

Background to Butterfly Project

School had a very muddy piece of grass which could not be used by children most of the year. Having contacted Kippen Environment Centre which has since been renamed Forth Environment Link a member of their staff came and evaluated the site and talked to the children about needs and produced a plan which tackled various elements including a butterfly garden which was an extension of little infant garden.

We then contacted Trossachs and Loch Lomond Rangers service who gave us lots of good advice and came to school and planted the garden with help from the children.

The list of plants are included on another sheet.

We also ordered butterfly larvae from Worldwide Butterflies and Lullingstone Silk Farm Sherbourne. Dorset DT 9 4QN. The Small tortoiseshell arrived at the beginning of May and we are rearing these in the classroom feeding them on nettles dug up from grounds and planted in pots . We have the pots of nettles in large plastic box with water. The caterpillars have grown from eggs to 4cms fat caterpillars in 12 days. The children are going to make a graph of rate of growth. We hope to see them form chrysalis and eventually take flight.

The plants in the garden are relatively small but we are hoping for good growth over the summer. Plants were bought by School funds as were the butterfly larvae.