

How to spark curiosity about your school's local community

Colinton Primary School in Edinburgh chose Heritage as one of their Eco-Schools Topics which included a project to find out more about the school in preparation for its Diamond Jubilee in 2027.

Pupils planned and hosted a Proms in the Playground event and invited families to come and celebrate diversity and history including the creation of a map which visually displayed all the languages and cultures within the school. The display map was a simple but highly successful project and helped families and visitors to understand the school's global richness. They found that the map prompted pupils to talk on a daily basis – asking questions, finding connections and learning geography alongside culture.

“The display map was a beautiful project and it brought visibility to the richness of languages, cultures, and life experiences in your school community. It really was such a simple yet powerful act of inclusion.

Pupils discovered just how many different places and languages are represented in their own classrooms. It opened hearts and minds to each other's backgrounds.

By recognising the languages spoken at home, it showed respect for pupils' identities and helped multilingual students feel seen, valued, and proud”

Every class also completed a mini project and visited different places in the local area to learn more about Colinton's History. Through this work they gained inquiry skills by asking questions and using different source materials for research.

The school feels that it has gained so much from the Heritage topic and hopes that the map will become a growing, living display that gets updated regularly as new pupils join and new languages are added.

