



Pennar Community School

Wild Garden

ECEY6005

Student Number 2206077

Discover

Pennar Community School is located within Pennar, Pembroke Dock.

Pennar Community School was built approximately 60 years ago and the Wild Garden has only been built within the last 10 years.

I brought along a Kingfisher class to complete this project in discovering, exploring and conserving Pennar's Wild Garden.

(All children were involved in each activity and task, however were not included in any photographs for safeguarding purposes.)



1 - [CLICK HERE](#) - Map of Pennar Community School - Arrows show location of the Wild Garden

Pennar Community School is blessed with an array of outdoor areas, from the field to the willow and the wild garden.

The Wild garden is located here within the school grounds around the back of the school next to the car park.

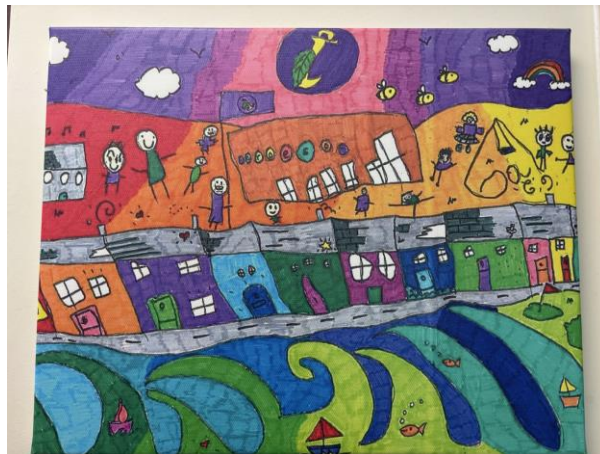
This module has allowed me and the children to learn more about the history of the school from my colleagues.

The wild garden and car park has only been build recently in the last 10 years. The Wild garden and connecting car park used to be a patch of green that had a fish pond located on it. There used to be fish and tadpoles within the pond. It required a lot of maintenance and wasn't looked after properly over the years. Which then resulted it to be turned into a Wild Garden and parking for the staff.

I chose the Wild Garden as recently each class has chose an area to improve within the school as part of the whole school topic and the Wild garden wasn't chosen by any class and each day I park my car I look into the wild garden and think of improvements that can be made to create a better experience for outdoor learning with the children.



The children in year 1 and 2 last year designed and drew pictures of our School and the community around based on the work of Rhiannon Roberts.



Explore



2 - Wild Garden Entrance

The wild garden is often used by classes and children for exploring, relaxing, outdoor learning, story time and much more.

Using the 5 Senses



The Wild garden has a bird bath in the middle with benches in a circle around. The benches are interactive with birds, bugs and insects carved into them and the name of what they are in English and Welsh.



Next to our Wild garden is our bee enclosure home to our Pennar Bees, we have recently set up and have had training to be a school to care for and home honey bees.



The wild garden has a variety of different flowers, plants, birds and insects within the area.

On observation of the Wild Garden over a period of time I saw,

crows, blackbirds, robin, blackbird, magpie, bluetit and a goldfinch, I could also hear the birds in passing but was unable to identify the sound. The birds were tending to stop in passing and did not tend to stick around for long.

The Wild Garden was home to some insects but not many on observation I saw spiders, ladybirds, snails, bees and worms.



3 - Dicots



4 - Apple tree



5 - Brambles



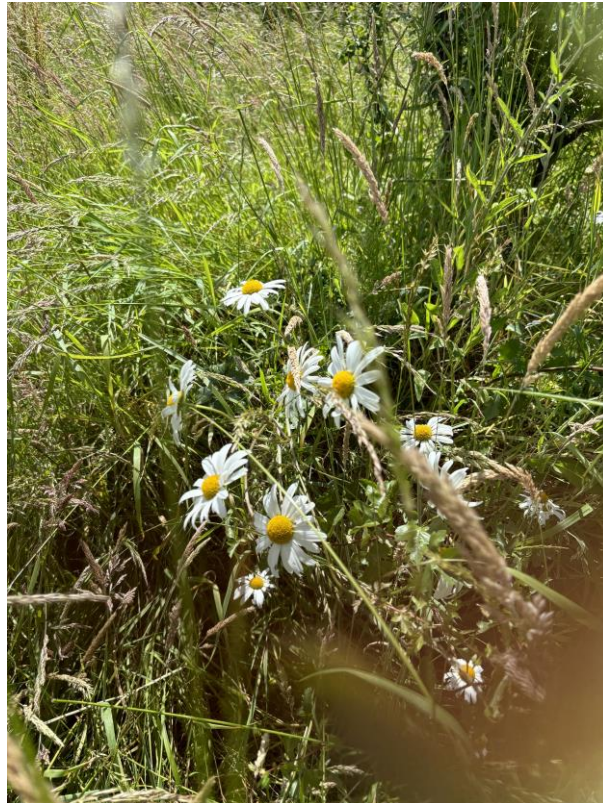
6 - Brambles



7 - Ryegrass



8 - Rose Family



9 - Daisies

Whilst in the wild garden I noticed some traces of litter such as fruit waste, paper towels and wet wipes.





