

Quaker Kids

Children's Meeting Resource Kit 2: Ecology



Activity: Into the forest

Aim: To help the children think about ecology and the interactions between species.

Project link: Nadukuppam Environmental Centre's Eco Club in India is where children learn about the creatures of the forest and what needs to be done to help them all live in harmony together.

Resources: No physical resources. Have the names of up to 8 forest animals ready (ie frog, lizard, ant, spider, snake, bird, worm, butterfly).

Venue: Enough space to move about and make some noise.

Divide the children into 2 equally sized groups and whisper the name of one animal to each child in the first group. Then whisper the same animal names to members of the second group. Invite the children to move about adopting the action and sound of their animal. There will be 2 children acting out each animal. Then invite them to try to find their "mates". When all animals are paired up with their mates, talk about what role each animal plays in the forest and what sorts of human activity might destroy that harmony.

Activity: Fishing for trouble

Aim: to help children think about the human impacts on the sea.

Project link: The Eco Club again (note that the children in India in the photo are playing this same game)

Venue: Just a regular room is fine.

Resources: Five or six coloured fish as well as a few "human made" objects such as plastic bags, shoes, cans of drink (all made from paper with paper clips attached). You may wish to involve the children in designing these fish. Fishing rods consist of a small stick (chopsticks work well), string for the line and a magnet attached to the end of the string as bait.



Lay out the fish in an area agreed to be the pond. Children take turns “fishing”. Discuss which objects do not belong in the pond and what impact they might have on the creatures in the pond.

Story: The Eco Club and the river (see that story book from before)

Fundraising Ideas