

# Recycling Heroes Evaluation 2012 -2015



Eco Drama  
Recycling Heroes Evaluation  
Climate Challenge Fund  
2012 - 2015

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***“I feel I could stay a Recycling Hero forever.”***

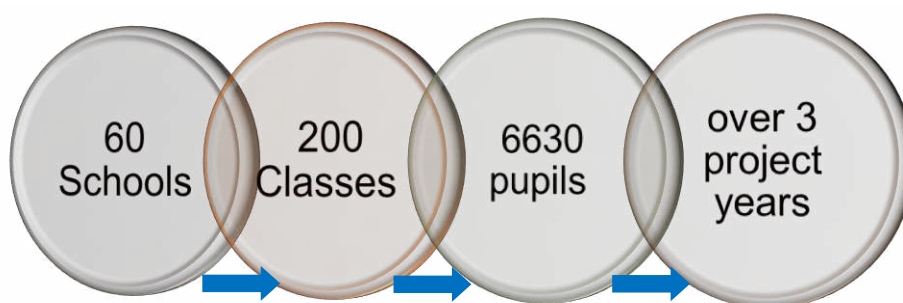
Pupil, St Mirin’s Primary, Glasgow



## 1. RECYCLING HEROES – OVERVIEW

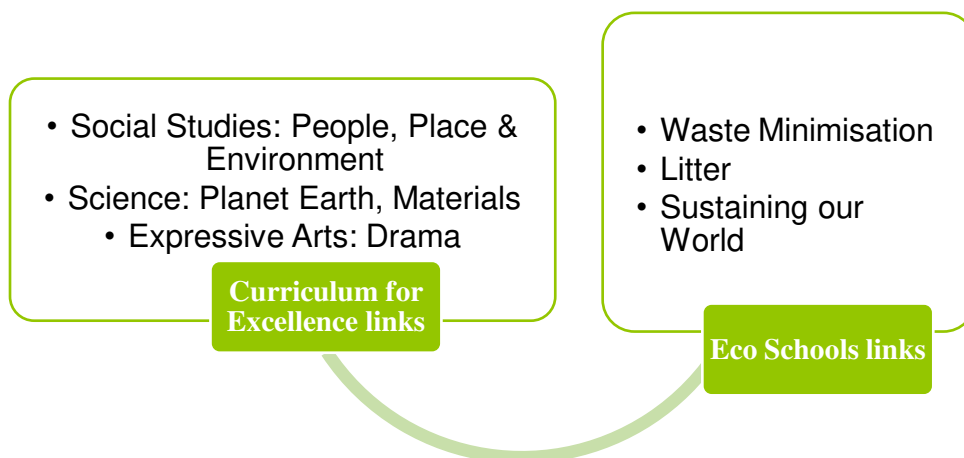
Recycling Heroes is an interactive workshop designed around the principles of **'Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle'**. Through a fun and informative drama workshop led by the fearless 'Bag Girl', pupils are encouraged to find their own inner recycling hero and rid the town of the menacing Rubbish Monsters!

During January - March 2013, May - June 2013 and April - June 2014, Eco Drama delivered *Recycling Heroes* workshop to Nurseries and Primary schools within Glasgow, reaching:



### 1.1 EDUCATION LINKS

Education is at the heart of Eco Drama's work, and *Recycling Heroes* has strong links with Eco Schools Topics and with the current Scottish schools education framework the *Curriculum for Excellence*.



## 1.2 MONITORING AND EVALUATION

Evaluation is fundamental to supporting Eco Drama's education initiatives. It enables us to ensure that we are delivering relevant and useful learning experiences for pupils and teachers in the schools which we visit. Included in the feedback forms are questions which allow us to obtain **quantitative data** on the responses. Pie charts have been used to present data for these types of questions.

Questions were also designed to provide **qualitative feedback** from comments which describe levels of enjoyment and what pupils have learned from the show. Comments from pupils and teachers have been included throughout the evaluation document. We have found a framework for measuring learning outcomes from active engagement in arts projects. This is further explained on page 7.

### Evaluation Forms

Evaluation forms were distributed to **pupils and teachers** to complete after they had seen the workshop.

These forms were designed to allow pupils and teachers to offer their opinions on the experience, and allow Eco Drama to **monitor the response to the workshop** to ensure that the best possible learning experience is being provided.

### Carbon Calculator

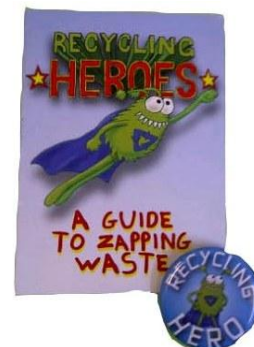
Pupils were also asked to complete a series of questions on our online **Carbon Calculator** before the workshop.

