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Howardian Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty Rural : Urban Schools Twinning Project

The twinning project aims to twin rural schools in the AONB with schools in Hull and York. Nine of the twelve primary schools in the AONB are keen to take part and finding an equal number of urban schools has proven easy. The project will work with approximately 560 children over a period of four years from 2010 until 2014. The pairings will remain constant throughout the four years to enable the schools to build a firm relationship. The schools will visit their twin once per academic year and will be encouraged to maintain links using e-mail and letters between visits.

The project is being funded by Heritage Lottery Fund 'Your Heritage' (£45,500), LEADER Moors, Coast and Hills (£37,420) and the Howardian Hills AONB (£4,000).

In the Year 1 of the project all of the children used maps and aerial photographs to discover more about their local area/the area they are visiting. They were shown around the school and given PowerPoint presentations by their peers. They also had the opportunity to walk around the local area; in the AONB this was a walk through the village and into the surrounding farmland. In Hull the walk included walking around the local areas around the school and visits to East Park.

In Years 2 to 4 of the project the pairs of schools will select topics to study. They might opt for biodiversity in their school grounds or local green-space, World War Two, railways, trade links, agriculture/fishing/industry etc.

The teachers will attend workshops at which they can share ideas and feedback to us on the successes and areas for improvement. The first workshop took place on 13th October 2010, the agenda included a recap on the project aims, refining the draft programme for the sessions in Year 1 and initial thoughts on activities for Years 2 to 4. By the end of the session we were able to confirm the school pairings. The twinned schools are outlined on the following page.

<u>Urban Schools</u>	<u>AONB Schools</u>
Gillshill (Hull)	Fosten / Terrington
Neasden (Hull)	Hovingham /St Hilda's
Longhill (Hull)	Welburn
Ings (Hull)	Sherriff Hutton
Hall Road (Hull)	Amotherby
Wansbeck (Hull)	St Benedict's
Tang Hall (York)	Crayke
Park Grove (York)	Slingsby
Cavendish (Hull)	Husthwaite

After each year of the project further Teacher's Workshops will take place. The most recent took place on September 13th 2011 where the project received extremely positive feedback from all the schools, and ideas were shared on potential topics for year 2 of the project. Successive workshops will take place in June each year for the final three years of the project. This will enable teachers and project staff to find out what worked and what didn't, and initiate topic ideas for the new academic year.

If you have any questions about the project please contact:

Liz Bassindale, AONB Officer- Liz.Bassindale@northyorks.gov.uk (Maternity cover details to follow)

or

Tony Martin, Yorkshire Wildlife Trust Community Project Manager – tony.martin@ywt.org.uk