



# Play Scheme Evaluation May 2005



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New Opportunities Fund  
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Barnardo's  
GIVING CHILDREN BACK THEIR FUTURE



Children's Fund

**SureStart**

## Introduction.

Over the May half term we had lots of activities planned for the children. We also had some money kindly donated by Derby City Council to take the children on two trips. As you can see below we had a very busy week, which was enjoyed by all the children.

Tuesday – Play scheme

Wednesday – Trip to Snibston Discovery Park

Thursday – Play scheme

Friday – Children’s event at first steps

Saturday – Family trip to Carsington Water

## Play scheme days.

For the play scheme days, the children attended from 10:00 am till 3:00 pm, at a cost of £2 per child. They also brought along a packed lunch.

The children enjoyed a wide range of activities, from making felt puppets to cooking. We also managed to spend a lot of time outside due to the lovely weather!

At Patch the play areas are of a free flow atmosphere. We have the use of two rooms and the outdoor area. Activities are set up in each area and the children are able to move freely between these.



## Trips and Events!

### Wednesday – Trip to Snibston Discovery Park

We took 38 children on a trip to Snibston Discovery Park. Everyone, even with the bad weather, enjoyed the day! There was lots for the children to do there, and plenty of experiments to get your hands on! We also went on a tour of the colliery and old mines, which the children really enjoyed even if the guide spooked them a little! We ended the day with a ride on an old steam train before the bus journey home.



Playing with the giant connect 4 and hopscotch in the toy box room.



Seeing how bones work



We'll never pull this train!

## Children's Event at First Steps.

35 children took part in a special event on the Friday. There were lots of activities on offer for the children to get involved in. Sue Wilson took photos and got the children involved in making web pages for the Patch website.

Rachel Wheeldon had children drawing images of their dads and the things they like to do with their dads.

Pauline & Madonna made play dough with the children, which they then rolled out and cut shapes from.

There were colouring activities, dressing up clothes and board games available all day.

Outside play with mats and a trampoline were well received.

### Visitors on the day:

Diane Elliot for road safety team brought lots of activities for the children to do, relating to being safe and identifying dangers and being seen.

PC Emma Daniels interacted with the children and playing games and delivering a talk to the children about who she is and what she does in her role.

St John's Ambulance demonstrated some of their equipment using our children. (Spinal boards and methods of carrying patients, supports and CPR.)



Dressing up time!



Having a go on the stretcher!



Practising to open our airways  
with Saints john's ambulance



Ambulance services uniform



Enjoying the fruit donated by Sainsbury's.

We would just like to say a special thank you to:

- 🕒 First steps for letting us use their building and preparing lunch
- 🕒 Sainsbury's for providing us with lots of fruit for snack time
- 🕒 All the great visitors who came and gave talks and allowed the children to take part in fun activities.
- 🕒 Graham and Janette from the Black Swan in Crich, who provided the balloons, string and bangles.

## Family trip to Carsington Water.



On the Saturday 23 people and 5 staff went on a family trip to Carsington Water. Everyone involved had a great day and really enjoyed themselves. Luckily the weather wasn't too poor!

## Achievements over the half term

Over the half term Patch and Crewton Way have had 69 children attend. Of which 10 have been new children. We are still always looking for new families to attend our play schemes and due to publicity and referrals we had new children attend over the February half term.

We also had 13 children attend with disabilities / SEN or behavioural issues over the week. 6 of these children required a one-to-one worker.

The trips out went really well and were enjoyed by all, hopefully we will be able to go on more in the future.

### Packed lunches.

We encouraged parents to provide their children with a healthy packed lunch, and to try and not include any chocolate or sweets, most of the time this worked well.

### Snacks.

We provided a morning and afternoon snack for the children. The morning snack was more filling as some of the children hadn't had breakfast or a drink before arriving; we introduced a variety of foods such as crumpets, teacakes, fruit, pitta bread with cheese and tomato's etc. In the afternoon a lighter snack was given such as fruit, biscuits, cakes etc.

### Feedback from children.

Feedback from the children has shown that they have really enjoyed themselves over the half term break. The trips went down really well, and the majority of children have commented that they hope we get to go on more in the future.

The children enjoyed the nice weather, and spent most of the time playing outside. They liked the wide range of outdoor toys we had, although would like more footballs!

Some of the positive comments we received from the children were:

‘ I have had a really nice time, and made lots of new friends ’

‘ I haven't been bored here at all ’

‘ I really enjoyed the trip to Snibston, the man who showed us round made me laugh when he tried to scare us! ’

‘ I hope I can come here again ’

### Feedback from workers.

Workers have commented that they felt the play scheme went well, possibly due to the fact that we were all worn out by the end of it!

We were very short on volunteers this play scheme so relied on the help of agency workers. Luckily for us many of them have worked with us before and are familiar with the children so this was a great help. We would like to say a special thank you to them for the help and support they offered the staff.

The children at Crewton Way especially loved having a male worker who would play football with them all day!

### Feedback from parents and carers.

We have had some really positive comments from the parents and carers, mostly saying how much their children have enjoyed it. Parents and carers would have liked it, if more than one day was available for their child. Parents are already asking about when they can book their children in for the summer play scheme.

### Conclusion.

Overall the play scheme has been a huge success and has benefited many families in the area.

We had a lack of volunteers but hopefully in the future we will be able to attract more!

It would be a great help if more volunteers could get involved in the planning and setting up in the future, please feel free to see a member of staff if you have any ideas these will be much appreciated!

## Appendix 1

Numbers of children who attended: 69

Number of children with SEN, Disabilities or behavioural issues: 13

Number of children requiring one-to-one support: 6

Range of Disabilities / SEN: ADHD  
Autistic Spectrum  
Learning difficulties mild – severe  
Downs Syndrome  
Behavioural issues  
Hearing impairment  
Sight impairment