A few months later we asked them to complete the same questions. This way we were able to analyse their recycling behaviors and assess whether there were significant changes **after the workshop**.

## 1.3 ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

**Teachers** received a **Classroom Activity Pack** full of ideas for classroom activities as well as outlining useful resources for teachers.

All **pupils** received one *Recycling Heroes* **Cotton Bag**, a **Badge** and a **Booklet** supporting their learning from the workshop.



## 2. PUPIL FEEDBACK



**I loved it. It was like nothing I had ever seen before!!** Pupil, St Conval's Primary

**I feel I could stay a Recycling Hero forever.** Pupil, St Mirin's Primary, Glasgow

**I thought the workshop was amazing and funny!** Pupil Miller Primary

**Really, really fun. Liked her costume, Bag Girl was great, enjoyed it all!** Pupil, Hyndland Primary

**I want bag girl to come back again I was feeling superduper!!!** Pupil, Miller Primary

**Yeah! Reusing is fun. Reusing helps to save money. Recycling helps to clear the environment. Using the three Rs is important.** Pupil, Ct Convals Primary

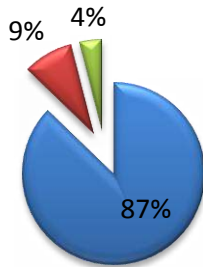


## 2.1 PRESENTATION OF DATA

Pupils were asked the following questions about the workshop. The answers have been calculated in percentages below:

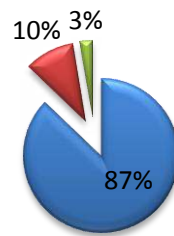
### It was exciting and fun

■ Yes ■ Maybe ■ No



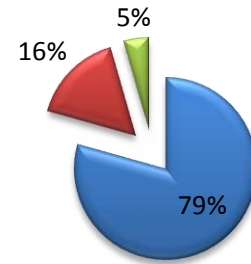
### I thought the workshop was very good

■ Yes ■ Maybe ■ No



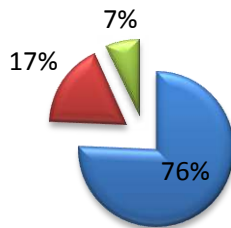
### I learned new things

■ Yes ■ Maybe ■ No



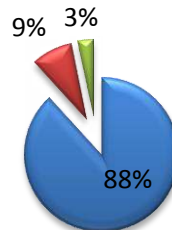
### I understand what REDUCE means

■ Yes ■ Maybe ■ No



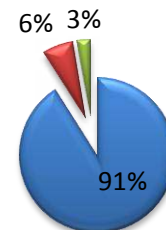
### I understand what REUSE means

■ Yes ■ Maybe ■ No



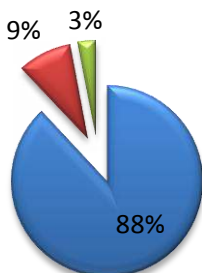
### I understand what RECYCLE means

■ Yes ■ Maybe ■ No



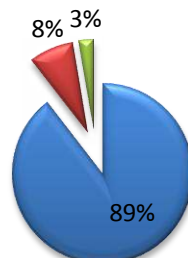
### I will try to REDUCE, REUSE and RECYCLE my waste at school and home

■ Yes ■ Maybe ■ No



### I understand that doing this helps care for our environment

■ Yes ■ Maybe ■ No



**\*\*Only P3-5 pupils were asked this question.**

## 2.2 GENERAL LEARNING OUTCOMES

The 'Inspiring Learning' initiative from the Museums, Libraries and Archives Council suggests a framework for classifying qualitative data into learning outcomes. We have attempted to apply this to pupil feedback for *Recycling Heroes* to identify the key **learning aspects** which have **occurred as a result of Eco Drama's work**. Analysis has been carried out on 3 questions from the evaluation questionnaire:

1. Something I learned today that I didn't already know is...
2. I understand that it's good to do these things because...
3. Any other comments?

In year 3, we exchanged the above questions for a more creative exercise. We asked the pupil to **draw pictures of themselves as superheroes**, to blast out messages to their town in speech bubbles and to **draw or write favourite things about the workshop, things learned, or comments**. We wanted this exercise to tie in with the creative nature of the workshop and allow the pupils to express themselves in a different way. The aim was to encourage their own spontaneous and imaginative creativity, whilst still collecting Qualitative Data.

