

Grant Impact

Ide Primary School





The funding we received from the Coreus Foundation has enabled us to work in partnership with Lou from Lou's Wild Garden. This collaboration has created a wealth of opportunities for our children, providing them with hands-on experiences in nature while benefiting from Lou's expertise and passion. Working with a knowledgeable local expert from our own community has enriched the children's learning, strengthened their connection to the natural environment, and fostered a greater sense of belonging within the local community.



This year, Lou has worked with the children at Ide on six occasions, delivering one session each half term. Thanks to the funding from the Coreus Foundation, Lou has been able to dedicate time to planning creative, engaging and purposeful sessions that inspire curiosity and encourage hands-on learning.

The funding has also enabled us to purchase the resources needed for each session, supporting local businesses by sourcing materials from local garden centres and purchasing plants directly from Lou's nursery in Exeter. This has not only enhanced the quality of the sessions but has also strengthened our links with the local community while providing meaningful, nature-based learning experiences for our children.



The children in our Wildlife Champions group chose the focus for this year's work with Lou. They decided to centre the project on butterflies, with the aim of creating habitats that will attract and support more butterflies within our school grounds. By giving the children ownership of the project's direction, they have developed a greater sense of responsibility for their environment while learning about biodiversity, conservation and the importance of creating wildlife-friendly spaces.



Each session was carefully planned by Lou to transform our wildlife mound into a thriving haven for butterflies and other pollinators. Through a series of practical, hands-on activities, the children worked collaboratively to develop the space while learning about habitats, biodiversity and the importance of caring for the natural environment.

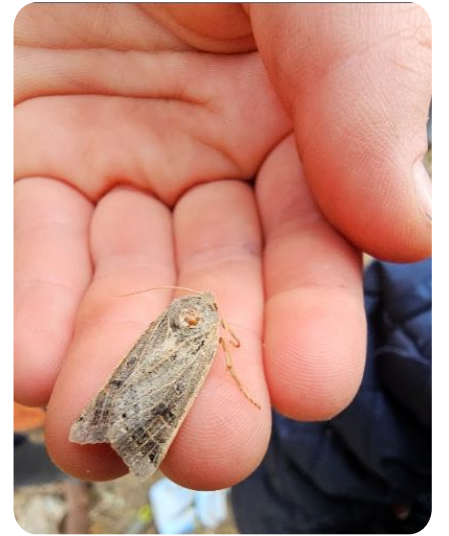
Together, the children:

- built a pathway through the wildlife area;
 - grew plants from seed to provide food sources for pollinators;
 - planted bulbs and a variety of wildlife-friendly plants;
 - constructed a bug hotel to create shelter for insects;
 - created a miniature pond and bog area to encourage a wider range of wildlife; and
 - planted an apple tree, which will provide blossom for pollinators and fruit for future years.
- These activities helped the children develop teamwork, practical gardening skills and a deeper understanding of how they can make a positive contribution to supporting local wildlife.



The impact this has had across the school has resulted in:

- a whole school trip to Ide's community orchard to look at the butterflies
- Whole school butterfly counts sending information to the Butterfly Conservation
- An exhibition at the Exeter Phoenix with a theme of butterflies created by our KS1 class and our Year 5/6 class
- Application for an award with the Butterfly Conservation Wild Spaces Devon Schools Award



A huge thank you for your support and generous donation. Without your funding, this wonderful opportunity would not have been possible for the children at Ide Primary School.

Your investment has enabled our pupils to develop new skills, build a stronger connection with the natural world, and create a lasting legacy for wildlife within our school grounds. The impact of your generosity will continue to be felt for years to come.

With sincere thanks,

The children and staff at Ide Primary School

