

## LEAF on a budget

A big thank you to all the teachers who contributed ideas for this resource, especially Hazel Millar from Chirnside Primary School.

### Outdoor wear

Creating a bank of suitable outdoor clothing:

- Ask for hand-me-downs from parents / carers.
- Ask local businesses if they have any clothing / footwear going spare.
- Ask for sponsorship from local businesses.
- Fundraise for specific items.

### Obtaining plants / equipment

Ask parents/relatives of children involved in the project. I have found that lots of grandparents love to donate and chat to the class about plants.

You can ask for donations of plants monthly in class newsletters.

It is always worth asking local businesses if they have equipment going spare. This can include garden centres, botanic gardens and colleges / universities.

Visit your local garden centre ALL year round and ask for plants that are on the compost heap or that are in the bargain bucket (get the children to write and say thank you – good kudos for asking for more!)

Homebase, B & Q, Home Bargains etc are all worth a visit to ask for plants that they do not need.

You could try visiting your local National Trust houses as they may be happy to donate plants from their extensive gardens.

Village hall plant sales are great for bargain price plants.

Local farmers/potato merchants – ask for free potatoes for planting.

Ask for plants all year round as some plants need to be divided in autumn – don't just wait for summer.

[Divide plants](#) where possible, children love doing this.

Plant flowers/shrubs that you can divide the following year or that will naturally increase in size.

Try to avoid buying bedding plants at full price, they do not last very long and are not good value for money.

### Sources of funding

An extensive list of funding opportunities can be found on [Creative Star's website](#), including organisations who give away free equipment, as well as money.

Most supermarkets have community funds, as do Dobbies and B&Q.