### INSPIRING LEARNING FRAMEWORK (2008 – Museums, Libraries and Archives Council)

The framework identifies **five general learning outcomes (GLOs)** and recommends that these be used as a way of measuring outcomes and demonstrating the impact that a project has had on the participants.

Figure 1 -  
General  
Learning  
Outcomes

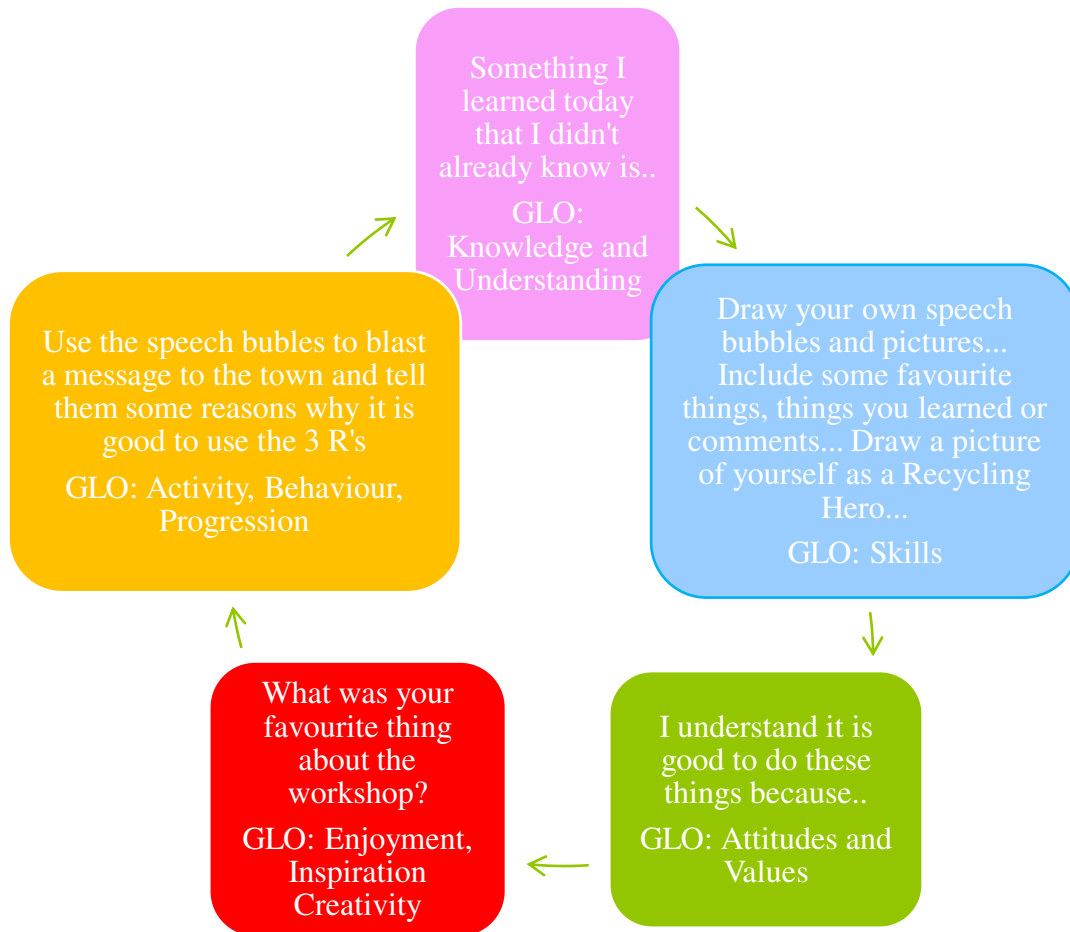
(Museums,  
Libraries and  
Archives Council,  
2008, retrieved  
from

<http://www.inspiringlearningforall.gov.uk/learning/>)





Though questions may connect to multiple GLO General Learning outcomes, they are grouped with the ones that they relate strongest to.



Pupils showed a clear **knowledge and understanding** of the topic.

<p><b><u>GLO: Knowledge and Understanding</u></b></p> <p><i>“If we recycle, we can save lots of money, for example: if we use a bottle for a long time, and wash it for a year, it will save money.”</i></p>	<p><i>“Landfills are increasing, rubbish destroys nature and people in the future must cope with what we have done.”</i></p>	<p><i>“If you throw out things it might kill animals, it’s best to use canvas bags. There are chemicals in things we throw away which can harm the environment.”</i></p>
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There is also a noticeable development of **attitudes and values** toward our natural world:

**GLO: Attitudes and Values**

“I want the world to be a better place without any landfill sites...we could tidy it up”

“So the world doesn’t become a rubbish tip. To stop pollution and global warming. So we don’t run out of materials. So animals don’t get harmed.”

