Hitting targets!

Archery targets coordination, patience and balance skills as well as supporting areas of the curriculum, especially numeracy. A number of Sussex schools have recognised this and added archery to their extracurricular clubs offer.

The archery club at Rye Community Primary School, East Sussex, is proving so popular they run two sessions per week, one for KS1 and one for KS2, for three terms of the year. It attracts a mix of children from the very sporty to the shy and inactive, according to their PE coordinator Lucy Baker.

A pupil at Rye Primary said, “Archery is the most fun club because there aren't too many rules to learn and it doesn't matter if you aren't winning.”

Similar to Rye, Polegate Primary School and Beckley CE Primary School report that their archery clubs appeal to a cross section of their pupils. Polegate’s Tracy Wallis says that due to links with a local coach two of their pupils have gone on to compete at county level. Beckley, on the other hand, have found that amongst their attendees one of their statemented pupils is a regular.

If you would like to bring archery into your school, Archery GB provide a comprehensive pack to get schools started through their ‘Arrows’ scheme. ‘Arrows’ ensures that children are supplied with age appropriate equipment and, contrary to popular belief, children don’t need to be firing sharp arrows to enjoy archery. The ‘Arrows’ programme substitutes arrows for suckers, if you were wondering about health and safety!

Not only is archery safe, it is great fun and an effective way to attract a broad mix of pupils to an after school club.

If you would like any advice on setting up an archery club in your school, contact Leon Carter lcarter@activesussex.org

Follow this link for more information about ‘Arrows’:
http://www.archerygb.org/archery/schools/arrows.php