



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



Monitoring Period: April – June 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 **8 after school play sessions & 3 school holiday play sessions**
- **Totalling 23.5 hours of play**
- We received **260 play visits from children, young people and adults**

How well did we do it?

"Wow this session with no equipment is strange, but really fun!" - Matt (young volunteer) aged 12

"This is amazing... we are so glad to have found you and will definitely come along again" Lady from school holiday scheme

"Oh my this is so much fun... can we do more next week please!?" – Robert, aged 7 about messy/sensory 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

After a small amount of trouble and a few fights last week I decided to go into this session with none or limited equipment depending how the session went.

It went really well, we were busy but everyone had ideas for games and wanted to make suggestions so we had a large group of children all playing each other's games. So we ended with a session of no kit due to creativity NOT behaviour. A great way of showing what can be done.

Session Log Sheet Extract

We met two new children today; Ryley and Phillip who came for an hour but stayed until 6pm, Mum said it was an experiment to see if they liked it. They stayed an hour longer than they should, which we think speaks for itself.

Session Log Sheet Extract

Our Young Volunteers have been amazing today. They set up play, led play and helped their peers get really involved; even those children that are normally reluctant to engage at first got stuck in from the first minute. They are great young assets to have on site!



Session Log Sheet Extract

We found a mysterious substance in the van, the kids were convinced it was cornflour (I knew it was baking powder due to its consistency) we gave it to them and let them play with it.

They mixed it with paint and other things and made a honeycomb with mousse consistency, it was ace!

Robert (the main instigator of the messy play) shared his recipe with the other kids and they just played with the result.

Sensory play is becoming more and more popular across all of our sites. With play taking place flat screens on phones and TVs the ability to feel things in between your fingers through messy play is an opportunity we are proud to offer, especially when you see the joy and excitement during this play.