“It helps the community”

“We can make the world better.”

They displayed **enjoyment, inspiration and creativity** in relation to the workshop:

**GLO: Enjoyment, Inspiration Creativity**

“I want to stay a superhero forever!”

“I loved it. It was like nothing I had ever seen before!!”

“I enjoyed the dancing, recycling game, canvas bags, zip zap boing! Defeating the rubbish monsters!”

“I want bag girl to come back!”

“This is fun. I understand what the 3Rs are. Use the three Rs to stop the Rubbish Monster from growing.”

There is noticeable positive **progression of behaviours and activities**:

**GLO: Activity, Behaviour, Progression**

“I have started using different bags, not just plastic ones...”

“I have been recycling more. I love to recycle more....”

“Would you like to live next to a landfill? No!”

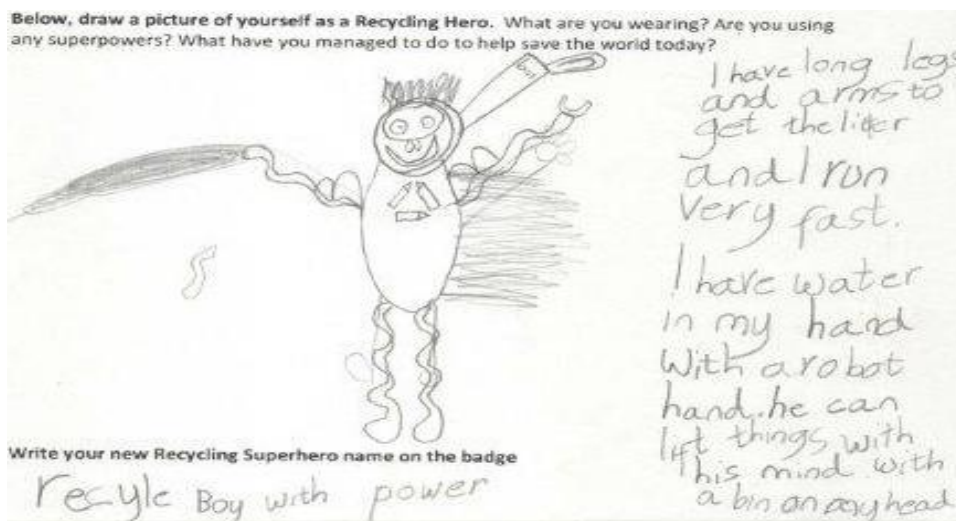
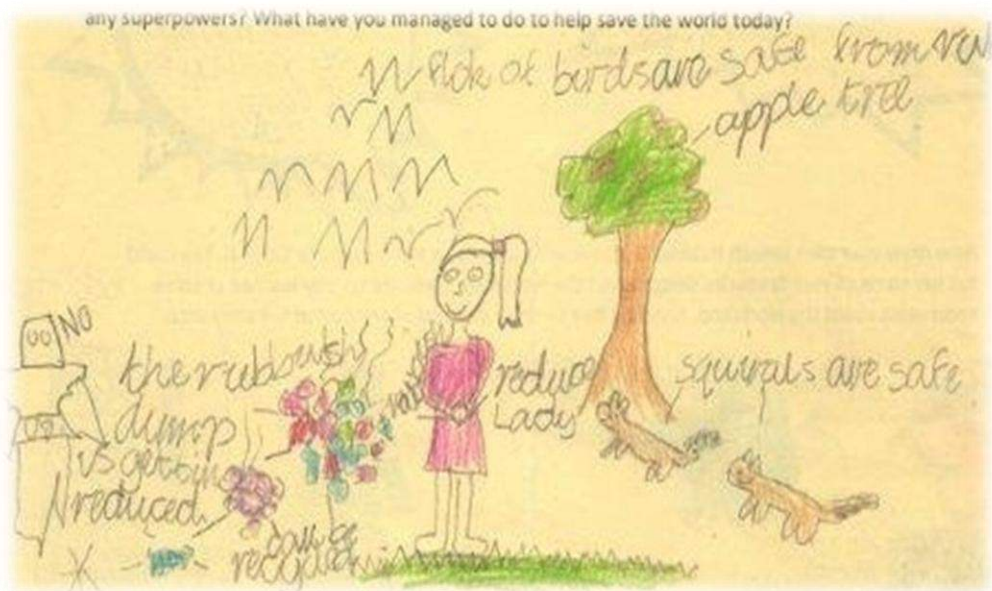
“I have been using the bag you gave me and doing the 3 Rs from now on!”