Whilst Exploring the Wild garden the children said they could smell car smells from the car park and the road behind the garden. we could also hear the sound of a motorbike revving in a garage near by. When the wind was blowing through the wild garden we could smell the fresh leaves from the trees. we also explored the leaves around feeling the different textures and patterns on them.

one child picked up an apple from the floor and smelt it, they did ask to eat it however we risk assessed and explained that we were unable to eat what we found in the garden.

The children from kingfisher class drew some kingfishers and spoke about what birds mean to them.

"I like that birds are all different colours"

"Birds are colourful and it makes me happy"

"I like spotting birds in my garden with my daddy"

"Birds make different noises I like guessing what bird it is"

"I love being in kingfisher class"

A year 6 came up to me in the corridor and said "Miss I like our class names being birds and then spotting the birds when I'm out with my family makes me think of the different classes i've been in with my teachers and it gives me happy memories"





Conserve



10 - [CLICK HERE](#) - The car park being situated next to the wild garden is not an ideal location between me and the children we thought about the fact that with a heavy flow of traffic in and out next to the garden that it would potentially causing a reduction in the number of birds and insects we were seeing in the wild garden. To help improve this we have planned a walk to school week in September, this is to encourage more staff and children with their families to walk or cycle to school instead of using the car to monitor if we see an improvement of living creatures within the wild garden.



11 - [CLICK HERE](#) - Myself and the children went on a litter pick in the Garden and around the school, we managed to gather half a bin bag of rubbish, we found there was more in the front of the school where there is a higher flow of people. During our litter pick we discussed with the children the importance of making sure litter is put in bins and in the correct bins and how it can help the world by doing so.



12 - [CLICK HERE](#) - Myself and the Children planted wild flower seeds up in the planters next to the Wild garden and the bee enclosure, we planted the seed in the hope to attract more living creatures to the area and also support the bees.



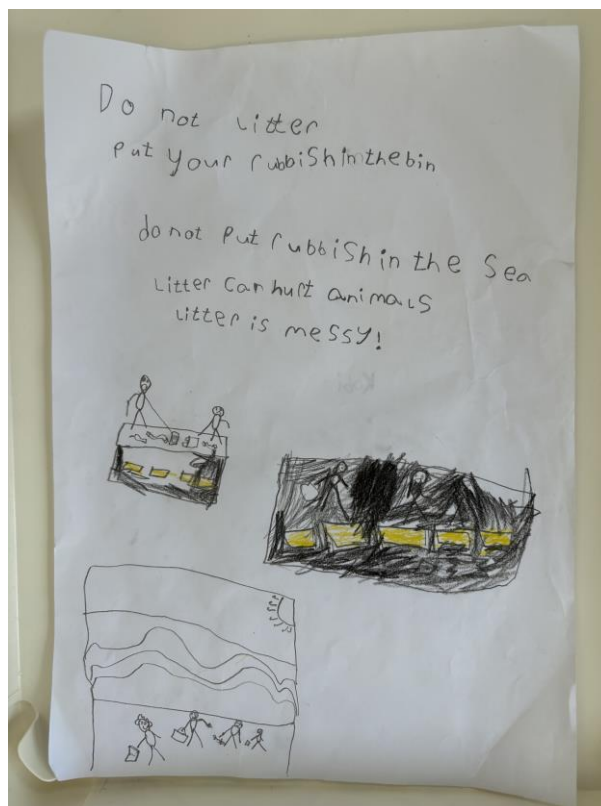
13 - [CLICK HERE](#) - We added rocks and wood into the bird bath to support the bees in drinking water, as we learned that bees sometime drown when trying to drink water so providing something for the bees to land on will support them in getting a drink.

