

# Ecobrick Project



# What is the Ecobrick Project?



- The Ecobrick Project is a simple, low-tech solution to reusing plastic that we are unable to recycle.
- Plastic is an amazing material with incredible properties and it is a shame for it to go to waste!
- Ecobricks put our plastics to good use instead of being put into landfill, affecting the environment and contaminating ecosystems. The making of ecobricks enables us to put plastic to the benefit of local communities and ecosystems and is used in many countries around the world!
- With ecobricks, we use the characteristics of plastics that were once so problematic – longevity, durability and water fastness, and instead put it to practical and green use.
- The ecobricks which are made can be used to make furniture such as stools, benches, small tables. They can also be used in construction of walls and even houses!

# What is an Ecobrick made of?

- An ecobrick is made using plastics which cannot be recycled such as:
- styrofoam
- bags
- packaging
- straws
- clear plastic eg. cling film
- These plastics are then washed, dried and cut up to be packed tightly into plastic bottles.
- No glass, metal or biodegradables should be put in to the eco brick.



# What can Ecobricks be used to create?

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- You can build many different things with the ecobricks! You can build benches, tables, chairs and even structures with the bricks!

At Portchester Community School we are looking at creating outside furniture for our students to enjoy!





# What we would like to do at PCS



- We would like to get the whole school involved in this project! We would like invite all the students and staff here at PCS to create an ecobrick at home over the summer term.
- Students and staff can put their name or family name on the brick so that they can then see where their bottle was used around the school.
- We will then use these Ecobricks to create seating that can be used around the school, outside for break times, in Odyssey, the nursery or for the local community to be used at the community centre.

# How do you make an Ecobrick?



- **What you will need:**
- An empty 2 litre bottle, such as a soft drink/squash bottle.
- A stick, such as bamboo or wood for packing your plastics into the bottle.
- Your collected plastics.
- **Step 1**
- Clean and dry your plastics. If the plastics are put into the bottle dirty or wet it can cause microbiological growth and methane forming inside your ecobrick.
- **Step 2**
- Cut up or rip large plastics into smaller pieces. The smaller the pieces the denser the bottle you will get!
- **Step 3**
- Fill the bottle up half way with loose plastic, then use your stick to push down around the sides of the bottle. Keep pushing down as you move around the circumference of the bottle. Once compressed, add more loose plastics.
- **Step 4**
- Make sure your ecobrick is packed as solid as possible– now its time to cap it! Be sure your ecobrick is **not** packed to overflowing. There should be about 1-2cm between the cap and the plastic inside.