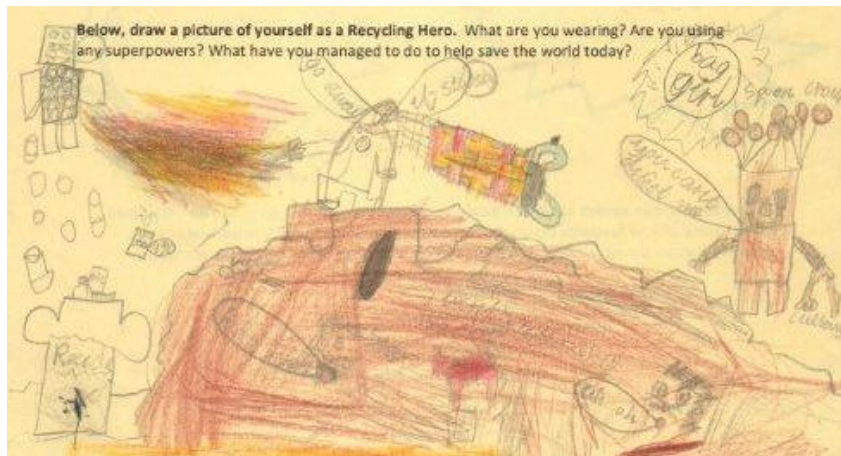
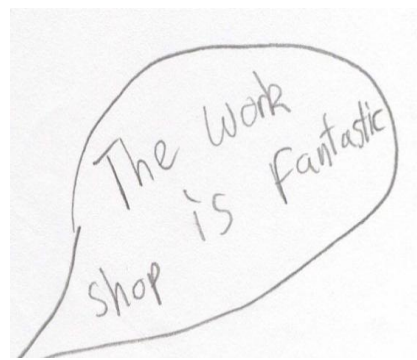
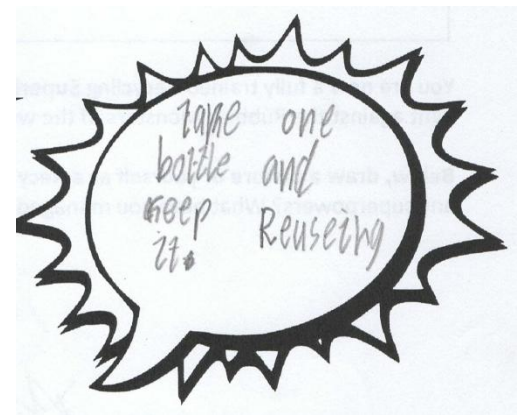
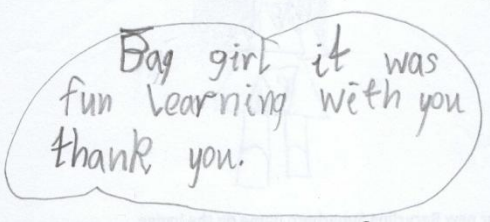
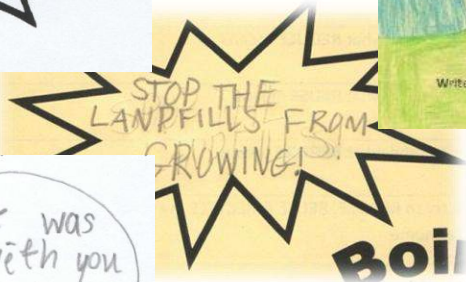
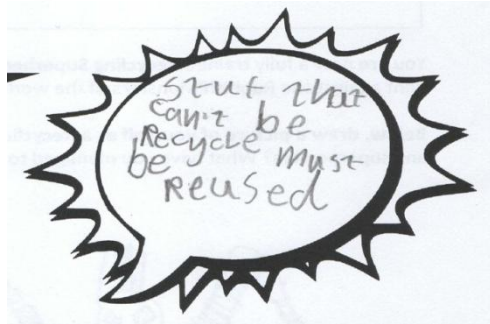
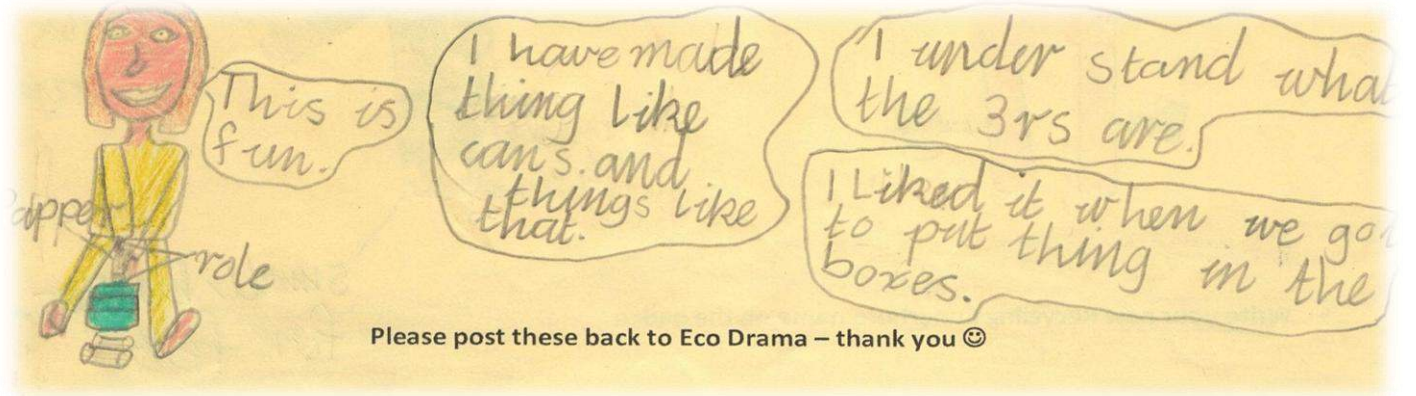
### 2.3 CREATIVE FEEDBACK

