



The Laal Collective



Making a Difference | At a Glance

About

Development need

The Primary Business Partnership (PBP) work closely to broker links between schools and local businesses to support career related learning, so when the Maryport cluster of primary schools wanted support with a creative project, PBP approached The Laal Collective, a new arts organisation, to help create a project that would bring the schools together after Covid-19 forced them to work in isolation.

The Laal Collective – Bringing a community together

The Laal Collective, based in Cumbria, work with communities to create art projects that celebrate identity and sense of place through a variety of collaborative and collective approaches.

After receiving funding from The National Lottery Heritage Fund and Francis C Scott Charitable Trust, the arts organisation went on to develop the 'Sands of Time' project in collaboration with the Maryport cluster, Living Seas Northwest, Cumbria Wildlife Trust and PBP, engaging 200 primary pupils from across the Maryport cluster area.

The project explores the vital role that the honeycomb worms play in the health of our waters. They create small sand structures that protect the coastline from erosion whilst also playing an important role in the ecosystem biodiversity.

The children are currently creating a shared story inspired by Hilda, the honeycomb worm. The story will pass from school to school each adding their own chapter. Once all the schools have contributed, the children will create shadow puppets to illustrate their chapter of the story and there will be an exhibition of all the fantastic art work.



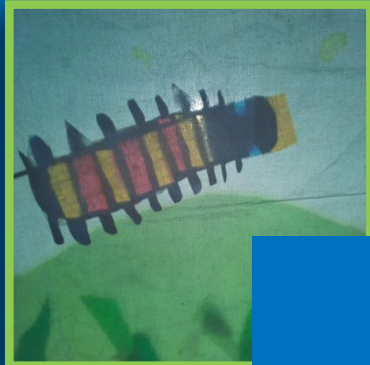
Benefits

Benefits to The Laal Collective

- Able to develop relationships within their community
- Able to encourage other funders with the support of PBP
- Gained knowledge and support from PBP about how best to engage and develop workshops with primary school children
- PBP have been able to share their offerings across their networks
- They have been supported on social media by PBP networks
- PBP have introduced and facilitated the conversations between the schools and The Laal Collective

Benefits to the young people

- Engaged 200 primary pupils from the Maryport cluster of primary schools
- Programme developed to increase attainment in reading and English
- Encouraged and celebrated an opportunity for the community of schools to work together
- Received workshops that were tailored to curriculum needs
- Brought learning to life
- Opportunity to explore the local environment and learn about protecting the coastline and understanding the ecosystem biodiversity
- Learnt more about their local community and environment



PRIMARY

Testimonials

How did you find working with PBP?

“To have the support of the Primary Business Partnership (PBP) through the CforLP has really helped us both in terms of funders but also being introduced to schools. Our first major project, The Sands of Time, for which we received funding from the Heritage Fund and The Frances C Scott came into being by Claire introducing us to the Maryport Cluster of schools. Throughout the project they have continued their support through social media, again this is invaluable for us as it helps to raise our profile. PBP has also funded us to work with 3 schools to create an online project exploring the Vikings. This will be available to all primary schools across Cumbria”

Ali McCaw | Director of Laal Collective

“One of the concerns that the Maryport Cluster of Schools had during COVID 19 was that their children hadn't been able to be part of their wider community, the schools were unable to meet and share activities and experiences.”

“This project is a brilliant way of bringing the children and their community together in a creative way whilst exploring and learning about their own local environment and discovering conservation issues on their doorstep.”

Melanie Wheatley | Primary Business Partnership

www.primarybusinesspartnership.org.uk