

## P53 Tree based education and improvements

Theme(s): B: Improve people's understanding of rivers, catchments, weather extremes and climate change. Increase community participation in monitoring change and taking action to improve and protect water environments.

Goal(s): B3: Engage widely to educate about river issues and encourage positive behavioural change.

Combine local environmental improvement, tree growing and education in the catchment. The Woodland Classroom in Chopwell Wood gives easy access right across the Tyne system. It's a popular venue for a range of education and access services and would provide a base for the practical work and learning that this project would deliver. Trees will be grown with nursery-aged children and community groups and followed throughout the trees' initial growth by dedicated 'tree adopters'. This engagement will keep the community involved in a range of medium-term environmental education activities include learning, volunteering and training across the catchment. The culmination will be planting the young trees in the catchment, with specific trees being used to complement the environmental issues being faced in that area.

*Update as at April 2013: A group of organisations met in March, and will meet again in April 2013, to explore the possibility of putting together a bid for funding from a number of sources to deliver a programme of awareness raising and engagement projects targeted at improving understanding and protection of the rivers in the Tyne catchment.*

Project Status:	Proposed
Potential Deliverer(s):	The project would be delivered by Groundwork Community Project Officers and Education Team with support from our dedicated nursery managers and green team, in partnership with the Forestry Commission, Local Authorities, the Environment Agency, Northumberland Wildlife Trust and a wide range of community partners
Estimated Timeframe:	1 to 5 years
Estimated Project Cost:	£5,000 to £25,000
Potential Funding Source(s):	Heritage Lottery Find, Forestry Commission, local authorities
Additional benefits / links / opportunities:	Northumberland Wildlife Trust is an accredited forest schools deliverer