



Play Gloucestershire Report Card: Bourton-on-the-Water



Monitoring Period: January – March 2018

Play Gloucestershire is the local charity that helps children to Get Out and Play! Our mission is to transform children's lives using the power of outdoor play. We believe that outdoor play is an essential part of a happy and healthy childhood, and benefits families, schools and communities.

Our Play Rangers provide active and creative play in urban and rural communities in the Cheltenham, Cotswolds, Forest of Dean, Gloucester, Stroud and Tewkesbury districts. Activities are both school and community based, providing adventure, friendship and fun for hundreds of young people each year. School aged children and their families are the beneficiaries of our work. We particularly support children from disadvantaged and rurally isolated communities, and those living in challenging circumstances.

Play Gloucestershire's Play Rangers work year round in Bourton-on-the-Water delivering afterschool and school holiday play sessions. The work is kindly funded by Bourton-on-the-Water Parish Council through to March 2019.

How much did we do?

- We provided **11 after school play sessions & 1 school holiday play sessions**
- **Totalling 24.5 hours of play**
- We received **90 play visits from children, young people and adults**

How well did we do it?

"The sun's out, that means we can have a water fight!?"

– Charlotte (aged 9) excited about the start of spring.

"Thank you, I can't wait until next week and it will be my birthday on a Play Ranger day!" – Daniel (Turning 8)

"Thank you, they've had a lot of fun today." – Mum of two children attending play.

Have we made a difference to children and young people?

- Providing volunteering opportunities to young people who in turn role model positive behaviour among their peers.
- We promote active and healthy lifestyles with a range of activities and snacks. This combination improves mental health and physical health, providing a sense of increased wellbeing.
- Unique relationships between our Play Rangers and the children and young people attending sessions who test our boundaries in search of consistent and dependable adult role models.
- A unique opportunity for children and young people of different ages to play together that doesn't happen in school and sport club's environments where age groups are separated.
- An unstructured approach to play that encourages young people to develop skills in self resilience and decision making.

Play Gloucestershire in Bourton-on-the-Water

Session Log Sheet Extract – 10/01/18

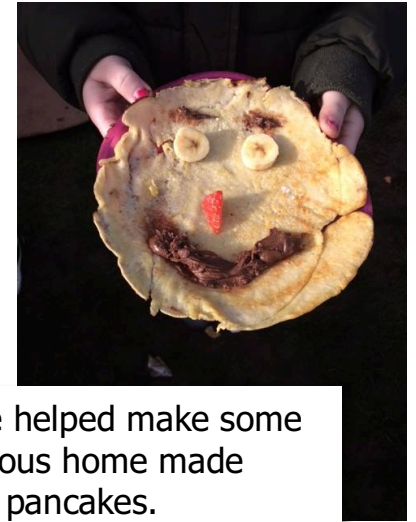
"When lighting the fire, every child always wants to be the one that gets it lit. We use a flint and steel onto a cotton wool for the safety of the children. We're always very careful about who has the flint and steel, that it's not a toy and we want any child that uses it to be responsible with it. However, Ryan who's 8 got his very own flint and steel for Christmas and was sent to the park with it and some of his own cotton wool! We chatted again about how these aren't toys and if used in the wrong way could be extremely dangerous. He agreed to keep his in the van for today, but that we would let him start the fire for cooking with his Christmas present. He said that he will only use it with either us or his parents."

Session Log Sheet Extract – 14/03/18

The current group of children have loved den building over the last couple of months. It's always the first thing they ask for out of the van. I think they're just the perfect age for it, and it's something they can't do the rest of the week when we're not there. I'm starting to think the weather also has something to do with it, we've had lots of cold or wet sessions this term and they love building a shelter to keep out the cold.



The children found this mannequin hand in the van, took it out, covered it in mud, buried it into the ground, took a photo of it and then put this creepy filter on it!



Everyone helped make some delicious home made pancakes.



This long black tube has been used for all sorts of things. On this occasion the game was to put a tennis ball in one end and get it out of the other as quickly as possible.