


Setting up new Play Radnor projects

Name of pilot:	Wild Tots	Location covered: Powys
Date of initial contact:	9th January 2018	Anticipated start date: Spring / Summer 2018
Initial contact with:	<p>Name(s): Rachel Maflin - Play Development Officer (Play Radnor) email to Wild Tots for more information (Heard of this project at a play sufficiency meeting. Currently working within Monmouthshire and Blaenau Gwent.)</p>	<p>Phone: Email: wildtots@gmail.com</p> <p><i>GDPR: Need to advise that this personal data will only be used in relation to this project, will be deleted if project doesn't go ahead. Data will be kept securely until project end.</i></p>
Who is/will be involved?	<p>Individuals: Rachel Maflin (Play Radnor) Sarah and Zoe (Wild Tots)</p>	Rep's & their Organisations:
Project concept:	<p>Play Radnor was interested in providing more outdoor play opportunities for children and heard about this project. There was an opportunity to replicate this project within Powys.</p> <p>Wild Tots offers regular play sessions in the outdoors for parents with children aged 0-5. The sessions <i>allows</i> children to launch and direct their own play. No two children ever have the same experience, because it's the process that matters. Adults and care-givers play an important role too, as they observe, encourage and support their child's independent exploration and playful learning. This all inspires greater confidence in getting outdoors more as a family too, which is one of the main goals.</p>	
How funded?	<p>Play Development Officer post at Play Radnor is funded through Arwain. Wild Tots has received funding from the Big Lottery which provides new groups with insurance for the first year, risk assessments, site assessments, name badges for staff and volunteers and the benefit of their support and advice. They are also able to offer the benefit of their experience in setting up groups in other areas.</p> <p>Costs for training need to be considered £600 without this training insurance is not valid. Consists of two day training around fire management, Health and safety outdoors and First Aid outdoors, Skills building some resources and staff</p>	



	<p>costs for a pilot project.</p> <p>Some funds from Lottery grant to Play Radnor can be used to offset this cost and provide any essential resources - Mainly a new fire pit and small trolley for transporting resources to sessions.</p>
Next steps	<p>PDO to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete costing • Explore possible locations for sessions - wild and wooded but accessible if possible • Potential interest in project - Facebook • Number of staff/volunteers • Monitoring and evaluation
Target age(s):	0-5
Expected outcomes:	Families encouraged to be outside , develop a love of nature and access the outdoors on a regular basis. Children to gain the opportunity to engage with nature, play freely using natural materials outdoors.
Next Steps:	<p>Discussion within Play Radnor about possible locations for wild tots group - pros and cons. Louise Bell trustee and manager of Dyfodl suggests a forest school practitioner she used to know who also owns some woodland on the edge of Llandrindod Wells.</p> <p>Louise to make contact.</p> <p>Contact made and visit arranged - 22nd March 2018 With some initial work to be carried out it is agreed that this Pen Y Bont site would be an ideal home for the Wild Tots group. Annie would like to be part of the project, she is a forest school practitioner and would be a useful addition to the team. Some concerns around</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Handwashing - Annie to organise this • Area to be used - how we cordon this off from main site • Parking - Large logs need to be moved to enable more space for parking • Some clearance of site - brambles, smaller trees, dangerous branches to be removed before sessions begin <p>PDO to send out an email outlining the project and asking for any interest in taking part in training and working within the project. Widely circulated to existing staff and volunteers. Lots of interest - a number of whom are happy to proceed with training.</p> <p>PDO to organise training sessions with Wild Tots - 18th/25th May at Pen Y Bont for staff and volunteers.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 4 leaders/playworkers - 3 volunteers

6 month review	<p>Staff trained through Wild Tots</p> <p>PDO organised meeting - 8/6/2018 at Pen Y Bont to discuss future of project, concerns, working to make site safe, clear brambles etc</p> <p>Annie has ensured handwashing facilities are in place. Logs have been moved to allow for parking. Site is cleared to make safe, boundaries discussed, and a plan put in place to mark the boundary for children/adults. It was decided to run the first session on Monday 9th July.</p>	
Staff required?	If yes, how many? What experience/qualifications? DBS?	<p>Two staff members at each session - playwork level $\frac{2}{3}$ qualified or two years experience, one of whom will be the playleader and the other playworker.</p> <p>DBS checks need to be in place</p> <p>Volunteer also at each session.</p>
Volunteers required?	If so, how many and any already identified? DBS?	Three volunteers identified and training with wild tots completed. DBS checks undertaken.
Project Name:	Wild Tots	
Start date:	Every Monday and Friday from 9th July - Monday 30th August 2018	
Marketing plan:	<p>Play Radnor Face book, Wild Tots facebook page, social media promotion, posters. Promotion through partners such as PAVO, Health Board, Health visitors, playgroups etc</p>	
3 month review	<p>Wild Tots had good numbers attending, lots of good feedback from parents who loved the opportunity to be out in the woods with their children. Set meeting date to discuss evaluation/future of Wild Tots. Numbers for this project have varied, mainly due we think to weather conditions - Good numbers attending during July/August, from 10 adults and 19</p>	

	<p>children to a low of 4 adults and five children at the end of August.</p> <p>13/9/2018 - Meet with Jody to discuss Wild Tots</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agreed to continue Wild Tots sessions once a month on Saturday to keep up awareness of project. Numbers variable but averaging 5 or 6 children with occasional highs of 15. • Funding for this could come from a small grant from the Health Board, while we look for further funding for next year. • Discussed possibility of extending this model for older children. Annie still keen to be involved and woods used. Rachel to explore funding for this • Agreed that Spring / summer will be the best time to run the majority of sessions as numbers dropped if it was bad weather. • Formal evaluation of the project to be completed.
End date:	30/11/18
Lessons learned:	<p>Low numbers attending the sessions meant that we put sessions on hold from November 18. At a further meeting with staff it was decided that we would start sessions again in Spring 2019 as we are due to receive some funding from the Health Board for sessions. Additional funding will need to be sought to enable the project to run more sessions next year. Rachel to explore this. Parents are very keen for the sessions to continue and some have expressed a wish to volunteer within the project. If no funding is secured for next year we could explore the avenue of volunteers running sessions with Play Radnor providing support for volunteers and meeting insurance costs.</p> <p>Funding has been secured to run a two day session for older children aged 11 – 15 years to have fun in the woods. They will be able to learn new skills, campfire cooking, shelter building and tool use. This will take place in Summer/Autumn 2019.</p>

This document will be used as evidence for our ARWAIN grant and may also be used to inform future grant funding applications.

