

“Our families now have a safe, friendly and stimulating environment to promote outside play and an area to promote growing of plants and vegetables.”

Denise Cuthbertson

## Volunteer Parent Led Come and Play Group

### Project:

'Parent Led Come and Play Group'

### Subject:

Education, learning and skills improvement  
Health, well-being and sports  
Facilities and building improvements

### Location:

Redcar, Redcar and Cleveland

### Overview:

The volunteer led group is a self-funding, not for profit come and play situated in Redcar Children's Centre which runs twice per week and provides a safe, stimulating environment for local families to socialise, develop and play together. Redcar Children's Centre is situated within Kirkleatham ward, which ranks as the fourth most deprived ward in Redcar and Cleveland, and experiences high unemployment rates, anti-social behavior levels, poor health and overall reduced life chances – with equipment regularly damaged by vandals.

The group provides socialisation and an opportunity for children aged 0- 5 to play, and for their families to socialise, make friends and grow their support networks. Members all contribute to the resources of their group, leading and planning activities – including outdoor play and exploration.

£2334.30 was awarded to fund the replacement outdoor equipment within the centre grounds to encourage outside play and exploration vital for a child's development. This included a boat, mud kitchen and utensils for role play. Funding also provided planters and gardening equipment – such as trowels, compost and seeds – to encourage families to grow their own fruit and vegetables.

This has promoted physical, social and emotional, and communication and language development for children and their families, as well as promoting health eating and growing fresh produce.