Pupils built on existing **creative skills** learned during the workshop to express thoughts and feelings artistically on the feedback form. Through speech bubbles and drawings pupils showed a strong emotional engagement to the subject.

The 3 R's were referenced often and in the correct context, showing not only a good understanding, but a deep personal connection with the topic.

They often drew pictures that depicted themselves in a caring and empathetic light, rescuing animals and wildlife, encouraging people to be responsible with waste and telling "Bag Girl" of their own positive behaviour changes.



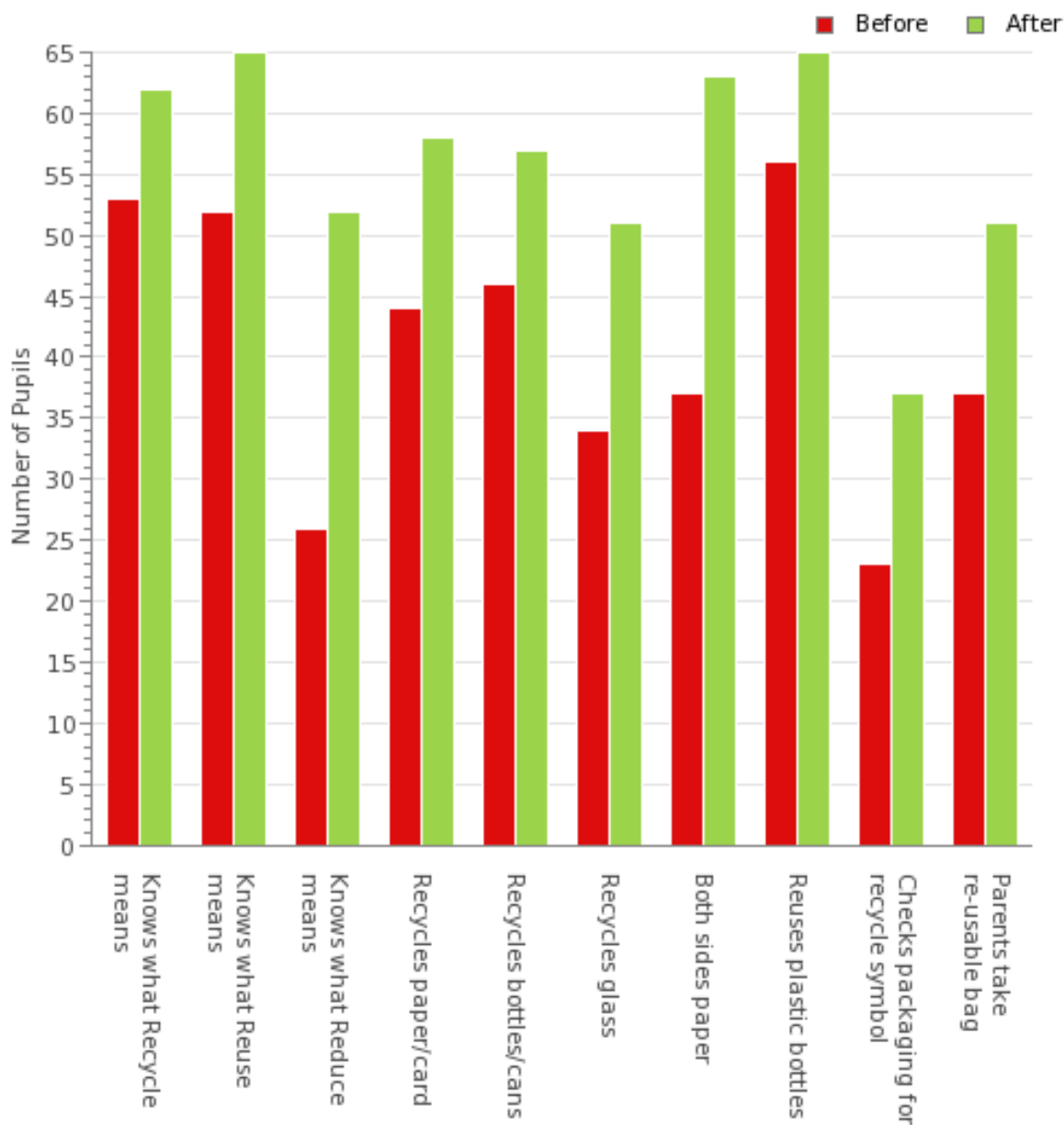


### 3. CARBON CALCULATOR

Of **200 classes** a total of **82 classes** completed the Carbon Calculator quiz in full (both round 1 and round 2). Below is an example of a class graph generated by our Carbon Calculator.

We asked pupils the following questions before and after the workshop:

Recycling Behaviours (Bankhead Primary P5a P5b P2b)



Each class was able to go on and check their individual school results online via our website.

