

Carnival of the Animals

A project about the wildlife in the African Savannah and Australia by Years 1 / 2.

Overview: This term Key Stage 1 pupils undertook a cross curricula project covering core aspects of geography, science, history and the arts. They learnt about the fascinating creatures that feature in the movements of the music 'Carnival of The Animals', the formation of an orchestra, the range of instruments involved and Saint- Saëns himself. They also learnt about mammals, birds, fish, reptiles, and amphibians around the world. The children formed a company called 'Orphan Animal Rescue Charity' and received a commission from 'David Sheldrick' asking them to educate Eagle School pupils about the threats such as: habitat destruction, poaching and the illegal trade for ivory and meat, to these wonderful animals. As part of literacy they used 'Saints Saens' Carnival of the Animals and Rousseau's art to kickstart their work. They compared poems about elephants and other wild animals which helped them create their own poems using questions and answers! They also compared traditional tales from around the world, then used an oral story-telling approach to memorise tales and then produce written versions.

Facilitator Reflection: This was an exciting project, as the children became experts in talking about The African Savannah; its landscape and wildlife. Working individually and in small groups they produced fact files about their chosen animal, made 'Save the Elephant' posters and badges and created pencil toppers. They presented what they found out with confidence to other Eagle School pupils.

Pupil Reflection: I really enjoyed this project, my favourite part was our virtual flight to Africa when we all dressed up in safari clothes. I liked the in flight entertainment but not the turbulence!" "It was great to think that we had helped highlight the threats to wildlife to younger children"

