



Case Study: Swindon Literature Festival Workshops Family Day, Lower Shaw Farm, Swindon

Who was the project for?

Pageturners ran two workshops for older children and young people at the festival's family day held at Lower Shaw Farm, in West Swindon.

What did we do?

The first workshop was the "Hilarious Books Workshop" where we laughed over funny extracts from *Cosmic* by Frank Cottrell Boyce, *Someday*, *Angeline* by Louis Sachar and *Tales of a 4th Grade Nothing* by Judy Blume. Using a funny-o-meter, the group of children chose *Cosmic* as the funniest! We created our own comedy characters using items from the Pageturners costume bag, told a group story involving our newly made characters and made up some silly sentences. The group then listened to an extract from *Cosmic* whilst creating a tablecloth mural.

The second workshop, "Going Green", was more serious as we explored global warming through the wonderful book *Exodus* by Julie Bertagna. The group listened to the picture of the future which the book describes and then they went on to create their own "picture of the future" using recycled materials. They could choose to create a positive picture or a negative picture depending on what they felt might happen - they all chose negative! See some of the pictures featured on the gallery page.

What were the challenges?

Time was the only challenge for these workshops. Especially as the groups were very enthusiastic.

What were the outcomes/feedback?

For the Hilarious Books Experience the group who took part put the workshop through the funny-o-meter test before we finished and it came out as a resounding 10 - "laughing my socks off".

The feedback from the Going Green workshop was that it was thought provoking and both young people and the parents who were there also were especially interested in some of the books that had been used.