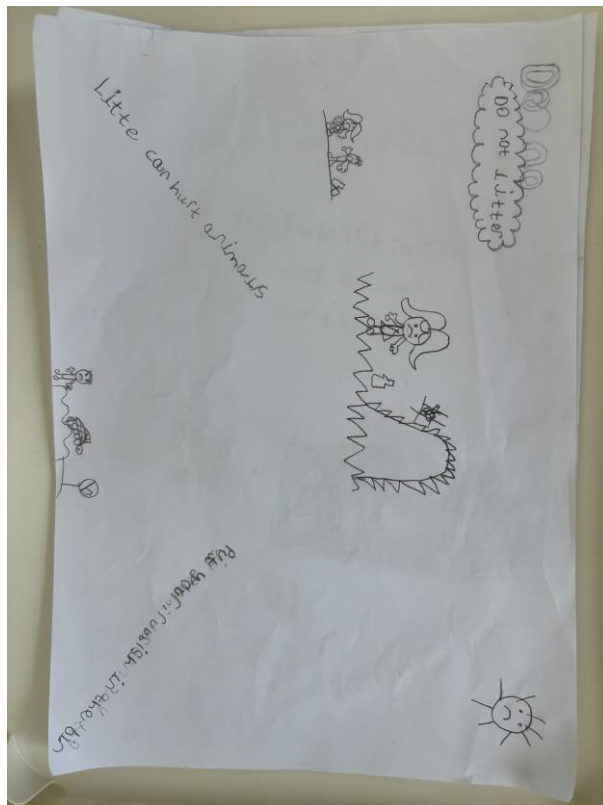
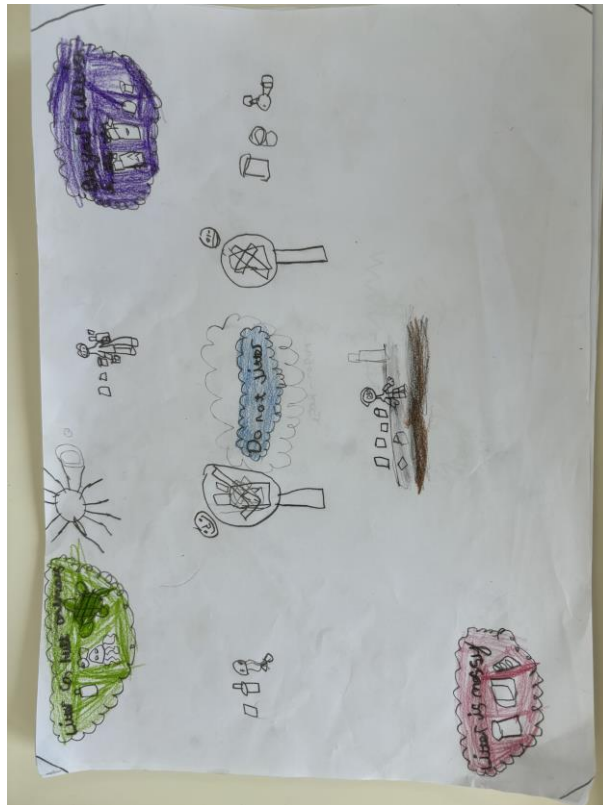


14 - [CLICK HERE](#) - We had a mini bug hotel donated to us from a family which we placed in the wild garden, we have also been donated old palettes which we are hoping to turn into a bigger bug hotel in the next academic year.



15 - [CLICK HERE](#) - The Children in kingfishers worked in groups to create litter posters to place around the garden, we have also have had 2 bins donated to us to place in the back of the school to support and encourage everyone to not litter.







16 - [CLICK HERE](#) - We created fat balls to hang up in the trees to attract and encourage more birds to stay in the area. We created fat balls using Bird seed and lard which we moulded into cups, pushed string through them and then froze them to set them, after a day we hung them outside and observed an increase in birds in the area, we also saw squirrels running up the trees to try and get to the fat balls.



17 - [CLICK HERE](#) - On my day down Flying start we went on a nature walk around the school and read a story in the Wild garden we then collected leaves to do leaf printing. We then took the leaves back and painted different colours on the leaf and pressed it down into black paper to reveal a pattern from the leaves.

When exploring and observing myself and the children used an app called SEEK on the iPad to learn the names of flowers and trees that were in the area. the children were guessing what they thought the trees or plants were and then we would check it in the app. It allowed the children to be independent in learning and investigating.

Share

After creating my Scrapbook on the Wild Garden I shared it in our staff meeting with all my colleagues, as a presentation, I received feedback from the staff on how uneducated they were on our school areas and how my prevention allowed them to be more aware of our School grounds and how to support the school in being more sustainably. Another member of staff said they did not realise how small things could cause such an impact into such an area.

After completing this project with kingfisher class I presented them with the scrapbook and opened up a discussion based on what they could see and what they think they have learnt. one child said "me and mummy walk to school now as I don't want to scare the birds away" another child said "I always make sure I put my rubbish in the right bin"

We also invited parents into the school for a morning of tea cakes and a prevention from the children on the work we have done, we charged a small fee for the cost of cakes and the money we made will go towards more improvements into the wild garden. We raised £65.