With the joint funding we were able to run over 175 x 2 hour play sessions and were able to visit many more inner city sites. This year with the ward funding we visited new sites in Acomb, Holgate, Huntington, Micklegate and Westfield Wards; these wards would not have been visited without the extra funding. Thanks to the joint funding this year we provided Play experiences and opportunities for over 2, 500 children and young people.

A variety of play activities were on offer to the children and young people including arts and crafts, sports activities including football and ball games, and other wide and co-operative games. Each session was well attended; some younger and older children also attended the sessions.

FEEDBACK and EVALUATION

We are continually striving to improve all the services we offer to Children, Young People, Parents and Carers. As part of this commitment, we carry out a regular evaluation process. This often is done by asking Children, Young People, Parents and Carers to complete questionnaires about the particular service we have provided.

Throughout the summer we asked for feedback from Parents/Carers and Children/Young people. The overall impression from them was that the Mobiles are a must and they still want more.

Below are some of the comments and responses from the parent/carers and children/young people that attended the mobiles this year.

Parent/Carers Evaluations and Comments

All Parents and Carers who completed evaluations said that they would send their child/children again to the Playschemes. Once again a large proportion of Parents/carers commented that the advance publicity was poor this year. In future years advance publicity must be a priority for us and we must take more control of this. Most Parents and Carers had 2 or more children.

Parent/carers 76 returned:

	Great	OK	Poor
b) The Location	73	3	0
c) The Programme times	73	3	0
d) The activities/workshops	71	5	0
e) The Playworkers	75	1	0
f) Your child’s enjoyment	75	1	0

100% of those asked said they “would you like Playspace to come again”

The majority of parents/carers brought 2 or more children along to the schemes.

Comments

- Please come to Rawcliffe more often
- Excellent – enjoyed cat & mouse and cricket, just wish it could be more often throughout the hols
- Great fun, girls only planned on attending morning, Session such fun came for afternoon session as well
- It is nice to have a playscheme near our home, they loved it
- Played really well, a change from mum, gluing and sticking was done with different things from home – Mum had a couple of hours break

Children’s Evaluations

Out of the 182 evaluation forms that we received back from the children, asking them how they enjoyed the wick-kid mobile, below is the information that we obtained.

	Great	OK	Not Good
a) The wick-kid mobile is:	158	23	1
b) The things to do are:	149	30	2
c) The Playworkers are:	160	20	0

My favourite things at the Playscheme are:-

- Arts & crafts, clay, face painting, mirror decorating, candle making.
- Biscuit decorating
- Cricket, rounders
- Games e.g. twister, cards. Piggy in middle

Children's Comments

- It's great, I really liked it – I had such a lot of fun! It was an excellent opportunity to make new friends, Cool tent, It was excellent I want you to come again
- It is better fun than staying in.

The children were all very positive; they loved both the activities and the Playworkers. We ran a varied program with a good variety of new and multi-cultural activities, craft and sports activities. These were very popular with the children/young people; there was no negative feedback from anyone about any of the activities on offer. The Children/Young people liked the fact that they had the choice of a quiet sit down activity and a physical activity.

During the summer the children from the projects put some of their work from the Playschemes into scrapbooks which we are able to use to show funders; current and future, parents and carers, residents, Trustees and members of staff and any other interested parties, the type of work and activities the we do with the children on the schemes. This has been a very useful tool.

RYEDALE RANGERS

This is a project which is delivered using the same model as the York Mobiles playschemes, but is delivered in the Ryedale District of Yorkshire.

Following on from our success of delivering the Ryedale Rangers last year for the first time we were asked if we would deliver the same project during the Easter holidays and again in the summer holidays.

This project is funded by



in partnership with Ryedale District Council.

During Easter 2009 we delivered a 4 day program of playschemes during the second week of Easter. The venues were open spaces at the following:-

- Riverside View – Norton
- Sheriff Hutton
- Beckett Recreation Ground-Nawton
- Hawthorne Lane – Pickering

There were 144 attendances in total; 45% were children aged over 8 years old and 21% were children under 5 years old.

Once again there were a variety of play opportunities on offer.



The attendance at the Ryedale Rangers playschemes over Easter was extremely good, as we have never done it before over Easter and it was done at quite short notice with little publicity. The weather stayed fine and everyone had a good time joining in.

