

## P54 Wet, Wild & Wiggly

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.

Project aimed at early years looking at the very basics of river ecology. Working with Western Area Children's Centres - Albemarle, Bellingham, Haltwhistle, Hexham, Ponteland and Prudhoe - the project would look to take children on a visit to an appropriate watercourse, preferably where children could do some toe wiggling in the water and a watery minibeast hunt. This could be followed up with 2 sessions of craft and games focusing on water quality/conservation and ecology. Aiming to do 3 visits plus a trip with each Children's Centre. This could be rolled out to all Children's Centres in the catchment, depending on links to curriculum.

*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):	Groundwork North East, Northumberland Wildlife Trust
Estimated Timeframe:	1 to 5 years
Estimated Project Cost:	£50,000 to £100,000
Potential Funding Source(s):	Northumbrian Water (or their Branch Out fund)