

Sticker Poll Notes

These notes are ideas for discussion around the children's answers to the sticker poll questions.

Do you like being in the park?

This question is designed to get the children to think about how they feel about the park. If they like it, what do they like about it? Ask them to choose some favourable qualities or parts of the park, eg the flowers the trees, the space to run and play in. If they don't like the park, why do they not? Ask the children to think about any negative things in the park. How could these be improved? Whose job is it to improve these things?

Is the park well looked after?

Ask the children to think about who looks after the park. Explain that the council are paid to look after the park. They will cut the grass, empty the bins and look after the trees.

What about visitors to the park- do they look after it too? If so, how? Can visitors cause a problem for the people that look after the park? How could we reduce any problems visitors may cause?

Does the long grass provide a good home for insects?

Ask the children to think about why some of the grass is left to grow long and some is cut shorter. Get the children to look at the different species of grasses in the long section. How many different types can they see? Ask them to look at the shorter grass and count the different types of grasses in a small section. Other questions to think about: What if there was no long grass? Where would the insects live? Do these insects help humans? How?

Does rubbish and litter ruin the park?

In this discussion encourage the children to think about the affect that humans and their activities have on the park. What rubbish can the children see? What other rubbish could there be in the park? Why is there rubbish? How do the children feel about the rubbish in the park? Can it be dangerous for animals and people? How? What could the council do to stop people littering the park- encourage the children to think about different ways to solve this management problem.

Should dogs be allowed in the park?

Ask the children if they bring their dog to the park. Explain that the park is a great resource for dog walkers as it is so big and is a very pleasant space. Where would the dog walkers go if they were not allowed in the park? Would they be angry if the council tried to stop them using the park?

Explain that dogs can make a mess in the park and this isn't very nice for other park users. How can we encourage dog owners to clear up after their dogs? Sometimes dogs chase runners. How would the runners feel about having dogs in the park?

Would it be a good idea to have a separate area for dogs and other park users?