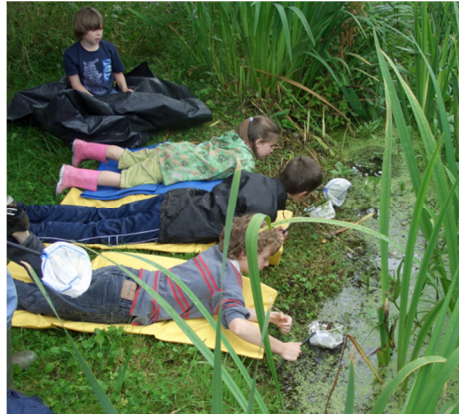
The Children and Young People of Ryedale benefited from running the Ranger project over the Easter Holidays, as it provided a good variety of entertainment with Physical, Social, Cultural, Learning and environmental benefits to all. There was an average of 18 children per session, some more and some less. The comments from Children & young people, Parent & Carers and the workers were all very positive. We also received very positive Press coverage and pictures in the news Papers. They all liked the fact that they had the choice of a quiet sit down activity or a physical activity.

Ryedale Rangers - Summer

This year was the second year that we ran the Ranger project; although we have run similar projects in the York area for some years. The number of children and young people that attended and also the number of volunteers that came from the local communities were higher than the previous year; with a 19% increase in attendance. This gave it a real feel of community spirit.

We visited over 18 different open spaces in different villages and towns in the Ryedale District. These included Norton, Wombleton, Pickering, Nawton, Burythorpe, Gillamoor, Sinnington and Helmsley.

Many of the open spaces in Ryedale had water in them and this enabled us to offer the Children the experience of fishing and pond dipping.



The Children and Young People of Ryedale benefited immensely from the Ranger project as it provided a good variety of entertainment with Physical, Social, Cultural, Learning and environmental benefits to all.

This was no major problems this year as we had bought some equipment for the younger children due to last year's high number of under 5's. There was a good community feel in some of the sites that were highly attended.

Volunteers

Part of the Bid to the BIG Lottery was to encourage Volunteers in the local areas to get involved with Play. Ryedale District Council did a great deal of work leading up to the Playschemes to engage with local volunteers.

There were many helpful Parents/Carers at all of the sites who did not make themselves known to the Playworkers that they were volunteers, they all signed themselves in as Parents and carers.



As a Charity we recognise and value the contribution that Volunteers bring to all aspects of the organisation including the Playschemes.

We would like to thank all the volunteers for their support.

Ryedale Summer Fun

The Ryedale Playschemes were funded by Ryedale District Council. This year sees the third year that we have facilitated these Playschemes on behalf of Ryedale District Council.

The Playschemes ran from 10am – 4pm each day with the children bringing a Packed Lunch with them and we provided them with a drinks and biscuits during each day.

The Ryedale Playschemes operate with 2 teams of up to 4 Playworkers offering Play opportunities to Children & young people aged 5 – 11 years. These ran over 4 weeks with us visiting 6 different venues. The Playschemes ran from 10am – 4pm each day where the children would bring a pack lunch with them and we provided them with a drink and biscuits during each day. The day was lengthened last year by 1 extra hour, this was in response to feedback taken from the Evaluations we received back from the Parents during last year's Playschemes were parents commented that the day needed to be longer to allow them to use the Playschemes are a "care" facilitate and go to work.

The venues visited were:

- ❖ RILLINGTON - Primary School
- ❖ SHERIFF HUTTON - Village Hall
- ❖ NORTON - BROOKLYN YOUTH CENTRE
- ❖ WELBURN HALL - School
- ❖ SINNINGTON - Village Hall
- ❖ PICKERING - Junior School

Numbers are limited to a maximum of 30 Children this is due to National standard which sets ratios of Children to adults and the size of the venue. We use Venues such as Schools and Community Centres.

- Ryedale Summer 2009 Playschemes - Attendance Total: 592
- Total number of children Registered through all 6 sites = 246
- The average attendance by each child was 2.5 times

Total Attendance at the Ryedale Playschemes for 2008 = 535. In 2009 there was an increase of 11% in attendances.

At the beginning of each session the Playworkers did ice breaking games using circle games and parachute games. This enabled the children and workers to find out names, a bit about each other, their likes and dislikes and to form a foundation bond. Also at the beginning of each venue they would ask the children to form rules and expectations that would be used throughout the Playscheme.

A variety of activities were on offer throughout the day including arts, crafts, sports activities and games.

Some of the favourite things that the Children enjoyed and least enjoyed at the Playschemes:-

My favourite things at the Playscheme are:

Meeting friends/playing	Sport/football/games	Making soft toys
Baking	Disco	Clay
Going outside/park, Tree climbing	Climbing bars/ropes	African Masks/Masks
Variety of things to do	Treasure hunt	Fimo/Modelling, Candle making
Arts & Crafts, Colouring	Bracelets/jewellery	Glass painting

Playspace Volunteers:

This year we were lucky to have 2 excellent Volunteers join our team; Gaye & Gordana, who helped us to evaluate all the summer projects. They went round all projects and helped both children and parent/carers complete the evaluation forms and also spent time speaking to the Parents/Carers, Children and the Staff. Their input to the summer schemes was invaluable. Many thanks to them both.