### FINAL RESULTS FOR PROJECT ON CARBON CALCULATOR

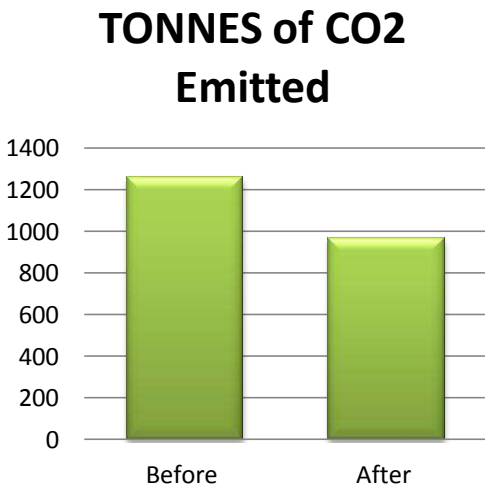
This is based on **82** of 200 classes.



"BEFORE the workshop, you emitted 1256.78 TONNES of CO<sub>2</sub>

AFTER the workshop, you now emit 967.44 TONNES of CO<sub>2</sub>, which is an EXCELLENT REDUCTION!!!

Well done - keep up the good work!



After taking part in the workshop and follow up activities we can see a clear reduction in carbon emissions by **289.34 TONNES of CO<sub>2</sub>**

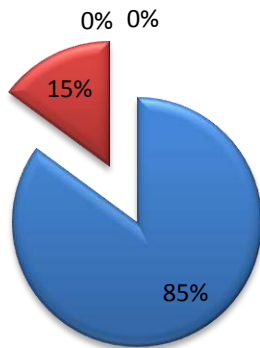


## 4. TEACHER FEEDBACK

Class teachers were asked the following questions in order for us to calculate qualitative data to assess the relevancy of the workshops for their pupils:

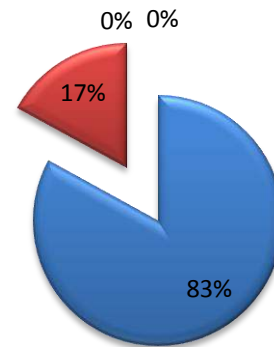
**What did you think about this show in relation to your pupil's current learning? (eg – how well did it compliment what you are learning in class?)**

■ Excellent ■ Good ■ Ok ■ Not Relevant



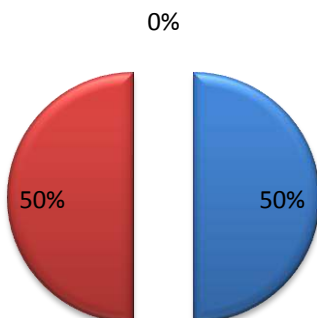
**How well did the themes in this workshop link with the curriculum and your eco schools programme?**

