

PRIMARY SCHOOL WORKSHOPS



SYNOPSIS

Fèis Rois worked with a P5 class in four different primary schools in Edinburgh to explore traditional music and the wider traditional arts in Scotland.

Each class had a storytelling day in school where a storyteller shared a traditional tale with the pupils. The four different classes were then asked to choose a traditional art form through which to interpret the story. Pupils spent four weeks working with a number of traditional artists before they came together for a sharing of their work at the recently refurbished Usher Hall. The areas explored by the pupils included tin whistle and composition; Gaelic and Scots song; group music making; step dance and choreography. The whole school community from each of the four schools came to the Usher Hall and formed the audience for the performance.

The pupils learned new skills in music and dance, and this cross-curricular project also met a number of literacy, numeracy and health & wellbeing outcomes. All of the young performers contributed to the creative process and to the structure of the final performance piece.

AIMS

- To meet the overarching experiences and the stage 2 outcomes for the Expressive Arts and to enable every pupil to achieve across the four capacities of the Curriculum for Excellence
- To develop tailored, pupil-centred work through creative, inclusive teaching and learning, using a cross-curricular approach
- To encourage self-expression by giving pupils the opportunity to engage in a creative process and present their work to others
- To give pupils the opportunity to learn new skills and to share those skills with others
- To create partnerships between Fèis Rois, schools and others working in the arts in Scotland
- To increase access and widen participation in the traditional arts
- To increase awareness of the Gaelic language and traditions

PARTNERS

- Fèis Rois
www.feisrois.org
- City of Edinburgh Council Creative Links Team

PARTICIPANTS

- The pupils of Burdiehouse, Drumbrae, Fort and Royston Primary Schools

PROJECT LENGTH

- One term

FUNDING

- Creative Scotland: Youth Music Initiative





Project Outcomes:

CURRICULUM FOR EXCELLENCE FOUR CAPACITIES

This project enabled the young participants to become:

SUCCESSFUL LEARNERS

The project supported pupils to:

- Use literacy, communication and numeracy skills. Pupils were engaged in storytelling workshops; had to communicate clearly with their peers when working on the final performance; used numeracy skills when counting bars of music
- Link and apply different kinds of learning in new situations. Pupils learned music and songs by ear.

CONFIDENT INDIVIDUALS

The project supported pupils to:

- Relate well to others and manage themselves when giving their own contribution to the collaborative work
- Pursue a healthy and active lifestyle. Pupils were engaged in dance activity
- Achieve success in a new area of activity

RESPONSIBLE CITIZENS

The project supported pupils to:

- Make informed decisions about the creative piece of work they were all engaged in shaping and delivering
- Respect each other's ideas and input to the creative process
- Develop a deeper knowledge and understanding of Scotland's traditional arts and languages

EFFECTIVE CONTRIBUTORS

The project supported pupils to:

- Communicate in different ways (through music and the arts) and in different settings (in a performance space outwith the school setting)
- Create and develop new skills and ideas
- Work in partnership and in teams with classmates and with pupils from other schools

It was a completely new experience for all the children. They felt really special being in a real dressing room.

Teacher, Burdiehouse Primary School

It was a great experience for the children; they had a real sense of ownership of their work.

Teacher, Royston Primary School

I learned notes on a xylophone. I also learned the story of the beast. I learned where the midges come from.

Pupil, Royston Primary School

I learned how to perform in front of a lot of people.

Pupil, Royston Primary School