■ Excellent ■ Good ■ Ok ■ Not Relevant



**Is the online Carbon Calculator a useful tool for you and your pupils to use as part of on-going class learning?**

■ Yes ■ Don't Know ■ No



*\*Although the **Carbon Calculator** was designed to produce a paper free and interesting way for schools to connect with the topic, it was not utilised as well as we had hoped with a strong percentage of teachers not being aware of its' existence. This is something we hope to review in the future to not only see if we can improve our own communication techniques within schools, but also to assess whether classes will have access to the resources needed to complete the **Carbon Calculator Quiz**.*

**QUALITATIVE FEEDBACK**

What did you think about this show in relation to your pupil's current learning? (E.g. how well did it compliment what you are learning in class?) **Why is this?**

**The workshop engaged the children fully through effective use of language and visual aids...**

**The children were involved in the workshop from the onset and this helped captivate their minds leading to meaningful learning experiences throughout the visit...**

Teacher, Castleton

**Very relevant to what they are learning in school and hopefully at home... Teacher, St Conval's Primary**

**Very engaging, informative & active. Children were able to further develop their current knowledge and apply it almost instantly!"** Teacher, Hyndland Primary

**The children were very engaged in the workshop and was aimed at their level of learning. I will also be able to follow on from the work in the workshop and tie it into their classroom learning. I also loved the fact that they were active throughout it...**  
Teacher, St Mungo's

How well did the themes in this workshop link with the curriculum and your eco schools programme? **Why is this?**

**The school was in the process of applying for a green flag and this helped children gain knowledge of recycling...**

Teacher, Castleton Primary

**As an Eco School, promoting school the ethos of the theme fitted perfectly into our ambition to achieve Green Flag status.** Teacher, St Benedict's

**It linked in very well as it focused on things the children could do themselves.**

Teacher St Mary's Primary



**Pupils are encouraged to reduce reuse and recycle. Our School Committee works hard to consider ways of looking after our school or community and our pupils are encouraged to care for the environment... Teacher St Conval's Primary**

**Relates well to health & wellbeing experiences and outcomes in CfE. Teacher, St Clare's Primary**

## **Additional Comments**

**I thought the workshop was excellent! Thanks for the workshop we really enjoyed it. It makes my job as Eco Coordinator a bit easier to involve others and pass on the message! Teacher, Chirnsyde Primary**

**Keep up the great work and thanks! Teacher, Howford Primary**

**It was brilliant! Children are still using their canvas bags! Teacher, Hyndland Primary**

**The children enjoyed the workshop as did I. In my opinion I would keep it as it is. The theme is first class and the message is transferred with a good bit of fun too. Teacher, St Benedict's Primary**



## 5. EVALUATION SUMMARY

The feedback indicates that *Recycling Heroes* has an effect on all key learning areas – **Enjoyment, Inspiration, Creativity; Knowledge and Understanding; Attitudes and Values; Skills; and Activity, Behaviour and Progression.** In addition it connected well with the **Curriculum for Excellence** and **Eco School Links.**

Pupils were encouraged to develop new creative skills to engage with the workshop and also to feedback to Eco Drama on their learning experience. **Through this we can see that Eco Drama’s workshop has impacted on the thoughts and attitudes of pupils.** There is evidence of thoughts and opinions being considered about many of the topics raised in the workshop (primarily the principles of **Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle**) and how this can positively change their relationship with our natural world.

The Classroom Activity Pack can be a springboard from which teachers continue further learning in class. This aspect is further visible in Teacher Feedback, in which the workshop and classroom activity pack are shown to provide the basis for further learning and development and where the value of the *Recycling Heroes* workshop is evident.



Through the Carbon Calculator we were able to see a reduction in carbon emissions by **289.34 TONNES of CO2**

**Over 87%** of pupils found the workshop **FUN, EXCITING** and **VERY GOOD**

**Over 79%** learned new things

**Over 91%** understand **RECYCLE**

**Over 88%** understand **REUSE**

**Over 76%** understand **REDUCE**

**Over 88%** will try to use these at home and in school

**Over 89%** (P3-5) understanding how this helps care for the environment

**100%** of teachers found the workshop complimented the pupils learning. **85%** found it an **EXCELLENT** whilst **15%** found it **GOOD**

**100%** found the theme worked well with the curriculum and their own Eco School program. **83%** found it **EXCELLENT** whilst **17%** found it **GOOD**

**Thank you reading.**

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# ECO DRAMA